

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2020 6:30 p.m.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427
 Meeting by Zoom
Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools
P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350

CALL TO ORDER Wendy Terry called the meeting to order to at 6:33p.m.

1.ROLL CALL present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted	Present	Absent
Board Member		
Wendy Terry (President)	✓	
Kris Gapinski (Vice President)	✓	
Aaron Price (Treasurer)	✓	
Paige Roth (Secretary)	✓	
Elizabeth Brobeck	✓	
Heather Davis	✓	
Cameron Ward	✓	
Dennis Dane	✓	
Joe Sears	✓	
Sean Koster(ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Reeder (ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Pocrnich (ex-officio)	✓	

MISC. ATTENDEES: JULIE WAHL, MARIE GEISLINGER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(Choral reading of the Pledge of Allegiance)

3. BEACON MISSION STATEMENT

(Choral reading of the Beacon Academy Mission Statement)

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion:	To approve the agenda with the following changes: add finance training to the finance report and add PTO fundraising approval after the finance report.							
Made by:	*Aaron price				Seconded by:	*Kris Gapinski		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Davis	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

5. Public Comment - none

6. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: *Board members read the agenda and disclose if they have any real or perceived conflict of interest with any agenda items.*
 There were no conflicts disclosed at this time.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion: To approve the consent agenda:								
Made by: * Aaron Price			Seconded by:			*Heather Davis		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Davis	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision: Passes								
<p>A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting – August 20, 2020 Board Retreat – August 28, 2020</p> <p>B. Policy, First Reading 1. 401 Equal Employment Opportunity 2. 612.1 Development of Parental Involvement Policies for Title I Programs</p> <p>C. Staffing Update D. Blind Visually Impaired Contract E. Blind Para and Brailist Contract F. OHD and TBI Consultant G. Elementary Sped Teacher Support Contract H. Lake Country Bussing Ammendment</p>								

8. Board Reports

A. Finance Committee – Mike Pocrnich

1. Review/Approve August 2020 Financial Report

- page 3 is not correct. An update will come later.
- The audit is complete. We are in excess of \$500k. The audits should be out by months end.
- We are working on the revised budget as it is getting looked at quite a bit.
- You should see this in the next 30-60 days.

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- August, we're 17% through the fiscal year. We are in a good place right now. Our cash increased because the state receivables are coming in. We'll see this increase in the next couple of months.
- Fund balance at 2.3 million
- We'll have to start adjusting our ADM due to the decrease in enrollment. We'll keep an eye on that.

Motion:	To approve the finance report as presented with the change to page 3 to come.								
Made by:	*Aaron Price				Seconded by:	*Elizabeth Brobeck			
Discussion:									
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x			
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x			
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Davis	x			
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x			
	Kris Gapinski	x							
Decision:	Passes								

2. Special Education and State Payments Training

- **Special Education:** both state and federal. Beacon operates a large special ed program. The biggest expenditures are salaries and benefits, contracted services and sped transportation. In fiscal 20 we are at 2.1 million for expenditures. We get reimbursed at roughly 95%. Reimbursement expenditures can lag up to 12-18 months. We have no major funding delays expected for fiscal year 21. We receive an annual federal allocation to cover director fees, contracted services, etc. For FY21 we will get \$132,993 allocated to us. Maintenance of Effort is a federal rule that states that we have to spend at least as much in one year as the year before. We will have to address this this year because we are distance learning and won't have as many expenditures. We will have to justify why and what happened. Every district will have this so hopefully there will be a softening of the rules.

- **State Payments:** All schools are paid on the 15th and 30th, except for June schools are paid on the 20th and 30th. There are 24 payments and as our entitlements change so do our payments. As we estimate ADM that will be in flux as we report real numbers. End of the fiscal year the schools should receive close to 90% of total state entitlements. 10% is held back for payments in August – November.

B. Beacon PTO, Marie Geislinger

1. Approve Fundraisers for the 2020-2021 School Year

- School policy has all fundraising going through PTO. Anything raising over \$5000 has to be approved by the school board.
- Marie thanked the board and all the teachers on their hard work to the start of the school year.
- With Beacon Dash being canceled last spring they are trying to figure out how to creatively plan events so we can still have them.
- Butter Braids has been typically sold with funds going to the Concordia trip. With the unknown, they would like to still have the fundraiser but to have the money go

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towards the entire middle school for 8th gr. Graduation or any events that we can have. Sales have typically been \$5,000 - \$10,000.

-Beacon Dash is another event that we are still planning on doing. Our goal is usually 30k but we are aiming for 23k. Every month we are going to choose a day and request a direct donation from our families. There will be a donation tracker, incentives and come up with creative ways to have others donate.

-There was a question about the 4th grade flower sales. At this time they would like to continue but because it's next year they are going to hold off on approving it now.

There was also a request to make sure our community knows about Amazon Smile.

Motion:	To approve the fundraisers for the 2020-2021 school year:							
Made by:	*Kris Gapinski			Seconded by:	*Aaron Price			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Davis	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

C. Executive Director, Sean Koster

1. Enrollment Report

-Sean has been sending regular updated enrollment reports. He read a statement that he sent to the board members last week.

-Sean and Mike have been working diligently to keep numbers updated.

-Our enrollment report today reflects an enrollment at 583. Most families continue to drop to homeschool or home district hybrid.

-The good news is that so many families are planning on coming back next year.

2. FOB and Building Repairs, Finances and Capital Improvement Update

-Capital Improvements are at \$77k and bank account is at \$23k

-We had a water main break and FOB will be paying for that repair.

-We also had our coffee maker in the kitchen break and paid for by FOB.

3. Audit Update

-Audits will be wrapped up at the end of this month. There will be a report next month.

4. School Board Training Reminder

-MN School Board Association School Board trainings are available virtually. If you want to attend contact Kim.

5. Safety Drills

-We are still doing fire and lock down drills while we have staff, childcare and special ed students in the building.

6. Summer Curriculum Writing

-There were monies approved for teachers to do summer curriculum writing over the summer. We came in under the 50k that was allotted. We are happy with the outcome and our families seem happy as well.

7. Paid Time Off Update

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-Sean would like to circle back to this topic that came up this summer. Sean believes we are in a good situation for feeling comfortable that there is an equitable solution to having PTO pay outs this spring.

8. Distance Learning Update

-Sean shared the Distance Learning Plan that is going up on our website.

-Aaron commented that he has elementary age kids and he feels things are going well. He had a question about why literacy and math aren't at the same time consistently. Mike Reeder stated that it had to do with flexibility of the families to hopefully allow them to get to a class if they had a conflict.

-Wendy asked for an update on technology distribution. Mike Reeder reported there has been one more snag. We are getting about 100 of our computers soon and that should take care of most of the families that are waiting.

-Wendy also asked that a clarification come out from nutrition about the free meals and how families don't need to request them.

D. Curriculum Committee

- In August Ms. Antil and Ms. Gapinski held a health curriculum night. There were 12 people in attendance. There were a couple changes to the curriculum. The first curriculum meeting is October 5th

E. Fund Development Task Force

-September 29th is the first meeting by Zoom. Wendy is looking for more committee members.

F. Governance Committee

-Governance met for the first time this school year in August. One of the policies we are looking at currently is the Maternity Leave Policy. We are hoping to have a first reading to the board at next month's board meeting.

-Ann Marie is getting all the board policies ready to publish on SharePoint and a link will be sent to all the board members when it's ready.

G. Employee Retention and Compensation Committee

-There are 5 members on the committee. The meetings will be the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:45 a.m.

H. Executive Committee, Wendy Terry

1. Board Training, Open Meeting Law

- There is a state statute where you can read about open meeting law. There are some things that need to be attended to in this virtual realm. We need to keep the Zoom information updated regularly on the website and also keep committee zoom meetings handy so folks that want to attend can do so easily.

- A meeting is defined as at least a quorum of members involved in a conversation. This also applies to electronic communication and virtual meetings.

-Meeting materials must be available to the public. Consider using SharePoint. Our By-Laws also reflect the open meeting laws statute. You must be in camera site while votes are happening.

-Mission and Vision were talked about briefly but we are going to move through this process slowly to give everyone time to acclimate to the new school year.

- Additionally, we are working on Mr. Koster's goals and we'll be presenting more about that next month.
- Joe Sears needs to be officially seated since he is joining us tonight. Joe took the oath of office as read by Wendy Terry.

Adjournment

Board Retreat- None

Old Business- None

Action Items- None

NEXT MEETING IS October 22, 2020

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:18 pm forwarded by Kris Gapinski seconded by Aaron Price. Approved unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Approved on _____

Paige Roth, Secretary
Beacon Academy School Board