

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427
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 6:34 p.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	✓	
Matheu Weidenbach	✓	
Joanna Pederson	✓	
Elizabeth Warpinski	✓	
Mary Peters		✓
Sean Koster(ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Reeder (ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Pocrnich (ex-officio)	✓	

MISC. ATTEENDEES: MATT GOODMAN, ELIZABETH JAEN

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 change in board training to board training opportunities and special meeting at 6pm on March 31 st and regular meeting at 6:30:								
Made by:	• Aaron Price				Seconded by:	• Matt Weidenbach			
Discussion:									
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x			
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x			
	Matheu Weidenbach	x			Elizabeth Warpinski	x			
	Joanna Pederson	x			Mary Peters			x-absent	
	Kris Gapinski	x							
Decision:	Passes								

5. Public Comment

The board will recognize anyone from the public who wants to speak at this time. The board reserves the right to limit the time of the public comment. The public will not have the opportunity to speak or comment on any agenda item after the public comment has passed.

Matt Goodman is the 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher. He has a bachelor’s plus 30 BA. He would like to see this added to the teacher pay scale. He will be in his 10th year at Beacon next year. Will miss out on the 30 plus BA because of COVID and now budget issues.

Elizabeth Jaen teacher K-1 Spanish and mother of Kindergartner. She wants to speak of the hiring decisions of the coming year. In the fall of last year, when it was decided there would be two Spanish teachers this year due to enrollment, it was promised that we would go back to three Spanish teachers next year. We need to remember that our staff is going through tough times and the students have needs like never before. We need to remember that we offer a sense of community and a sense of care to the staff. Need to acknowledge the work the staff has done. Worried that our two middle school teachers are being burned out and we need to make sure that we keep a strong Spanish department.

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.

7. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda with the							
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		
	Matheu Weidenbach	x			Elizabeth Warpinski	x		
	Joanna Pederson	x			Mary Peters			x-absent
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision: Passes								

- A. Approval of Minutes:
Regular Board Meeting – February 17, 2022
- B. Policy – First Reading
 - 1. 405 Veteran’s Preference
 - 2. 407 Employee Right to Know – Exposure to Hazardous Substances
- C. Policy – Second Reading
 - 1. 534 Enrollment Policy
 - 2. Wellness Policy
- D. Staffing Update
- E. Sped Contract – Capernaum Pediatric Therapy – OT

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427
Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools
P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350

The February minutes are being pulled from the consent agenda. Bridget from TAG is not listed under the miscellaneous attendees and Aaron is listed as present in a couple votes when he was absent.

Motion:	To approve the minutes for February 17, 2022 with the changes:							
Made by:	*Matthew Weidenbach				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		
	Matheu Weidenbach	x			Elizabeth Warpinski	x		
	Joanna Pederson	x			Mary Peters			x-absent
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

8. Board Reports

A. Finance Committee, Mike Pocrnich

1. Review/Approve February 2022 Financial Report

- we are 67% through the fiscal year. We are maintaining a stable fund balance. We currently have a 10% state holdback that is reflected in the balance sheet. We are still holding strong and there are no surprises there.
- We are adjusting the working budget as we go through the year. YTD deficit \$445k that we expected.
- Days cash on hand 63 days. Combined days is 104 days. These are corrected from the packet. The March financials will be submitted to Emma for our bond holders meeting.

Motion:	To approve the finance report with the corrected Days Cash on Hand numbers							
Made by:	*Aaron Price				Seconded by:	• Matt Weidenbach		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Matheu Weidenbach	x			Elizabeth Warpinski	x		
	Joanna Pederson	x			Mary Peters			x-absent
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

2. Finance Training – Bonds and Investors

- The complete training materials are in the board packet
- 2016 we went through the bond process. We work with investors to determine what we can afford. Once we get the financing, we put the money in escrow and then start the renovation. We have monthly and annual reporting to the trustee. And an annual call with our investors.

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427

Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools

P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350

-Investment firms buy bonds. On investor call they ask about academics. The bottom line is the finances.

3. Long Range Budget Review

-Fiscal 23 and on. We are assuming at 50 student increase every year for ADM's.

-We are still using ESSER II and III funds for the next two years.

-Salary and benefits are worked in as well as food service funds. Our deficit is looking at \$611,320. We need to get to 650 students to start breaking even again.

-The proposed cuts are baked into the numbers.

B. Executive Director, Sean Koster

1. Enrollment Report

- We have 48 students that are accepted into kindergarten. There have been questions about how many sections we will have in kindergarten. Sean is hesitating to cut a class because if we do, we will have to cap kindergarten at 4 more students. We don't want to do that.

-Sean did an exit survey for 56 families that were enrolled but dropped this year. The biggest thing that came out of that is that friends and family marketed to them. We do a lot for branding in marketing, but the number one marketing tool is word of mouth. We are brainstorming more cities to market to.

-One idea we have is to have an enrollment drive. Asking families to bring friends and families to an event. Also, giving families tools to drive people to the school.

2. **Review/Approve Testing Dates** – We are revisiting the testing dates for next year. Religious dates and testing dates were reviewed. It is being recommended to keep the dates as they were presented at the board meeting in February.

Lizzie made a comment that we are a diverse school and if the reason for not moving the testing dates because we haven't been done is not serving our current population. It would speak volumes if we accommodated those students. She mentioned that school calendars cater to Christian holidays.

There was a suggestion to ask the families that are fasting, their opinions about fasting during testing windows.

Motion:	To approve next year's testing dates as originally presented in February:							
Made by:	*Kris Gapinski			Seconded by:	• Paige Roth			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price		x		Paige Roth		x	
	Wendy Terry		x		Elizabeth Brobeck		x	
	Matheu Weidenbach		x		Elizabeth Warpinski		x	
	Joanna Pederson		x		Mary Peters		x	
	Kris Gapinski		x					
Decision:								

Motion:	Amend the previous motion to approve the 2022-2023 testing dates by one week to April 10-28 and May 8-19 th							
Made by:	*Lizzie Warpinski			Seconded by:	• Aaron Price			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427
Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools
P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350

Wendy Terry	x	Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
Matheu Weidenbach	x	Elizabeth Warpinski	x		
Joanna Pederson	x	Mary Peters	x		
Kris Gapinski	x				
Decision:					

- 3. Federal ESSER Funds** – These funds are used to help schools survive the pandemic but helping with enrollment loss. These funds are helping us not go deeper into debt.
- FIN 140 Normal SpEd funding
 - FIN 141 Early childhood testing
 - FIN 150 Summer programming
 - FIN 151 and 153 CARES Funding already spent
 - FIN 155 Transportation
 - FIN 160 and 161 After school tutoring, school counselor, EL teacher and cultural liaison
 - FIN 170 Testing program supplies for COVID, Herzing nurses and stipend
 - FIN 171 teacher salaries for keeping 3 sections in each grade level
 - FIN 401 Title programs, Q-Comp coordinator
 - FIN 401 Title I
 - FIN 414 Title II
 - FIN 419 Federal SpED
- 4. Proposed Cuts to the FY23 Budget**
- This will have to be approved before June. Cuts would be over 3 years.
 - The first section of cuts would be supplies and other non-instructional supply items.
 - The second section of cuts would be staff.

C Principal, Mike Reeder

1. 2021-2022 Referral Data Q1 and Q2

- The full report is in the board packet.
- Things that are helping to keep our referrals down are the three staff in school counselor/social work and the three staff in our recourse room.
- Even with numbers down there’s a feel in the building that the behaviors are high.
- There are some discrepancies in the numbers of race. Mike will be bringing updated percentages to the next meeting.

D. Board Training

1. Additional Training Opportunities

- There should have been an email to the board members from a website that provides board training. We have been using this already so members should have a log in. If you don’t contact Wendy.

E Curriculum Committee

1. EL Curriculum Update

-Joanna and Nehemiah, both EL teachers have been looking at different EL curriculums. English 3D has an online component so there would not be the need to keep buying workbooks.
 Carousel of Ideas has a one-time cost of textbooks.
 Finish Lines for ELL’s has a purchase cost and then replacement costs.
 The initial cost for everything is \$5448.45
 It’s another \$2,000 over \$10 years.
 Sean mentioned that having staff members look at new curriculum is above and beyond and he wanted to thank them for their hard work.

F. Fund Development Task Force

1. Informational Update on Endowment Fund

- Looking at partnering with a foundation that could do that administration of the grants. A separate 501c3 would have to be set up.
- Thoughts on how to start building an endowment fund and being sensitive to the fact that we are running a deficit and how to ask our community to participate.

G. Governance Committee

-no report

H. Employee Retention and Compensation Committee

1. Licensed Staff and Administration Salary Schedules

- Knowing there is a deficit the plan would be to wait until fall of 2022 to see where enrollment lands.
- All admin and most years of teachers would stay the same. No adjustment.
- The only change would be to years 1-5 of licensed staff as they are the most behind other districts currently.
- Multiple proposals will be coming in the fall.

2. Review/Approve Years 1-5 of Licensed General Education Salary Schedule

Motion:	To approve the recommendation from ERCC as presented:							
Made by:	*Kris Gapinski			Seconded by:	• Eliabeth Brobeck			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Matheu Weidenbach	x			Elizabeth Warpinski		x	
	Joanna Pederson	x			Mary Peters			x-absent
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	passes							

I. Executive Committee

- The work session is the end of the month.
- Special meeting for the election process. An agenda will be coming.

Adjournment

Board Work Session – Thursday, March 31 at 6pm

NEXT MEETING IS Thursday, April 25th at 6:30pm

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 9:28pm forwarded by Kris Gapinski seconded by Matthew Weidenbach. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.

Approved on _____

Paige Roth, Secretary
Beacon Academy School Board