



B.E.S.T. ACADEMY
MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, February 5, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “**Board**”) of Brookfield Engineering Science and Technology Academy Charter School (“**B.E.S.T.**” or the “**School**”) was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020, by online Zoom meeting.

Directors Present:

Patricia “Patti” Karlin, Joseph Cipres, Ognen Nastov, Michal Alchikh, Chad Leptich

Directors Absent: Edward Singh

Also Present:

James “Jim” Mays, Alex Soriano, Enriqueta “Queta” Luquin, Corey Cavanah, Jason Arca, and Isa Melvin

1. CALL TO ORDER

Patricia Karlin called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. A quorum of the directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

2. AGENDA

Motion Passed: Approve agenda

Approval Motion: Ognen Nastov **Second:** Chad Leptich **Ayes:** All

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Approval of this item approves the minutes for the December 9, 2019 (as read) and January 30, 2020 (as corrected) board meetings*

Motion Passed: Approve minutes for December and January meetings

Approval Motion: Joseph Cipres **Second:** Chad Leptich **Ayes:** All

4. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No one from the public had opted to speak.

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: Patti Karlin

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS / RECOGNITION / REPORTS

No members of the public shared any comments.

7. CORRESPONDENCE/PROPOSALS/REPORTS

a. **Board By-laws- 2nd Read**

Alex Soriano submitted the proposed By-Laws to the Board and asked members to read the articles and provide feedback prior to the March 4th meeting, when they are expected to be finalized. The legal team for B.E.S.T., Procopio Law, is also in the process of reviewing the By-Laws and Board input will be considered in conjunction with legal advice from the Procopio Law Firm. Ms. Karlin asked about the wording of Section 22, which discusses Compensation and Reimbursement. Mr. Soriano confirmed that attorneys will be looking directly at this section's wording and it will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting after legal input has been added.

b. **Semester One Grade Reports**

Mr. Soriano presented overall grade point averages to the Board Members for the first semester, grades 6-8. Mr. Mays contributed, providing the number of students in each grade level. The difficulty of the math courses was discussed, providing context for the report. General academic goals for the 2nd semester were conveyed by Mr. Soriano. The board discussed the inclusion of P.E. in the overall averages and Mr. Soriano described the format and purpose of the Championship Cognition class.

c. **State Testing Update**

- i. ELPAC- test for English Learners
- ii. No students are classified as EL, only EO (English Only) and RFEP (Reclassified Fluent English Proficient)
- iii. No IEP students require alternate state assessment at this time

d. **Western Association of School and Colleges-** B.E.S.T. is in the early stages of pursuing WASC accreditation- over a six-year cycle. The initial stage is expected to be a two-year process.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

a. **Expense Reports:** *Approval of this item approves the reimbursement of expenses incurred by employees and/or board members*

Jim Mays' November - January expenses were submitted to the Board and Mr. Mays explained specific expenditures including One Call Now, Sky Dome internet, and NWEA licenses. Alex Soriano submitted his October expense report, detailing the use of a customized table cover in marketing. Mr. Soriano made the board members aware he is in the process of catching up on expense reports and will be submitting additional reports shortly (at future board meetings).

Motion Passed: Approve expense reimbursements

Approval Motion: Ognen Astov **Second:** Joseph Cipres **Ayes:** All

b. **Auditor Contract:** *Approval of this item approves the financial auditor contract with Christy White Accountancy*

Mr. Soriano explained the need for an auditor and presented the cost breakdown and proposal for this year. The next two years are included in the proposal but will be revisited at a future date. Mr. Soriano highlighted the services and hours included. The price and offerings were discussed and Mr. Leptich offered a comparison with Julian's contracted auditor. Ms. Karlin also recognized that this auditor also works with a large number of other schools in the area.

Motion passed: Approve auditor contract

Approval Motion: Joseph Cipres **Second:** Chad Leptich **Ayes:** All.

9. BOARD COMMENTS

a. Ognen Nastov, revisited the discussion on improving academic growth and performance, specifically in the areas of STEM. Mr. Nastov asked whether or not the importance of these studies on future careers has been well conveyed to the students. Mr. Mays concurred with the question and comments, providing insight into a product B.E.S.T. employs, called STEMscopes for Science, which connects instruction to career trends, providing embedded relevance to the studies. Mr. Mays also explained that math intervention is a high priority and shared that B.E.S.T. also has many students in advanced math courses.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS COMMENT

a. No comments at this time

11. DATES OF NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

- March 4th, 2020- Wednesday
- May 6th, 2020- Wednesday

12. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting of the Board of Directors adjourned at 6:07 p.m.