



Board of Directors Meeting

DC Bilingual Public Charter School
33 Riggs Road, NE Washington, DC
HELD REMOTELY DUE TO COVID-19
Tuesday, September 1, 2020
8:30AM

Board Members

Present Remotely: A. Abbas, N. DeVeaux, D. Gershowitz, I. Juarez, R. Lambert, A. Lemon-Strauss, L. Parris Brooks, N. Ramey, D. Z. Shaw, M. Shih, M. Taddese, B. Wallace

Absent: S. Redd

School Leadership:

- Alexandra Alderman – Director of Development
- Daniela Anello – Head of School
- John Breyer – Chief Financial Officer
- Eleni McCabe - Principal PK-2
- Rohini Ramnath - Principal 3-5

Guests:

- Joshua Eyre - EdOps
- Lester Matlock - Previous Board Chair
- Susie Rosenbaum - Previous Board Chair

N. Ramey called the meeting to order at 8:33m.

BOARD VOTE: N. Ramey moved to approve the June meeting minutes, D. Shaw seconded, and the Board approved unanimously with N. DeVeaux abstaining.

BOARD VOTE: N. Ramey moved to approve the July meeting minutes, D. Shaw seconded, and the Board approved unanimously with N. DeVeaux abstaining.

N. Ramey welcomed the three new Board members (Naomi DeVeaux, Maya Shih, Brandon Wallace) and provided an update on the Board and staff's letter in response to the engagement from the DCB diversity affinity groups. N. Ramey also updated the Board on the state of the District's Open Meetings Act and the implications for upcoming Board meetings, which take



effect with October's Board meeting. The Board discussed codifying the right way for Board members to

1. Head of School Report

The school year has begun! Daniela walked through all of the efforts that went into starting a virtual school year, including distributing classroom materials (both technology-based and otherwise) via an expo last week where every student was given a banker's box full of important material. The parent Board members weighed-in with how smoothly the start of school went and how impressed they were with how the staff has started the school year. Daniela provided an update on Race and Equity efforts, both engagement with the affinity groups and training for staff.

Daniela presented the Board with the Reopening DCB slideshow that was used in parent town halls (available in the Board packet), which demonstrated all of the effort that went into staff training and engagement leading into a successful school start. Rohini and Eleni walked through the key points of instructional design that went into the school year, with a focus on maintaining bilingual instruction and allowing for small group instruction. The school is focusing any live screen time on small group engagement or specials. The amount of live instructional time is kept to two hours or below for younger students, with additional instruction via asynchronous learning (interactive content, recorded videos). Fourth-Fifth grade students have four hours of live instructional time. Daniela outlined the school's Food & Wellness program in our remote world, including fresh food distribution to families via pickup at school (today is the first day). Daniela updated on how the school will continue beloved traditions, such as Book-o-ween, in a remote world. Naomi shared that she reviewed multiple school plans as part of an engagement with EdForward DC and DC Bilingual stood out to many people reviewing plans as being one of the most comprehensive and thoughtful.

2. Academic Excellence Committee

D. Shaw updated the full Board on the composition and goal planning of the Committee. The goals and analytics work will have a specific focus on equity and inclusion. Eleni gave a deeper dive into the August teacher training. In response to a question about how the school will measure student engagement, Rohini responded that it will be dynamic, modified based on how the community responds, but will start with three measures: by class participation (attendance), engagement in learning (work completion), and through SEL check-ins (starting with morning meetings, will be expanded on once the school has SDQ results).

3. Facilities and Finance Committee

Josh presented on the school's June 2020 financials, which represent the final month of the school's fiscal year, but not yet a finalized annual financial picture. Overall the school is in a strong financial position, with both revenue and expenses being in the



green relative to budget, leading to a better than budgeted cash position. The Board discussed where the school expects to be with cash flow in the future, subject to our construction plans.

The school has received a proposed Guaranteed Maximum Price contract from our contractor for the school expansion. The proposed cost is in line with our budget. Staff is still reviewing the contract and no action is requested from the Board at this time. The Board had a discussion about where the school stands with growth and financing. The November Board meeting will be focused on a full discussion about growth, with the staff having more information at that point about financing and funding options.

At the Finance Committee's request, staff will be exploring ways to achieve some return on our existing cash in a no risk way. Next step is to have the staff make specific recommendations to the Finance Committee on what options are available.

BOARD VOTE: "The Board authorizes the Finance Committee to approve the school to move cash into a low interest no risk investment account." N. Ramey called for questions and a vote; A. Lemon-Strauss seconded; Board voted unanimous consent.

4. Development Committee

Alex provided an update on the work of the Development Committee, introducing the Committee members and talking about work underway to grow school funding.

5. Governance Committee

L. Parris updated the Board on key features of DC's recently passed Open Meetings Act. Nadia will be sending key background materials and guidance to the full Board.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:36 am.