



Board of Directors Minutes

Hope Tolson Campus
Regular Board Meeting/Virtual Zoom Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 2022
5:30 p.m. ET

I. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 5:36 PM.

II. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent
Austin Alderdice	X	
Shereefat Balogun	X	
Rebecca Doherty	X	
Neha Patel	X	
Susan Sabella	X	
Kerry Smith	X	
Alteria Brown		X

a. Approval of Board Agenda

Motion: Shereefat Balogun

Support: Austin Alderdice

The board unanimously voted to approve the board agenda.

b. Approval of Board Minutes from November 18, 2021 and January 6th, 2022

Motion: Susan Sabella

Support:

The board unanimously voted to approve the board minutes.

III. Presentation

Melissa Morris and Alexis Giles presented on Break the Norm Leadership (BtNL). BtNL is an on-site youth program that teaches leadership skills to students. BtNL requires a budget of \$12-24k, however, the board did not budget for this line item.

ACTION ITEM: Feedback on what needs to be offset before voting; run an analysis. The approval would be contingent upon finding an offset reduction.

IV. New Business

a. Approval of Break the Norm Leadership Program (BtNL)

Motion: Susan Sabella
Yay: 6

Support: Shereefat Balogun
Nay: 0

The board unanimously voted to approve the program contingent upon finding a funding source for the lesser amount option of \$11,520k.

A discussion regarding the following topics and questions were addressed:

- All of BtNL curriculum is adaptive to hybrid learning
- The curriculum focuses on critical thinking, introspection, decision making, intrapersonal skills, confidence with a focus on retaining the material to implement it in their daily lives
- BtNL is currently in several surrounding D.C. schools
- Measure of success is different for every school; BtNL provides active reflection, class summaries, conversation starters for families, etc.
- Classroom management
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Rebecca requested that it be a requirement for the BtNL staff to be onboarded, visit the campus for a building tour, and to introduce themselves to staff and scholars.
- Is staff vaccinated and aware of safety protocols?

V. CMO Report

- a. The academic support update was provided by Alexis Giles.

Alexis presented the goal of increasing reading and math proficiency by 10% , provided updates on LLI and reading interventionists, along with an informative Fountas & Pinnell Guided Reading update.

- b. The state of the school report was provided by Principal Pela.

Ms. Pela is laser focused on recruiting, retaining and enrolling families. A thorough overview of current enrollment, attendance, engagement events, recruitment strategies and safety protocols was provided. The SMART goal is to increase enrollment by 30% with a focus on marketing materials that reflect the new direction for Spring.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Track suspension and disciplinary actions.
- Report on student enrollment.
- Assign members of the taskforce.

- c. The financial update was provided by Eva Spilker.

Open Communication/Public Comments

- Kerry Smith introduced the potential board candidates, Anisa Bailey and Allison Barr.

VI. Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and go into a Closed Session to discuss business matters.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Motion: Kerry Smith

Support: Neha Patel

Yay: 6

Nay: 0

The board unanimously voted to adjourn and move to Closed Session.