

Boston Day and Evening Academy  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
June 7, 2023

---

**Attendance:** Jennie Hallisey, Alison Hramiec, Maddrey Goode, Alisa Hunter, Jumaane Kendrick, Sonya Page

**Others in Attendance:** Janet Platt, Rawchayl Sahadeo, Margaret Samp, Jill Kantrowitz, Adrienne Level, Anita Ivarson, Leslie Hill-Singleton

**Clerk:** Rawchayl Sahadeo

**Absent:** Lisa Laguerre, Jonathan Barry, Cris Rothfuss, Spencer Blasdale, Salesia Hughes-Hibbert, Dre Woodberry, Evelyn Zayas, Tyron Boswell, Norma Suarez

**Location:** Venezia Restaurant

**Documents/Exhibits Used:** May 17, 2023 minutes (for review and approval), June 7 meeting agenda, BoT slides

---

### **Call to Order/Appreciations**

M. Goode called the meeting to order at 5:55 pm and Introductions conducted. M. Goode began with an acknowledgement and appreciation of Board members and LT throughout the school year, despite the COVID impacts, and supporting students in the school community.

### **Acknowledgements**

- Spencer Blasdale - Leaving BoT, absent at meeting
- Janet Platt - Wonderful retirement party held on May 19, 2023. Her level of commitment and impact on the school community was honored.

M. Goode reviewed the agenda and called for a review of minutes of May 17, 2023. Alisa Hunter made a motion to accept the notes. J. Hallisey seconded the motion. All in attendance at 6:04 pm approved the meeting notes. No one abstained.

### **Discuss and vote on SY24 Budget Updates**

A. Hramiec shared the budget materials and highlighted the revenue in specific categories. In terms of expenses, there is an increase of staff salaries and stipends. BTU has a staff on a Schedule A salary grouping. In which, the BoT determined to use ESSER funding to pay the stipends of SY22-23. The school will resolve the best course of action SY23-24.

The areas of PD will look different to track our Race and Equity funding. We have other hired consultants but for the budget, the funds will be separated from the anti-racist work PD funding. BDEA will purchase a van for \$80k. Kendricks will support the van purchasing with additional support and resources.

In previous meetings, Dre Woodbury wanted 1% review of family activities budgeting of \$3800; To note, BDEA spends \$8500 on family engagement for a school year.

Enrollment goals of the budget is based on 368 students; currently at 297 students. Our ongoing work is to support marketing and recruitment efforts.

#### Vote to approve SY24 budget:

- Sonya Page made a motion to approve.
- Jumanne Kendricks seconded the motion.
- All approved.
- No abstain

#### **Subcommittee Reflection and Share-Out**

##### **Finance - Cris, Evelyn, Jill, Spencer, and Jonathan**

- With the support of our accountants, we have draft a chart that looks at multiple variable when doing a 5-Year projection. These variables include, enrollment, yearly projected salary cost, yearly projected salary revenue and other projections. The 5 year projection also allows us to measure the impact of the ESSER gap, we anticipate in SY25.
- Formalize an investment policy,
- ESSER spending - In SY24, we are target to spend ESSER II funding primarily on support of salaries
- SY24-25, will be able to use ESSER funds through Sept 24, SY25-26 will be the first year without ESSER funding.
- Evelyn is no longer going to be on the BoT for SY23-24 year as a Treasurer. Jonathan Barry will step into the role as the Treasurer once approved by Board in Sept.
- M. Goode shared that the debt ceiling may retract ESSER funding in the near future. We have not heard updates from the state. Most of the schools are struggling with how to spend ESSER funds, but the state will not extend the funding spending deadline.
- Per our accountants we are on track to spend the ESSER funding but we need to plan in the near future.
- A. Hunter asked if we can support recruitment to offset the shortages we will have in SY25. We need to focus more on recruitment and retention.
- M. Goode shared that external funding will be cognizant of ESSER funding ending shortly. S. Page said that we need to capitalize on recruitment, and use organizations to target the recruitment and retention efforts at the school.

##### **Facilities**

- Oversee and support leadership's strategic thinking to leverage BDEA partnerships, ESSER funds and community partnerships to advocate for a larger BDEA facility
- Consider how ESSER funds could be leveraged

Hramiec shared the accomplishments of the Facilities committee. The committee found two different consulting companies over the past two years to lay the foundation of public awareness of BDEA's need for a facility. We have nurtured a relationship with Julia Mejia and made public comments at school committee. We brought on Margaret Wood, who had ties with organizations that engaged schools in facilities searches. BDEA expanded communication, and as a result have a Vision slide deck, cost estimate, and "beat the drum" loud enough that BPS and Capital planning is aware we want new facilities.

This SY22-23, we were at a standstill with a new mayor and district superintendent with a new plan. At the start of 2023, they named a few schools with a needs assessment, and currently Capital Planning proposals. At the most recent Facilities subcommittee meeting, we reflected that we need to continue our public outreach and perhaps create a strategy of where BDEA and board need to be for certain meetings. .

Next steps are: Send an email to the Superintendent, Present at a School Committee meeting by staff, students, and BoT and share the divide of two campuses due to not having one collective space. M. Goode shared that we must acknowledge the students, individuals who are housed in the building, populations served, and promised resources that have not been honored, and the safety of schools as paramount.

Our school's strategy has been indirect, and our parents are our biggest supporters, and that we need to utilize more. Parents and current alumni should be highlighted, and shared to market our alumni success. The school should highlight each graduating year to support our Facilities campaign, such as the Alumni Letter from 2001 showcasing their job contributions.

J. Kendricks mentioned that our want of a bigger building is a conflict of interest on what the district is supporting. We have to figure out how to align with their current values. J. Hallisey shared that there is less of a priority for schools at times in the district. For example, based on a microcosm of what is done in the Timilty campus with lack of physical needs and equipment provided on the first floor in comparison to the other two floors of district office employees. In the past, we had a few parents and BoT members talk at School Committee meetings on behalf of the school's facilities needs.

### **Marketing**

S. Page shared that the subcommittee was figuring out how to promote recruitment and support the Admissions office. The team wants to focus on how to get the whole community involved and which neighborhoods and tie into youth services organizations as community partners for the school. Moise, Admissions manager, should continue to recruit in summer youth locations. Discussion of contract, social media, student recruitment, accountability built into the recruitment, calendar to support activities. There are great opportunities of partnering with BoT and staff for potential to use as partners, and appropriate outreach. A. Hunter shared that the school needs to determine the timeframe of recruitment activities and a SY23-24 plan. A. Hramiec appreciated the funding allocated towards recruitment strategies and marketing materials.. It took a long time to design the final marketing materials - but they are inclusive of all stakeholders. A. Hramiec said that this is the first time funding has been used for recruitment materials - usually enrollment has not been an issue for the school. Appreciate this shift in prioritizing this for next year. .

J. Kendricks asked about the timeline of receiving documentation and when students can enter the school. Since enrollment is at a lower target, he wondered if the school should discuss how to streamline the recruitment paperwork which is necessary to enroll students swiftly, with support of the transferring schools and guidance counselors. A. Hunter shared that it is important to track data to shift what is working and what is not working well, based on the data the school can make decision-making changes. Next school year, BDEA will offer marketing materials in other languages such as Spanish and Haitian Creole.

### **LT/BoT Reflection on SY22-23**

- A. Hramiec - Developing an Inclusion planning committee for SY23-24
- Hill-Singleton - Looking forward to the Whittier Health Center opening, and a new School Librarian for SY23-24.
- Samp - We have a current June 2023 class of 15 students. From September 2022, we have 45 total students graduating for SY22-23. Samp reflected on where our graduates are going: Digital Ready, Year Up, colleges, and working for the Mayor's Office. J. Kendricks shared that he is aware of graduates who are doing great work in the community, demonstrating the positive impact shown from the curriculum taught, and support provided by BDEA.
- Platt - This year the teachers focused on literacy, shared work with department colleagues, and going to build on next school year. She was really excited with the focus of instruction with the new IL coming SY23-24. She

appreciates the BoT for making us the “next level” caliber type of school. We currently are having conversations about growth.

- Level - It has been a challenge of transition, knowing staff are moving on. The 2.0 program will expand their team with four new staff in the Math, Humanities, Pathways Coordinator, and SpEd Inclusion teacher staff for SY23-24.
- Ivarson - She looked forward to working at BDEA for another year as a new staff. Look forward to offering and providing structures that support IEP students with a range of successes and challenges.
- M. Goode - Wants to thank others for their hard work; reflected with fondness on a past educator leader that their number #1 focus is to focus on family engagement; creating school culture and maintaining; parents are the most important individuals in their child's life of support for growth. He is excited to RE-engage the Parent Council with the leadership of Norma Suarez and Salesia Hughes-Hibbert. It is an honor to be associated with the BDEA school and work with the Executive Committee.
- Alisa Hunter - Appreciates working with BDEA and working on the anti-racist work with the school and serving BDEA students
- Jill K - Recognize BoT members supporting the school's goals; reminding our efforts to include more voices with metrics and goals, reminders to stay organized and strategic, and with coaching of Advancement Development, and M. Goode with BoT Chair presence throughout the year

#### **Farewell to departing Board members**

- A. Hramiec shared that BoT consists of 11 members and all played a role in some way this past year: present at BPS Facilities meetings, support Family engagement and Graduation. Our community appreciates the BoT service to the school.
- Spencer Blasdale - not present - applauded for his BoT service.

#### **Final Appreciations and Gratitude**

- Hramiec thanked the Leadership team for their wonderful service this school year.

#### **Updates/Announcements**

- Graduation - June 15, 2023 - BoT Welcome; Chris Johnson, Math teacher - Graduation speaker, *later changed due to scheduling conflict*

#### **Adjournment**

- A. Hunter made a motion to adjourn.
- J. Hallisey seconded the motion.
- M. Goode thanked the BoT for attending the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.