

Boston Day and Evening Academy  
Board of Trustees Minutes, Board Meeting  
Date: March 19, 2025  
Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM  
**Location: Zoom**

**Attendance School Board of Trustees:**

Present: J. Barry, A. Collins, M. Goode, C. Hendricks, A. Hramiec, A. Hunter, A. Kadagathur, S. Page, A. Shabowich, D. Woodberry

**Absent:** S. Hughes-Hibbert, J. Kendrick, C. Rothfuss

**Attendance Foundation Board of Directors:**

Present: L. Allen, J. Barry, A. Hramiec, J. Kantrowitz, E. Steele

**Absent:** A. Henderson, M. Osterg

**Others in Attendance:** I. Camacho, L. Furtado, J. Kantrowitz, A. Level, B. Yesselman

**Clerk:** J. Kantrowitz

**Documents/Exhibits Used:** January 15, 2025 minutes (for review and approval), March 19, 2025 meeting agenda, BoT slides

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**Call to Order**

M. Goode called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM, reviewed the agenda, and then called for a review of the minutes at 5:38 PM.

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**Board Minutes and Agenda Review**

The team reviewed the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes.

**Motion:** A. Hunter moved to approve the minutes from January 15th.

**Second:** S. Page seconded.

**Outcome:** All approved, no abstentions.

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**Administrative Updates and Facilities Review**

Insurance: A. Hramiec reported an update on acquiring school insurance, noting that BDEA has secured comprehensive coverage including an umbrella policy, aligning with DESE and district recommendation from Superintendent Skipper. This had been delayed for the past two years with only the minimum required coverage for workers compensation and the

governing board. This was a result of the pandemic and concern from the broker to provide robust coverage for an alternative education school. The new coverage is more expensive but the Executive Team has approved this investment.

By-Laws: Updated Board bylaws have been finalized after two years of collaboration with DESE and support from C. Rothfuss.

Facilities: Regarding facilities, BDEA will remain at the Timilty campus for now. While advocacy continues for consolidated space, the district is awaiting consultant recommendations on alternative education spaces for SY26–27.

Innovative Pathway Programming: BDEA was selected as one of three schools to design a district-supported College and Career Pathway. The planning year begins this spring and includes:

- College and career advising
- Career-connected instruction
- College credits and credentials
- Work-based learning

A consultant will be assigned to BDEA while the project is overseen by Megan Reed, the Executive Director of Strategy and Operations in the Office of Secondary Schools. This has been shared internally. In the meeting, both staff and trustees expressed optimism. Questions were raised about data support and alignment with MyCAP. BDEA 2.0 already aligns its competencies with MyCAP.

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## **Financial Update**

Enrollment: Enrollment has increased significantly, surpassing the goal of 333 students. I. Camacho and the admissions team have refined the recruitment strategy, emphasizing targeted outreach and streamlined admissions data collection. Data now informs outreach efforts to better serve students with IEPs and those transferring from schools like McKinley which has a high population of students needing special education support. Staff noted the importance of warm handoffs and intentional onboarding for students who are disconnected from school systems. Nationally we are seeing this trend to support students on IEPs so the process to both onboard and serve them effectively is critical. We must continue to monitor enrollment, using data, while also recognizing that there is no longer a student weighted formula, or a replacement for that model at this time.

### **FY25:**

- The school predicted a \$75K deficit but ended up balanced due to staffing transitions and smart use of federal dollars.
- ESSER funds were spent in Q1 solely on salaries.
- Title dollars may roll into next year to support sustainability.

### **FY26:**

- Initially projected a \$1.1M deficit.
- After advocacy, BDEA received \$333K for increased enrollment and \$222K in inclusion funds, allowing for staff retention.  
Cost-cutting, program consolidation, and strategic reallocations have reduced the projected deficit to \$200–\$300K.
- Still waiting on very final numbers with staffing expenses, positions and expected income.
- There will be a more robust update on the budget in May.

#### **Investments:**

- Both the school and foundation are planning to move funds into higher-yield investment accounts, ensuring liquidity while maximizing returns. The BDEA Foundation Board of Directors will vote on the investment amount at their next meeting in April.
- We do not anticipate any requests to the Foundation to draw funds this year, or in SY2025-26.

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#### **Reflection Exercise**

A. Hunter led a reflection: *“How have you held onto joy this winter, and what are you looking forward to this spring?”* Board members and staff members shared sources of hope, including activism, family, community connection, and spring activities like gardening.

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#### **Fundraising, Marketing, and Advancement Update**

J. Kantrowitz highlighted:

- Fundraising trends show fewer donors but larger average gifts.
- The importance of storytelling, equity, and showcasing student work was emphasized.
- A new focus on corporate giving and individual donor cultivation is underway.  
Alumni engagement is expanding, including the development of a menu of opportunities. An alum is being added to the foundation board.
- Action Steps:
  - All board members are encouraged to share their networks with J. Kantrowitz and to donate to BDEA, aiming for 100% participation. All Board members have been solicited via email by J. Kantrowitz.
  - Bring two guests to the May 29 fundraising event.
  - Attend and steward school events such as graduation.
  - Connect with BDEA on LinkedIn and help amplify content.

The May 29 fundraising event will feature interactive student presentations. *Please note, that event has now been moved to Tuesday June 10th.*

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### **Head of School Evaluation Process**

The board reviewed the process for this evaluation. The executive team will review the Head of School Evaluation survey with A. Hramiec. Staff will provide feedback mid-April and board members will provide feedback at the April meeting. Findings will be shared with the school afterward and content from the evaluation will be used to create A. Hramiec's evaluation for the year which is submitted to DESE and BPS.

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### **New Business and Announcements**

- Graduation will be held on April 3rd. Board members are encouraged to attend and volunteer.
    - Let A. Hramiec know if you'd like to give welcome remarks at graduation.
  - The June 4th board meeting will be held in person at a local restaurant; A. Hramiec and I. Camacho will coordinate.
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### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** A. Hunter moved to adjourn the meeting.

**Second:** A. Kadagathur seconded.

**Outcome:** All approved, no abstentions.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM by M. Goode.