

Boston Day and Evening Academy
School Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
Date: June 4, 2025
Time: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Location: Fort Hill Bar & Grill, In Person

Attendance:

Present School Board of Trustees: M. Goode, C. Hendricks, A. Hramiec, A. Hunter, A. Kadagathur, J. Kendrick, A. Shabowich, D. Woodberry

Absent: J. Barry, A. Collins, S. Hughes-Hibbert, S. Page, C. Rothfuss

Present Foundation Board of Directors: L. Allen, A. Hramiec, J. Kantrowitz, M. Ostberg

Absent: J. Barry, A. Henderson, E. Steele

Others in Attendance: Michelle Allman, Irma Camacho, Latashia Furtado, Anita Ivarson, Adrienne Level, Blaine Yesselman

Clerk: J. Kantrowitz

Documents/Exhibits Used: May 14, 2025 minutes (for review and approval), June 4, 2025 meeting agenda, BoT slides

Call to Order, Board Minutes, and Agenda Review

The meeting was called to order at 5:47 PM by M. Goode, who presented the agenda. As printed copies of the May 14, 2025 minutes were unavailable at the in-person meeting, the Head of School and Board Chair authorized approval by online vote. The vote was conducted the following week, and the minutes were approved.

Student Intake and Recruitment

Admissions and Recruitment Update: The admissions process has been revised to improve efficiency, streamline workflows, and ensure a respectful, inclusive, and trauma-informed experience for students. Recruitment strategies are now data-driven, focusing on schools whose students have historically been most successful at BDEA, while also monitoring schools that send higher percentages of high-need students. Schools such as City on a Hill, O'Bryant, Roxbury Prep, Boston Collegiate, and Brooke Charter were highlighted for producing strong outcomes, particularly among students who enroll close to graduation. Schools with higher rates of IEP and 504 transfers—including McKinley, APR, and Brighton—are being closely monitored, and enrollment patterns across comprehensive, pilot, and charter schools continue to be analyzed to refine outreach and align admissions with BDEA's mission.

The admissions team continues to distribute marketing materials at feeder schools and in the community to maintain application numbers. Key data for 2024–25 include:

- 372 applications received
- 198 students accepted between June and January

- 18 accepted students experiencing homelessness at entry, many in shelters or hotels, requiring HERN referrals
- Transportation demand at its highest level to date
- Special education students performing above average
- Current and former English Learners remain an area of challenge
- Cell phone management emerging as a significant issue tied to student needs
- The newly introduced Resonant Survey will help us better understand student needs and experiences and how best we can continue to serve the changing demographics of a BDEA student.

The Board reviewed comparative ratios for student support, noting that in New York City transfer skills, have a paraprofessional support ration of 1:25 students, compared to BDEA's ratio of 1:75 (expected to improve to 1:66 next year). It was agreed that stronger staffing would further improve retention and outcomes.

Board members raised questions about the importance of sharing admissions data with BPS. A. Hramiec confirmed that the analysis has been shared with Carlos Diaz, Director of Educational Options: Alternative Education, who found it highly compelling. This step helps ensure BDEA's work is understood within the broader BPS landscape. Trustees also highlighted the importance of examining students' neighborhoods of origin. The Boards commended the admissions team for its strong work and underscored the need to continue refining recruitment, support, and retention strategies.

Introductions

Because this was a joint meeting between the BOD and BOT, a round of introductions took place to introduce all attendees.

Updates

A. Hramiec shared the following updates/News:

- A new bell schedule will go into effect in September 2025. She shared the logic and process behind its creation.
- A new cell phone policy will go into place in September 2025.
- Staff are also working on a new lunch/off campus privilege policy to go into place in September 2025.
- Facilities: A decision on Madison Park's construction plan, along with any new school closure announcements, is expected in fall 2025. The November mayoral race may influence these outcomes. In February/March 2026, BPS will release a final Alternative Education facilities plan, with the goal of merging recommendations from the Alt Ed steering committee into the broader facilities plan. No facility moves are anticipated for SY26–27, with the earliest possible changes projected for SY27–28.

Connections

A. Hunter shared a prompt asking everyone to talk to a partner about self-care goal by September 1st. Participants spoke about their goals and a handful of people shared them with the larger group.

Foundation Board and Alumni Committee Work

Board development focused on meeting structure, recruitment, alumni placement, and collaboration with the School Board of Trustees. On strategy, the Foundation reviewed revenue trends, approved investment of all assets, and began establishing formal goals.

Alumni programming this year included the launch of a monthly Alumni Ambassador Group and several events, including the Margie Samp retirement celebration, a holiday party, and the June reunion. Alumni also contributed to a Problem of Practice session, participated in a College and Career Event panel, and engaged in a new mentorship program. A survey was conducted to collect alumni contact information and feedback, while data systems were strengthened through the creation of an alumni database in partnership with PGP. Additional highlights included alumni involvement in the cord ceremony at graduation and the development of a dedicated alumni webpage.

Leadership Team (LT) and Board Reflection

Leadership team members shared annual departmental highlights, combining data with thoughtful qualitative insights.

Upcoming Events, Board Recruitment, End of Year survey

A.Hramiec shared the following dates and made the following requests for board response.

- Board Retreat Dinner: June 4, 5:30–7:30 PM at Fort Hill Bar and Grill
- Graduation Awards Luncheon: June 12, ~2:00–4:30 PM
- Graduation Ceremony & Alumni Gathering: June 17
Recruitment: Board encouraged to share nominations (particularly legal/finance backgrounds)
- Board Continuation: Members asked to confirm plans for next year
- Graduation Speaker: One board member will deliver the welcome speech
- Respond to our End of Year Survey - sent after this meeting

Adjournment

Motion: D. Woodberry moved to adjourn the meeting

Second: A. Shabowich seconded

Outcome: All approved, no abstentions

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM by M. Goode