Boston Day and Evening Academy
Board of Trustees Minutes – Board Meeting
Date: April 15, 2026
Time: 5:30-7:30pm
Location: Zoom

Attendance:
Present: J. Barry, K. Cameron, C. Hendricks, A. Hramiec, A. Hunter, A. Kadagathur, M. Goode, N. Peña, A. Shabowich, C. Walkes, C. Wright
Absent: S. Hughes-Hibbert, J. Kendrick, M. Kothandaraman, C. Rothfuss, D. Woodberry
Others in Attendance: M. Allman, I. Camacho, B. Yesselman,
Clerk: J. Kantrowitz
Documents/Exhibits Used: March 18, 2026 minutes (for review/approval); April 15, 2026 agenda; Board slide deck

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Call to Order:
M. Goode called the meeting to order at 5:36pm and reviewed the agenda and desired outcomes. K. Cameron shared a reflection on the April graduation, highlighting the impact of both the student speaker and alumni commencement speaker, who spoke powerfully about their experiences and the role of relationships at BDEA.

Vote: Approval of Minutes:
M. Goode called for a motion to approve the March 18, 2026 Board of Trustees minutes.
- Motion: C. Wright
- Second: A. Hunter
- Vote: So moved

Data Dive: Course Completion:
M. Allman presented an overview of course completion data, including an explanation of BDEA's competency-based grading system and student roadmap.
Key findings included:
- Approximately 41–43% of students do not complete courses each term, a trend that has remained consistent over the past several years
- While there has been an increase in the average number of courses completed per student, overall completion rates have not improved
- Attendance remains strongly correlated with course completion, with lower attendance at the beginning and end of the day impacting outcomes
- Students are typically enrolled in four courses per term, though many are not completing all courses

The Board discussed the distinction between system-level improvements already implemented (e.g., schedule changes, attendance policy) and the need to shift focus toward:
- Instructional practices (Tier 1 instruction)
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

- Greater use of student voice to understand engagement and success

Additional highlights:

- Course completion rates for students with and without IEPs have become more aligned in recent years
- English Language Learners (ELLs) continue to lag behind peers across multiple measures, with a notable gap in course completion and higher rates of incompletes
- The ELL population has grown, increasing the urgency of targeted instructional supports

B. Yesselman emphasized that this represents a key area of growth for the school, particularly in strengthening instructional consistency across classrooms and learning from both teacher practice and student experience.

SY26–27 Budget (Draft):

A. Hramiec presented the draft budget for SY26–27 and provided context on broader district financial conditions.
Key points included:

- Continued financial pressure due to the loss of ESSER funding and rising costs (staff salaries, transportation, healthcare, special education services)
- A projected decline in district wide enrollment, particularly among EL students, alongside an increase in student need and complexity within the district
- BDEA's projected enrollment for SY26–27 is 341 students, a number aligned with recent trends and considered manageable for the school

Budget highlights:

- Slight increase in district allocation, though not sufficient to offset rising costs (particularly salaries)
- Increased reliance on foundation and corporate fundraising, reflecting growth in advancement efforts
- Staff salaries increased by approximately $300,000, while maintaining core staffing priorities
- Program expenses reduced by approximately $200,000
- Projected deficit of approximately $164,000

The Board discussed the broader fiscal environment, including district-level budget constraints and the impact of citywide financial decisions.

Board Connections:

Board members engaged in a brief reflective discussion to build connection and community.

Advancement Update: Friend/Fundraiser:

J. Kantrowitz provided an update on the upcoming Friend/Fundraiser event scheduled for May 14 at BDEA.
Board members were encouraged to:

- Attend and register for the event
- Invite guests and expand BDEA's network
- Utilize outreach materials provided to support engagement

Vote: Expulsion Policy and ETWA:

Expulsion Policy - A. Hramiec shared updates to the expulsion policy, developed in accordance with DESE requirements and aligned with BPS policy and state law. A. Hramiec called for a vote to approve the expulsion policy.

- Motion: C. Wright called for a motion to approve the Expulsion Policy "with the revisions approved by staff and the executive team"
- Second: A. Kadagathur
- Vote: Approved

ETWA (Election to Work Agreement):

A. Hramiec presented revisions to the ETWA, developed in collaboration with BDEA leadership and aligned with the school's MoU A to preserve autonomies.

Key updates included:

- Revised dispute resolution process, allowing staff to access BPS arbitration
- Clarification of staff self-directed time
- Strong staff support, with 94% approval
- Motion: K. Cameron
- Second: C. Walkes
- Vote: Approved

Head of School Goals and Reflection (SY25–26):

A. Hramiec presented reflections on progress toward SY25–26 goals, grounded in three core areas:

1. Instructional Excellence
    - Focus on strengthening Tier 1 instruction and aligning to a shared vision for teaching and learning
    - Continued work needed to ensure consistent implementation across classrooms
2. Fiscal Stability
    - Ongoing collaboration with the finance committee and foundation
    - Progress toward reducing deficit and increasing external funding
3. School Culture
    - Significant structural changes implemented this year (schedule, cell phone policy, metal detectors)
    - Continued focus on consistency, student belonging, and advisory systems
    - Use of staff and student feedback to refine practices

Board members discussed the importance of clear metrics and tools to monitor progress across these goals.

Head of School Evaluation:

Board members provided input and reflections to inform the Head of School evaluation process.

New Business / Announcements:

No additional new business was raised.

Adjournment:

M. Goode called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- Motion: J. Barry
- Second: A. Hunter

- Vote: Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.