

**RHODE ISLAND MAYORAL ACADEMYSM
BLACKSTONE VALLEY**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

5:30 p.m., August 15, 2011

Blackstone Valley Prep Elementary Cafetorium

291 Broad Street, Cumberland

Call to Order by Mayor McKee at 6:05PM

Present were:

Mayor Daniel J. McKee (Chair)
Kenneth Vaudreuil
Angelo Garcia
Stephanie Noris
Dr. John Morton

Also present were Executive Director Jeremy Chiappetta, Deputy Executive Director Drew Allsopp, Secretary Daniel C. Waugh, Treasurer, Jen LoPiccolo, Assistant Secretary and Director of External Affairs for the organization, and Christine Lopes (RIMA).

I. Approval of May 23 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes: John Morton (seconded by Ken Vaudreuil). The motion passed on the following vote:

AYE: McKee, Vaudreuil, Noris, Morton, Garcia. NAY: None.

Compensation Committee reported out the last minute revisions noted here:

- Dates changed to October 2011 and thereafter for strategic plan, Executive Director performance evaluation, organizational performance targets including: a) academic targets, b) financial targets, c) attendance/recruitment/retention targets, d) operational targets, and e) strategic targets related to the planned growth of the network and increasing student enrollment
- Additional language added to Section 8 entitling Executive Director 90 days pay if board terminates him for reason other than probable cause
- A question brought forth from Dr. Morton around the dental and vision language and the need to include a statement that makes it consistent with the school policy.

Motion to make benefits language consistent with the handbook by John Morton seconded by Ken Vaudreuil. The motion passed on the following vote:

AYE: McKee, Vaudreuil, Noris, Morton, Garcia. NAY: None.

Dan McKee asked for any other questions or comments

Motion to approve the director's contract as amended by Ken Vaudreuil and seconded by Stephanie Noris. The motion passed on the following vote:

AYE: McKee, Vaudreuil, Noris, Morton, Garcia. NAY: None.

Discussion: Stephanie reported out committee takeaways. Working with Kim Noble who provided names of consultants that could be used to develop was helpful and is her recommendation to work with someone.

All in favor: Aye unanimously

II. Executive Director's Report

A. Facilities Update:

- a. Jeremy turned it over to Drew Allsopp to update everyone on 7 Fatima site. A draft lease is expected by early next week. A draft will be sent out by email by the end of the week.
- b. \$30k in renovations are under way. Kitchen, security and electrical upgrades are all underway and will be done by the 31st when scholars arrive.
- c. Modularity remain on schedule; completion on schedule for September 15 and RIMA continues to try to push the deadline up.
- d. Jeremy reiterated that we are coming up with alternatives for the interim. Using any space accessible, partitions in the cafeteria and some extra space at Fatima Hall. Mayor McKee asked about how many temp. classrooms would be necessary in the cafeteria to which Jeremy replied no more than 2. There is further conversation to move storage room into a Pod and putting up walls to make into a nice classroom. Jeremy also reiterated that Fatima Hall will be used for P.E. and lunch. Jeremy is also anticipating questions from families about the time line and will address many of those that at an August 27 family meeting.

B. Planning and preparation for the 2011-12 academic year

- a. Jeremy reiterated excitement about the new team members. Currently, there is a search for a network substitute to cover the maternity leave that will take teachers out for the year
- b. Great start for the first few days...great workshops. Stephanie Noris spoke about the family panel of which she was a panelist. It was a very positive meeting, and a good representation of our families. Scavenger hunt on Friday afternoon was a great way to end the week. Jeremy reiterated his confidence in the work moving forward.

- c. Mayor McKee spoke to the event he hosted at his home to which the new Cumberland Superintendent was present. He is open to work together and to the Gates Foundation compact work. Excited to see that there is two-way communication with Cumberland and BVP.

VI. Audit Contract

Jeremy spoke to the RFP process for selecting an auditor. The qualities of service were deemed equally sufficient, and so the recommendation is to go with the lower bid.

Motion to approve the recommended bid by Braver PC by John Morton (seconded by Stephanie Noris). The motion passed on the following vote:

AYE: McKee, Vaudreuil, Noris, Morton, Garcia. NAY: None.

Mayor McKee requested that Ralph Salvatore attend a board meeting quarterly. To that end, Jeremy spoke to the Walton grants have been awarded at \$225k each for a total of \$450k. BVP is anticipating good news from the RIDE CSP grant. Financial overview agenda item will be added to board meetings moving forward.

V. Public Forum: None

VI. Motion to adjourn was made by Angelo Garcia (seconded by Ken Vaudreuil). The motion passed on the following vote:

AYE: McKee, Vaudreuil, Noris, Morton, Garcia. NAY: None.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen LoPiccolo

Assistant Secretary