

# Minutes

## Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy

### Board Meeting

Monday Oct 26, 2015 @ 5:30 PM at BVP HS - 3357 Mendon Road

#### Board Members Present

D. McKee, J. Almond, J. Casimiro, J. Morton, J. Waters, M. Gwynn, M. Magee, W. Murray

#### Board Members Absent

D. Grebien, J. Diossa, J. Giraldo

#### Guests Present

B. Dowd, C. Colarusso, C. Heng, C. Losea, D. Lauck, D. Madden, J. LoPiccolo, J. Quattrocchi, J. Santos Silva, K. Crowe, K. Harnedy, M. DeMatteo, P. Martin, S. Anderson

## I. Opening Items

#### Call the Meeting to Order

J. Almond called a meeting of the board of trustees of Blackstone Valley Prep Mayoral Academy to order on Monday Oct 26, 2015 @ 5:35 PM at BVP HS - 3357 Mendon Road.

#### Approve Minutes

D. McKee made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 06-12-15.

M. Gwynn seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Proceed out of order to discuss items on New Business Agenda

M. Gwynn made a motion to proceed to items on New Business Agenda.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion. Board moved on to Auditor's report (see below).

## II. Board Comments and Discussion

#### Board Elections

M. Gwynn made a motion to elect Beth Dowd as Assistant Board Secretary.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

J. Casimiro made a motion to reelect J. Diossa and J. Waters to the Board of Directors.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Board Remarks

J. Almond thanked J. Santos Silva, his team, and scholars for hosting the Board and sharing their experiences with Board members and guests prior to the start of the meeting.

J. Casimiro requested a Board discussion about forming a Development Committee. She noted that J. Chiappetta's performance review highlighted the need for the Board to create a committee, as two staff members alone cannot raise all the money BVP will need over the next five years. It was requested that this item be added as new business at the next Board meeting.

J. Waters commented on her experience visiting BVP high school with Commissioner Wagner. She noted that BVP scholars shared the online learning platform with the Commissioner. She also recognized J. Santos Silva's vision for BVP high school and the organization's risk to change the learning model to prepare scholars for

college. She further noted that scholars are now self-directed learners taking ownership over their education. She commended J. Santos Silva for his hard work during this transition and M. Magee noted that as a BVP HS Parent, the model is extraordinary and he is excited about the experience his daughter is having. M. Gwynn remarked that he was recently having lunch with an acquaintance and was speaking about BVP's work, and the acquaintance then gave BVP a donation of \$5,000.

## 15-16 Board Meeting Calendar

### III. Public Comment

#### Public Comment

No public comment.

### IV. Consent Agenda

#### Executive Director Reports

Discussion: D. McKee raised questions about testing cycles and testing results. The Executive Director's report noted that BVP's Science NECAP scores are double digits above state averages for both 4th and 8th grades. J. Chiappetta reported that PARCC results will be released in November and would be shared with the Board when they are available.

#### Finance Director Reports

No discussion.

#### 14-15 Year in Review

No discussion.

### V. New Business

#### BVP Goals for 15-16

Discussion: J. Chiappetta outlined the organization's proposed goals for the 2015-16 year. They include academic excellence, intentional diversity, family relationships, and implementation of strategic plan. The family relationship goal is a new focus area this year; we know that academic excellence and intentional diversity rely on family partnerships and family involvement. The goal regarding strategic plan is specifically geared toward the Board of Directors and BVP Network team. J. Chiappetta also discussed how these goals relate to efforts for family outreach and personnel recruitment.

W. Murray made a motion to accept goals as outlined by J. Chiappetta.

M. Gwynn seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### 14-15 Audit

Auditors from KLR provided an overview of the Audit and presented their opinion of BVP's financial statements and A133 compliance for Federal funding. They found that in all material respects, BVP's information is presented fairly and accurately. For Federal purposes (Title I and Special Ed grants), BVP is also considered a low risk auditee.

J. Morton made a motion to accept the audit report as presented.

M. Magee seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Compliance with RIGL §16-21-35 (NARCAN)

Rhode Island statute requires a policy to make NARCAN available at all middle and high schools. BVP is currently compliant with training requirements, and is in the process of acquiring NARCAN. BVP did not incur any material costs in implementing plan.

J. Morton made a motion to accept policy and acknowledge compliance with RIGL §16-21-35.

D. McKee seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Compliance with RIGL §16-21-25 (Safety Policy Review)

BVP Board of Directors must review safety plans annually as updated by schools, which work in partnership with

local fire and public safety officials to determine emergency procedures. BVP schools have adopted state-issued safety toolkit, and supplemented with additional documents containing evacuation routes and additional school-specific protocols. W. Murray also brought up the topic of student safety and teacher liability related to physical restraints and/or necessary physical contact with students. BVP has staff specifically trained in each school through the Crisis Prevention Interaction (CPI) program who are responsible for handling all situations that may lead to necessary student restraint. Staff who are not CPI certified do not respond these situations and do not physically restrain scholars.

J. Morton made a motion to accept policy and acknowledge compliance with RIGL §16-21-25.

M. Gwynn seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## VI. Executive Session

### **Enter Executive Session**

Per RIGL §42-46-5(a)(5) and RIGL §42-46-5(a)(1), the Board entered executive session to discuss matters related to real estate and personnel.

J. Morton made a motion to enter executive session.

M. Magee seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Exit Executive Session**

J. Casimiro made a motion to exit executive session.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Executive Session – R.I. Gen. L. § 42-46-5(a)(5) (Real Estate)**

J. Casimiro made a motion to accept proposal related to real estate as presented and discussed in executive session.

M. Magee seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Executive Session – R.I. Gen. L. § 42-46-5(a)(1) (Personnel)**

J. Waters made a motion to accept the recommendation related to personnel as presented by the Subcommittee on Evaluation and discussed in executive session.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **Seal Minutes**

J. Waters made a motion to seal the executive session minutes.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## VII. Closing Items

### **Adjourn Meeting**

J. Casimiro made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

J. Morton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 07:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

B. Dowd