

Present: Tim Dutton, Rachel Alison, Monika Montalvo, Chris Moffat, Bridget Krauss, Ramon Bulerin, Elisa Martinez, Jasedia Toro, Brandon Dejesus, Shandra Sanders, Chris James and Sandy Lefkowitz.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01.

Must fail list and removal requests: There are two students on the Must Fail List. One of the student's constant tardiness is due to many out of school obstacles that the school has been made aware of. The second student landed on the Must fail list, due to personal inability to make it to school on time. Although this student is on this list, the Council is being asked that she be taken off, because by school regulations if a student has accumulated more than 8 absences or tardies they must not be permitted any grades higher than a 60. She is in her senior year and will need to submit these first quarter grades to future colleges. So it is asked that the Governing Council move her off the list so that her actual grades be recorded on her transcripts for college submissions. A motion was moved for these two students to be removed from the Must fail list; motion was approved for one student. For the student not approved it was suggested a letter be written explaining to Colleges the student's situation.

Update on School (Report Cards, climate): There will be a middle and high school dance within the next two weeks. Report card conferences this past November were a great success. Almost 70% of the Middle school parents were in attendance. In the last few weeks there have been some withdrawals from the school. Some reasons were that the school curriculum was too hard; another reason was that students simply wanted to explore other options of schooling in different cities. There will be a Chapter School rally held in New Haven this week. All Charter Schools in the area will be in attendance, Bridge Academy will be given a bus to attend the rally, but only students accompanied by a parent will attend. There was an incident a few weeks ago in the high school girl's bathroom, regarding some writing inside one of the stalls. One of the students had written in the stall "I have a bomb" with the next day's date. Preventative measures were put into place, all after school clubs and activities were cancelled and the proper authorities were called and inspected the school. There RE follow-up procedures in place to try and identify the student.

Quarterly meeting schedule (Move to Saturday?): In discussion about the last meeting with Dr. Selverstone, a motion to approve October's Governing Council minutes was moved and approved. It was agreed to hold this next meeting with Mr. Selverstone on Saturday, January

31. It will then be followed by a brief lunch in our cafeteria.

Bullying Policy and committee: There have been some incidences involving bullying; concerned parents have come forward to express knowledge of their children being bullied in school. Different approaches have been taken to address the situations and work towards resolutions. One of the bullying situations has been so severe that it led to suspension. Other students been written up.

School climate committee: Before the Thanksgiving break the High School had participated in spirit week. It went better than expected, with positive cooperation from all grades. The school's climate is as expected after coming back from a longer than usual holiday break. All the students are getting back into their school mode.

Emergency Plans and procedures: We have also had fire drills and some lock down drills are up and coming.

Food Service Council: One of the students will pair with a teacher to create a survey, which ultimately will be given to the student body asking what meals are liked and the possibility of allowing the students the option of knowing what foods are being purchased for meals. This is for the students to have input on meals that can be made.

Title 1 Advisory committee: RTI's are stilling be given in the High school, these classes are given to the students based on classes that they might need extra help in.

Other new business (personal day request): One teacher has asked for a personal day, before the long holiday week starts. This particular teacher hasn't asked for a personal or sick day in a long while. Also, as of next year the calendar will become a regional calendar matching that of the surrounding district regions.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

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Governing Council

Monday, December 1st, 2014

The Bridge Academy is a small, caring, public charter school with a rigorous learning environment.

All members of The Bridge Academy community listen to and communicate with each other, are able to respond to diverse needs and give the consistent effort necessary for personal and academic growth.