

## Minutes of the Governing Council: Monday, October 6th, 2014 at 6:04 pm

Present: Tim Dutton, Rachel Alison, Bridget Krauss, Valerie Gibson, Shanda Sanders, Ramon Bulerin, Sandra Lefkowitz Suzanne O'Brien, Monika Montalvo, Chris Moffat,

The meeting was called to order at 6:08.

- 1. Election results and yearly schedule:** All candidates nominated have been elected to participate in council; unfortunately two (2) parents withdrew their candidacy so there are 2 slots available for other elected parents.
- 2. Update on School (Power School, progress reports, climate etc...):** Progress reports were released this past week; some disciplinary issues have arisen but in general the high school is in a good place. Three new students have been added to the school as of October 1. This day has great significance for the state of Connecticut, this is the day that we as a school are paid based on our student attendance or overall student head count. The middle school is finding their own way to transition into the new environment and new teachers, hopefully they will settle into a calm climate to match the oncoming season. The new "morning meeting" has been introduced and is showing positive effects.
- 3. Quarterly meeting schedule (Bob Selverstone):** It was agreed and decided that there will be three (3) more sessions with Mr. Selverstone. The first will be on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and it will revolve around "What is really important to me", The Second on February 2<sup>nd</sup> "What My Coat of Arms would look like" and the last will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup>, "Is it better to Aim to Permissive or Strict or Maybe Somewhere in the Middle?"
- 4. Bullying Policy and committee:** Mr. Dutton reported that the biggest bullying issue in the school had to do with sexual harassment of young women. Mr. Dutton said the school was working as hard as it could on the issues with strategies including both punishment and individual counseling. The Council discussed a number of strategies including plays or other productions that showed the damage such issues cause. Mr. Dutton said that he would continue to report to the Board on these issues.

Ms. Allison reported that the middle school was also working on individual bullying issues.

5. **School climate committee:** Surveys from last spring are being incorporated into this year's school year. Suggestions that were given will be applied to help better the school overall.
  
6. **Emergency Plans and procedures:** There is a new emergency plans and procedure that is in the process of being approved. We are also looking into applying for a new grant which will redo the entry way and doors as well as make upgrades with the security system. We're trying to get to a place where the live feed will be able to be viewed in case of emergency by the downtown police department.
  
7. **Food Service Council:** We as a school try to give are best to the students academically; this goes the same for the meal service that we provide, to be in compliance with the state we make sure that all students are given daily the opinion of fruits and vegetables along with salad. Unfortunate as it may seem the guide lines of that compliance that have to be met are cutting the proportions of the meals down. This is to cut the obesity epidemic.
  
8. **Title 1 Advisory committee:** Title 1 will continue to fund our RTI program and our Health plans to help our students to continue on a positive paths.
  
9. **Other new business—Personal day request:** A teacher has requested to have two personal days given to them before thanksgiving. She has great attendance record and will leave adequate instruction in her absence.
  
10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 pm.

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## **Governing Council**

*Monday, October 6th, 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.*