

Present: Tim Dutton, Sandy Lefkowitz, Rachel Allison, Kit Kaolian, Dolores Fuller, Vincent Musto, and Michael Bologna.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm

1. **Public comment (Each guest is allowed 3 minutes):** There were no public comments. We did however have a few of the middle school students come and share their experiences with the Board of Director's, from their trip to Boston.
2. **Approval of minutes from previous (March) meetings:** A motion to approve March minutes was granted.
3. **Old Business:** The Fundraising committee spoke and are trying to find new ways to come about accessing grant money. Along with that it was brought to the Board that brief biographies will be needed to go along with the terms for each Board member.
4. **Status report and update on school (report card conferences, end of year, etc...):** Recently the school has held report card conferences. More than half of the parents came through. Along with that the school is just coming off from break and everyone is just getting back into the swing of things. Overall the school year is going well; having come down from our first physical altercation, which occurred before vacation. We are trying to redirect focus on the end of the year approaching with Finals as well as end of the year trips and graduations.
We are also introducing to the staff a new training exercise called "mindfulness". It's a therapeutic technique, were the staff will take online classes along with forums. This might transition into something new that will be introduced to the students, to help them learn how to pause and calm themselves before reacting to whatever situations they are put in or arise.
5. **Personnel (Fingerprint reports, early retirement plan, pregnancy leave, notices for next year...)** The early retirement plans are still being offered and are going to be due by the beginning of June.
Its was asked of the Board to take into consideration that if circumstances would arise that may require legal action, the acting director may be able to seek such legal aid without cost constraints. A motion was moved that: the school director has authority to spend up to fifty on legal assistance and associated cost in connection with employee termination which authority extends from April 20, 2015 to April 30, 2016; which has to be renewed annually. That the school director expends any such funds for such purpose must record the amount and only the amount of the expenditures to the Board quarterly and that no further reporting on the expenditures of those funds be required until the case is concluded and all appeal periods have expired at which time the school director must give a full report of all funds expended and purposes therefore. This motion was approved.
Another Topic that was heavily discussed was The Family Medical Leave Act. It was agreed that the school will pay for 6 weeks' pay out of 12 under the FMLA, only if the employee has the sick time to cover the initial 6 weeks. This motion was passed.
6. **SEED evaluation plan:** The SEED evaluation plan was explained to and reviewed by the Board. It was also approved.
7. **Governing Council update (April meeting, Approval of calendar)** A motion to approve the minutes was granted. Along with the approval of the next school years calendar.
8. **Financial committee report (15 minutes, Maurumoto, Dutton)**
 - **New auditor, new audit format, new bank, credit line, monthly report.)**
A motion for the director to choose between the two new audit bids for the new school auditors was made and approved. It was decided not to wait for the 3rd bid.

The state decided that The Bridge Academy would need to stay with the “governmental” format for its audit. The Bridge Academy’s request to switch to non-profit audit formatting was denied.

The Bridge Academy has been approved from Connecticut Community Bank for a \$100,000 credit line. However, The Bridge Academy was going to investigate Bankwell bank before making the switch from Peoples. It was expected a motion to change banks would be made at a near future meeting.

The monthly report showed The Bridge Academy finishing the year with a small deficit. It was reported that when a correction was made for Bridgeport Public School Special education funding that this would change to a small surplus.

9. Building issues (1 minute) (Dutton) – New grant!!!, Building committee report, Bid documents: We have approved a company to repair the basement ceilings, build new entry ways, building coating and it is pending the approval of the roofers in the next Building Committee meeting.

10. Executive session: No Executive session.

11. Other New Business –Appointment of Officers!, Board gift., It was asked if any of the Board members would like to contribute to the annual graduation gift. The reappointment of the officers was put to a vote. They stand at President of the Board of Directors: Sandy Lefkowitz, Vice President: Kit Kaolin and Treasure: Zainab Muhammad.

12. Adjournment: 7:27 p.m.