

**Present:** Rachel Allison, Kit Kaolian, Vince Musto, Wendy Phillips, Jacquie Marumoto, Sandy Lefkowitz, John Rodriguez, Michael Bologna, Celeste Markle, Vik Muktavaram, Dee Fuller, Tim Dutton with special guests Pat Michaels, the independent evaluator, and Rachel Smith a candidate for the Board of Directors.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

- **Public comment (Each guest is allowed 3 minutes)** No Public comment.
- **Approval of minutes from previous (January) meetings.** A motion was made by Dee Fuller and seconded by John Rodriguez and approved by the Board.
  3. **Old Business:** There was a review of the results of the August evaluation of the Board by an outside source on Board procedures. The bylaws committee had met to review the recommendations; we will be revising the Board handbook. The overall report was favorable.
  4. **Status report and update on school (enrollment, suspensions, school climate)** There have been some withdrawals but no more than in previous years. There has been a small increase in suspensions in the high school. School climate continues to be positive; contracts reflecting individual student needs will be handed out to encourage them to improve and pass the school year. SATs will be given in one week for our juniors.

The Boston trip has been opened up to all middle school students. Student behavior will determine their eligibility. There is a separate trip to New York for students that aren't able to go on the Boston trip if there is a space issue. Eighth grade students will be going to see the movie *Race* for Black History awareness month. March Madness will start in a few weeks; all middle school students that have caught up with their reading points will be able to participate. This week two 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be honored at the Bridgeport Rotary club as Bridge students of the month. CMT testing will be at the end of February.

The Board reviewed Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) results. The results were positive and showed students progressed above projected growth norms.
  5. **Personnel (Fingerprint reports, evaluation of administrators (update from Pat Michael), State letter, new hires):** All personnel and Board members have gotten their fingerprinting done.. An English teacher will be resigning in mid-March; plans have been made for a replacement.

Administrator's evaluation components : 45% students' performance; 5% success of teachers compared to their students' learning objectives; 40% Leadership practices; 10% on student feedback.

Both Bridge administrators will increase the student reading and math goal by 5%. 2015-2016 Graduation Rate Goal is 92% of students in grade 9 attain a minimum of 6 credits as required for promotion to grade 10 as measured by their status as of August 5, 2016.

Ms. Allison goal is for teachers to demonstrate use of research- based student- centered teaching strategies to elevate the level of instructional rigor and student independence and responsibility.
  6. **Charter School Performance framework explanation (Dutton):**

The State of Connecticut will be releasing a new accountability document for each school. This document uses 14 different measures to evaluate the school. The measures include test scores, student attendance, college career readiness, physical fitness tests, art enrollment. This new accountability document will place the Bridge Academy in a better light because it relies on more than test scores. As part of this it was announced that The Bridge Academy currently has 12 students taking classes at Housatonic Community College.
  7. **Public Square evaluation:** Recommendations: changing the use of RTI to

engage more brain building exercises instead of using it to remediate what students have already learned; adding staff to the school; Communicating and engaging more with students' families.

A positive Seed evaluation program was completed for both Bridge Administrators.

8. **Marketing ideas and thoughts (Encore application):** The Encore application was completed and submitted and we have applied for a dedicated professional to assist us with marketing of the school. We have an appropriate number of new applications for this time of year.

9. **Governing Council update (February public meeting):** the month of February held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Community meeting; the speakers' discussions were recapped to the board members.

10. **Financial committee report( Marumoto):**

credit card statement review: we will be paying the credit card directly parallel with the statement of that month.

- monthly report: Our budget is on track.

11. **Building issues (Dutton)** –The architect has finished the construction instructions for the science room, and detailed level of plans; the building committee will be receiving these plans once they are reviewed by Dave Bienashski. After this process is completed we will go out to bid; it is expected that construction starts on June 15 and promptly end on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

12. **Executive session:** No Executive session.

13. **Other New Business Healthy Food Certification:** The Board was reminded of the annual Board gift given to the seniors at graduation.

A motion was moved to approve the Healthy Food Certification by Michael Bologna and seconded by Vince Musto.

Action to be completed	Date of completion	Responsibility
Revisions of Board Manual	04/18/2016	Lefkowitz
Building Committee update	03/14/2016	Dutton

A motion was made by Michael Bologna and seconded by Vince Musto to appoint Bob Beckerer as the honorary Board member; Dee Fuller as Secretary and Jacquie Marumoto as Treasurer.

14. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 pm