

Present: Tim Dutton, John Rodriguez, Ken Smith, Sandy Lefkowitz, Rachel Allison, Kit Kaolian, Delores Fuller, Robert Bologna and Vince Musto, Zainab Mohammed

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm

- **Public comment (each guest is allowed 3 minutes):** No Public Comment
- **Approval of minutes from previous (August 25, 2014) meetings:** A motion was made and minutes were approved.
- **Old Business (evaluation of administrators):** A motion on the evaluation report of the administrators was voted on and approved. It was asked that some of the wording for criteria be made clearer in the future.
- **Status report and update on school (School enrollment and discipline):** As of October 1st the school was listed at having enrolled 275 students; this was the number of students for which Bridge Academy was financed by the State of CT.

The High School has had a good climate, showing a substantial improvement from prior years. The Middle School has had two minor altercations both from 7th graders; all students that took part in these altercations were suspended.

- **Board training (superintendent representative):** There was an invitation extended to the Superintendent of Schools. She was unable to attend, due to a prior commitment with the Board of Education. Four board members and Tim Dutton attended a Board Training Seminar. In time all Board members will need to attend a Board Training Seminar.
- **Personnel (Fingerprint report, early retirement plan? New teachers, etc...):** All Board members were informed of mandatory fingerprinting that should be completed before summer of 2015. Over the summer the majority of the staff had gotten fingerprinted. It turned up that one employee we have did have priors, dating back almost 30 years. It was asked that a motion be granted on whether to keep this employee on staff. The motion was voted on and granted.

The idea of an early retirement plan that the Director would like to be investigated, for future options to employees, was brought to the Board's attention. The Board agreed that this should be explored. Both new teacher hires in the High School are proving to be good hires. Both have adjusted to students and are comfortable in their teaching environment.

- **Presentation of School Improvement Plan:** In There was discussion of hiring a consultant to help evaluate our testing system and School Improvement Plan. A consultant from the CREC organization was contacted who has already had experience with the type of standardized testing that The Bridge Academy Students take and in evaluating School Improvement

Plans. This neutral expert would be helpful when the school renewal comes up.

- **Annual report and submission:** The 2013-2014 annual report was distributed to the Board, It had been submitted to the State in late September. Next year the annual report will be submitted to the Board earlier so that Board members will have a better chance to provide edits. In addition, next year's report will include different State Testing as the Connecticut's CMT and CAPT are no longer given.
- **Governing Council update:** After attending this past Governing Council meeting, it was great to find that this year's members were a group of highly energetic parents, eager to get involved. The Governing Council members must attend training classes.

At the November 3, Quarterly meeting of the Governing Council Bob Selverstone, PhD will be the facilitator.

- **Emergency Plans and procedures:** Our new Emergency Plans and Procedures Manual was reviewed. A motion to approve was granted. There will be a training for staff to assure that they how to execute these plans in the event of an emergency.
- **Financial committee report:** Board reports will go through to the end of the previous month rather than the date of meeting. This is so the report will even up figures and match more accurately to the day. Also to the board members that sign checks it was addressed that when signing checks regarding credit card payments, the statement must be checked when checks for payments are being signed. Please see attached financial report.
- **Building issues – New grant:** The grant will be put towards: the redo of the doors, for safety reasons and reconfiguring the office; redo of the roof; renovating the science rooms. The school was not granted funds to remove the oil tank. We should know towards the end of June when the grant will be available to us to begin reconstruction.
- **Executive session:** No Executive session was needed during this meeting.
- **Other new Business:** There is a Legislative Breakfast being held on Friday, October 24, at 9 am. It would be great if any Board or Council members would attend.
- **Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:01**

Kristina Montalvo Recording Secretary