

**Bridges Preparatory Board of Directors**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Board meeting on April 27, 2017**  
**Held at Bridges Preparatory Main campus, 1100 Boundary Street, Beaufort SC 29902**

Upon determining the presence of a quorum, Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

**Board Member Attendance**

	Name	Office	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early
1	Dee Matthews	Board Chairman	X			
2	Marty Miley	Vice Chairman	X			
3	James Corbin	Treasurer	X			
4	Peggy Feuerbacher	Secretary	X			
5	Calvin White	Director at Large		X		
6	Chris Protz	Director at Large	X			
7	Greg Brinker	Director at Large	X			
8	Brooke Pacheco	Director at Large	X			
9						

**Staff Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Ithomitis, Jessi Mullen, Caroline Lovell, Tim Drury, Joan Drury, Jessica Hint, Taylor Whitson, Amy Painton, Rachel Bolte, Bob Prowel, Jaime Dyas

**Others in Attendance:**

John Williams, Publicist, Melissa Kiddy, Accountant

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

(\*Conducted in executive session in accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 30, Chapter 4, Section 30-4-70 (a)(1), for the "discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of... employee[s]" and (2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property. . . .)

**MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to enter Executive Session at 6:07pm, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to emerge from Executive Session, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent. Public Meeting convened at 7:16pm.

**II. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Bridges Preparatory Mission Statement was recited aloud by Director Matthews

**III. PUBLIC MEETING**

**a. OPENING CERMONIES**

- i. Amy Painton was recognized by Dr. I for being nominated for the Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Employee Award. This award recognizes an individual who provides excellent customer service, who are good team players and who raise the bar in their workplace by contributing new ideas that better their company. The winner of this and all awards will be announced at the Annual Civitas

Awards Gala to be held Friday, June 2nd at 6pm at Tabby Place. Congratulations to Amy for being nominated for this award

- ii. Miss Betty and the girls from the Bridges Afterschool Program made a video about the dangers of smoking. The girls involved in the video were Breanna Armstrong, Bailey Pierce, Nyla Daise, and Savannah Kunkel. It was submitted to the Nix the Nic Contest put on by the Backfire South Carolina Organization. This is an organization who tries to spread the word about the dangers of tobacco use among teens in our state. After all of the online voting, the winners were announced. These Bridges girls won first place! The afterschool program will be receiving a \$2,000.00 grant, an improv comedy show will come to the afterschool program to perform, and each girl will be receiving prizes and some scholarship money. The video is on the [www.backfiresc.org](http://www.backfiresc.org) site and can still be viewed if you look under the group entries.
- iii. China Trip Report. Chairperson Matthews led off the presentations by sharing her experience. Our group was welcomed by 1400 cheering Chinese students and was a very humbling experience. This group became part of Bridges History with agreement to be sister school. She complimented Mr. Prowel and Ms. Bolte for their wonderful job as chaperones. They were amazed as every need was met and our group was accepted as family. Her report was followed up by presentations given by Fernando Sotelo and Garrett Peterson and Summer Pottenger and Bailey.
- iv. Dr. I recognized the Duke TIPS Students. Emma Jansen received State Recognition for scoring well on the ACT. She also qualified for Center for Summer Studies Program with Duke. Also qualifying for Center for Summer Studies were Eric Lin and Summer Pottenger. Additionally, Sara Lonk, Blake Rivers, William Utsey, Davion Washington and Brooklyn Ryherd were identified as Duke TIP students.

**b. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**c. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

Chairperson Matthews stated that the media was notified of the meeting, including the listing on BPS website. It was done within the 48 hour requirement.

**d. REPORTS**

**i. HOS REPORT**

Dr. I reported that the search for a High School Principal was still underway. Our teacher hiring is going well with some very highly qualified teachers signing on for next year.

**ii. PTO REPORT**

Amy Painton thanked the attendees of the Block Party for making it the highest attended event and we look forward to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual for which planning is underway. Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week and will kick off with some treats on Monday.

**iii. OUTREACH REPORT**

None Given

**iv. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Report given under the China Trip.

**v. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Melissa Kiddy presented the financials for February and March. She indicated we were in a strong financial position heading into our construction of the new school.

**MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to accept the financials as presented by Melissa, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent.

**vi. FACILITIES REPORT**

Vice Chairperson Miley reported that the roof replacement on the Boundary Campus was complete and after recent rains, there are no more leaks.

New School update: still working with DOT. Met with them in Charleston where they asked for some new traffic numbers, those have been delivered to them and SCDOT and OSF are meeting on 4/28 and hopefully, we will be given a green light to move forward at full speed.

**e. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to accept the minutes for March 17, 2017, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**f. BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS**

**i. Safety for School Facility Sites**

Chairperson Matthews led the discussion and reiterated that the Board's position is that safety of our students is a top priority. We have established a new procedure for pickup/drop-off with regards to supervision. If any facility has a staffing shortage that doesn't allow them to have a staff member greeting the students outside at the pickup/drop-off area, they will notify Dr. Ithomitis and someone from the Main Campus will cover the pickup or drop-off to ensure the safety of our children.

**ii. Charter Student Cell Phone Policy**

Our charter states that cell phones are not to be brought to school. They are becoming a major issue, particularly at the Green Street campus with students/parents using them to bypass school channels of communication and students using them in a distracting manner. In the next couple of weeks, there will be a taskforce assigned to draft a proper policy for cell phone usage that takes into account how everyone is always "on-the-go." Anyone interested in joining the taskforce should contact the Board and Dr. Ithomitis.

**iii. School Calendar**

A survey monkey was sent out and the 2017/18 school calendar was finalized according to the results of that survey monkey. Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey.

**MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to approve the 2017/18 school calendar as proposed by Dr. Ithomitis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**iv. Facilities Usage**

Dr. Ithomitis has recommended for the 2017/18 school year, we locate grades k-2 at Celadon, grades 3-7 at Boundary Street and 8-10 at Green Street. Additionally, the offices of Chief Operations Officer, Director of Operations and DAR/Specialist would be relocated to the Carole Waters Building.

**MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to accept the Head of School facility usage recommendation as outlined for the 2017/18 school year, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent.

**g. VOTES**

- i. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Corbin to approve new policy requiring a new SLED check annually for all Bridges Preparatory Staff, seconded by Director Brinker, motion passed without dissent.
- ii. **MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to allow Chairperson to sign all teacher contracts as successful SLED checks come back, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.
- iii. **MOTION** made by Treasurer Corbin to approve the salary schedule for teachers and staff with exception of Head of School beginning June 30, 2017 through the end of the 2017/18 school year, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent.
- iv. **MOTION** made by Director Pacheco to designate all funds made from the Beaufort Water Festival to be channeled into the trip fund, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.
- v. **MOTION** made by Director Pacheco to designate all funds made from the Beaufort Water Festival to be channeled into the trip fund, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.
- vi. **MOTION** made by Secretary Corbin to accept appointment of Peggy Feuerbacher to position of Board Secretary, seconded by Director Protz, motion passed without dissent.
- vii. **MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to accept appointment of James Corbin to position of Board Treasurer, seconded by Director Protz, motion passed without dissent.
- viii. **MOTION** made by Director Pacheco to table HR24 to the May meeting, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.

**h. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Brooklyn Ryherd, Bridges Preparatory student would like to have no dress code. Chairperson Matthews clarified that we will continue with a dress code for multiple reason but we will create a taskforce to draft an applicable dress policy for not only students but faculty and staff as well.

Mrs. Robinson thanked the Board and the school for the opportunity to work at Bridges Preparatory and is seeing wonderful things coming out of the school.

**i. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Brinker, motion passed without dissent. Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.

Approved by the Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary or Board Chairperson Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

