

**Bridges Preparatory Board of Directors  
Minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting 12/12/2023.  
Held at Bridges Preparatory Main Campus,  
555 Robert Smalls Parkway, Beaufort SC 29906**

**Board Member Attendance**

	Name	Office	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early
1	Tom Angelo	Board Chair	x			
2	Bryan Merrick	Vice Chair	x			
3	Jorge Guerrero	Director	x			
4	Michelle Fraser	Treasurer	x			
5	Jon Brown	Secretary	X			
6	Beth Taggart	Director	x			
7	David Gault	Director	x			
8	Dawn Yerace	Director	x			
9	Casey Chucta	Director		x		

**Staff Members in Attendance: Gary McCulloch, Jessica Mullen, Caroline Lovell**

- A. CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM**
  - a. Upon determining the presence of a quorum, Chairman Angelo called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM.
- B. PUBLIC MEETING**
  - a. **MISSION STATEMENT**
    - a. The Bridges Preparatory Mission Statement was recited aloud by Chairman Angelo.
  - b. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
  - c. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**
    - a. Chairman Angelo stated that the media was notified of the meeting, including the listing on the BPS website and at all campus locations. It was done within the 24-hour requirement.
- C. Adoption of Agenda**
  - a. **MOTION** made by Director Angelo to accept the agenda with addition of recognition of board members. Seconded by Director Fraser. Motion passed.
- D. New Business**
  - a. **Recognition of Directors**
    - a. Chairman Angelo and CEO McCulloch recognized Director Dawn Yerace, Director Beth Taggart, Director David Gault.
  - b. **Swearing in of Board Members**
    - a. Judge Brooks swore in Directors Tom Angelo, Jonathan Brown, Anna Beckham, James "Dustin" Duckett, and Andrea Hackenberger.
- E. PUBLIC COMMENT**
  - a. Mr. Pratt made a public comment regarding dismissal process of the school.
- F. MOTION** made by Director Guerrero to enter an executive session, seconded by Director Brown. Motion carried.
- G. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
  - a. Section 30-4-70(a)(1) Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body or the appointment of a person to a public body.

- b.** Section 30-4-70(a)(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim.

**H. MOTION made by Director Fraser to end executive session, seconded by Director Guerrero, motion carried.**

**I. PUBLIC MEETING**

**a. CEO REPORT (Mr. McCulloch)**

- i.** The Savannah Ghost Pirates event was a huge success, and we were able to sell our allotment of tickets. The next event will be on March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ii.** On December 5<sup>th</sup> BPS held the first of 9 tours scheduled during the application period of December and January.
- iii.** On December 8<sup>th</sup> we held a thank you to students for all their hard work. There are 7 inflatables with mazes and interactive games.
- iv.** The high school winter formal was held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.
- v.** Student government has been hard at work filling candy gram orders for Christmas. They have filled a total of 1880 candy grams as of Monday night.
- vi.** Tomorrow night BPS faculty will be gathering for the annual holiday party. The staff hopes that the board will be able to attend.
- vii.** On Thursday our new application period will begin.
- viii.** Current enrollment is 1354 students with 3 offers out and we have 5512 on our waitlist. We have received 1136 applications to date.

**b. PTO REPORT**

- i.** The PTO 2022-23 financials have been submitted to our CPA.
- ii.** PTO has started planning for the Annual Buccaneer Ball that is scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
- iii.** Spirit night at Hearth will be on January 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-9PM.
- iv.** Next PTO meeting will be held on January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.
- v.** Kona Ice will be at the school on January 12<sup>th</sup> to celebrate end of quarter.

**c. ATHLETICS REPORT**

- i.** Athletics printed report was given to all board members during presentation.

**d. 10-Year Celebration Committee (Mr. McCulloch)**

- i.** N/A

**e. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT (Tom Angelo)**

- i.** BPS is doing well. Gym is looking well with April 1<sup>st</sup> as move in date.

**f. TREASURER'S REPORT**

- i.** Director Fraser read the October 2023 financials.
- ii.** MOTION made by Director Guerrero to approve the October 2023 financials as presented. Seconded by Director Merrick. Motion passed.

**g. Announcements / Good of the Order**

- i.** Director Merrick introduced Caroline Lovell and Jessica Mullin to the new board members.

**h. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- i.** MOTION made by Director Merrick to approve the minutes from the 11/24/2023 board meeting minutes with the stated correction, seconded by Director Fraser, motion passes.

**i. NEW BUSINESS**

- i.** Election of Board Officers

- a.** Chairman – Tom Angelo received 5 votes.  
Bryan Merrick received 3 votes.

