

**Bridges Preparatory Board of Directors  
Minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting, 12/13/2022.  
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	Director	x			
3	Jorge Guerrero	Director	x			
4	Michelle Fraser	Director	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, 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 5:34 PM.

**B. PUBLIC MEETING**

a. **MISSION STATEMENT**

1. The Bridges Preparatory Mission Statement was recited aloud by Chairman Angelo.

b. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

1. 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.

d. **Adoption of Agenda**

1. **MOTION** made by Director Brown to adopt agenda with the addition of item B in New Business, seconded by Director Taggart, motion carried.

e. **New Business**

1. **Swearing in of Board Members**

- Judge swore in newly elected board members: Bryan Merrick, Jorge Guerrero, and Michelle Fraser.

2. **Election of Officers**

- Discussion was had on the roles of officers.
- Director Gault nominated Tom Angelo as Chair. Director Merrick nominated Dawn Yerace.
  - Director Angelo received 6 votes.
  - Director Yerace received 2 votes.
- Director Angelo nominated Michelle Fraser for Vice Chair. Director Taggart nominated Bryan Merrick. Director Gault nominated Dawn Yerace.

- Director Merrick received 4 votes.
- Director Fraser received 3 votes.
- Director Yerace received 1 vote.
- Director Angelo nominated Jonathan Brown for Secretary. Director Gault nominated Jorge Guerrero.
  - Director Brown received 6 votes.
  - Director Guerrero received 2 votes.
- Director Yerace nominated Michelle Fraser for Treasurer. Director Gault nominated Dawn Yerace.
  - Director Fraser received 5 votes.
  - Director Yerace received 3 votes.

**f. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. n/a

**C. MOTION made by Director Yerace to enter an executive session, seconded by Director Fraser motion carried.**

**D. 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.

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

**F. PUBLIC MEETING**

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

- i. On November 30<sup>th</sup> our representative from the Governors School came to do a presentation for families of students interested in pursuing the Engineering Program offered through our partnership with the Governors School.
- ii. On December 2<sup>nd</sup> the middle and high school students had a special visit from the City of Beaufort and the Town of Port Royal Fire Departments.
- iii. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Miss. Maduro's Spanish Culture class hosted a Spanish Speaking County Fair that was made up of displays from assigned countries for other students to tour.
- iv. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, our foreign exchange students were engaged in the elementary classrooms with their traditions and different ways they celebrate the holidays around the world.
- v. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Hayes held a Snacks and Safety discussion to inform our parents of crisis procedures in our school.
- vi. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, CEO McCulloch visited the Pat Conroy Center to communicate the special environment of BPS on a segment of "North of the Broad".
- vii. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, BPS principals and lead evaluator joined CEO McCulloch in Columbia to do a Goals workshop with 4 other schools who are renewing their charters this year.
- viii. On December 9<sup>th</sup>, BPS celebrated students for their fundraising efforts during Booster-thon with an inflatable reward day.
- ix. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, over 160 high school students enjoyed their Winter Semi-Formal.
- x. On December 15<sup>th</sup> BPS will open the application time for perspective families to seek a seat at BPS.
- xi. Tour dates will be released to the public this week. The tour dates will be January 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>.

- xii. Current enrollment is 1265 with 7 students starting in January and 1 offer out. We have 1037 applications to date.
- b. PTO REPORT
  - i. n/a
- c. ATHLETICS REPORT
  - i. Included in CEO Report
- d. CHARTER RENEWAL (Mr. McCulloch)
  - i. Administrative team went to Columbia for Charter workshop. A meeting will be planned for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, for committee to finish compiling documentation and goals. There will be an onsite review on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- e. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT (Tom Angelo)
  - i. Still waiting on USDA for final approval. Amerisbank is waiting and ready to start the construction loan.
- f. TREASURER'S REPORT
  - i. Financials were not available for November yet due to
    - 1. MOTION made by Director Merrick to approve the September financials, seconded by Director Fraser, motion passed.
    - 2. MOTION made by Director Merrick to table the approval of the October financials until additional information is provided. Seconded by Director Taggart. Motion passed.
- g. Announcements / Good of the Order
  - i. Director Merrick presented the goals that are part of CEO McCulloch's contract.
- h. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - i. MOTION made by Director Merrick to approve the minutes from the Nov 29<sup>th</sup> with the mentioned adjustments, seconded by Director Taggart, motion passes.
- i. NEW BUSINESS
  - i. Insurance (Property) Renewal Dec 20th
    - 1. Discussion was had about the insurance information presented to the board.
      - a. MOTION made by Director Angelo to sign an Agent of Record to allow current agency (Turbevill Insurance Agency) to access quotes of coverage from other companies, to also include the Wind buy back to create a multi policy portfolio for lower cost. Once completed the multi policy portfolio is approved. Seconded by Director Guerrero, motion passed.
- j. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - i. Security – update in policy and procedures for safety
    - 1. MOTION made by Director Brown to table this until the next board meeting. Seconded by Director Fraser. All directors approved except Director Merrick. Motion passed.
- k. ADJOURNMENT
  - i. Next regular meeting confirmed for January 17th, 2023 @ 5:30 PM
  - ii. MOTION made by Director Fraser to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Gault, motion passed without dissent. Meeting officially adjourned at 8:34 PM.

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

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