



**Governing Board Minutes
January 31, 2019**

Board Members in Attendance

Gloria Brooks - Family Representative
Sheila Brooks - Family Representative
Tasha Crichlow - Vice Chair, Community Representative
Aubrey Goodman - Secretary, Community Representative
Emily Hanke - Faculty Representative
Kevin Lownds - Co-Chair, Community Representative
Pauline Lugira - Principal
Meghan McGoldrick - Administrative Representative
Ivelisse Sanchez - Co-Chair, Community Representative
Kareen Wilkinson - Faculty Representative

Participating Staff

Hai Son, Lisa Callow, Alice Laramore, Steven Benjamin, Jennifer Dines

Additional Staff in Attendance

Nyree Smith

Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Kevin Lownds

- **January 10 Meeting Minutes**
 - Approved
- **Student Story**
 - Shared by Kareen Wilkinson: Junior, helps spread empathy, compassion in the classroom
- **Fundraising Event Recap and Lessons Learned**
 - A lot of successes to build on
 - What went well: decor, attendance, venue, food, teachers, auction, Organized Noise
 - What to improve: sponsorships, length of program (too many speakers), cost of ticket price meant few parents were there
 - Additional considerations: Do we need One Cause? Consider a Casino Night. Display more physical items for silent auction/have emcee point out specific items.
 - Raised \$25,072 so far (donations still coming in)
 - For next year: we should start seeking out sponsorships ASAP
 - Everyone who donated, attended, or purchased silent auction got a thank you letter
 - Can seek out One Cause sponsors
 - Need fundraising committee on the Board. Current volunteers:
 - Kevin
 - Pauline
 - Emily
 - Ive
 - Kareen
 - Aubrey
 - Possible date for next event in November of this year. Pauline will reach out to City Year re: dates.

- **Principal's Update**
 - Pauline has begun to share with staff a possible structure for next year that includes ELA and social studies classes instead of humanities.
 - Monthly focus group meetings are the main venue for sharing ideas and concerns.
 - The Board does not have jurisdiction over staffing/structural decisions such as making a change from Humanities to ELA and social studies.
 - Mr. Caruso shared some staff concerns via email that changes in staffing structure could negatively impact the way the school serves students with certain social-emotional needs.
 - Pauline shared a proposal at a focus group meeting for feedback. She is working with central office staff to ensure compliance.
 - Pauline seeks advice from the two Board chairs frequently, but ultimately it is the principal's decision.
 - The change to the staffing structure is not a result of December's focus group - planning began last year, continued with pilot of civics class in 8th grade.
 - Change is based on feedback on student performance in high school and the fact that for the past 3 years the school has not met ELA targets.
 - Staff have raised concerns about the need to to cut non-essential positions. Pauline has made an appeal to the turnaround office and central office - also talking to instructional superintendent to try to keep positions.
 - There is no proposal for the Board to vote on - the proposal has been presented for feedback to make improvements.
 - Pauline invites collaboration and open discussions about these proposals, which are not yet finalized.
 - Open comments from the public: none
- **Literacy Presentation**
 - 97.6% reading below grade level (last school year)
 - School formed literacy team, conducted research, set goals, led professional development
 - 71% of students made reading gains in the first 3 months
 - Students who came below 4th grade level grew 109 Lexile points
 - Cost to school: team will get Board number - but not paid for out of school budget, biggest need for funding is for staff positions
 - Trying to figure out how to make groups smaller, how to use all staff for initiative, volunteers
 - 8th graders have shorter intervention block (20 minutes) because of civics class. Gains are not as high
 - Team to look at Goal Book and evaluate this intervention for higher performing students
 - Plan to purchase Accelerated Reader for students to use over the summer, summer programs at the school will also be available with focus on literacy
 - Possible next steps: present to School Committee to advocate for funding
- **Election to Work Agreement**
 - Leadership team shared EWA with staff
 - Did not hear from BTU rep that agreement was rejected
 - Pauline will follow up with rep
- **Turnaround Updates**
 - Redesign team had first retreat, focus on stakeholder engagement
 - Surveys being shared across multiple groups, Pauline to share surveys, feedback so far with Board to provide additional detail
 - Meetings are open for anyone to attend

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Next meeting will be on March 7, 2019