



SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2020

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Online/Zoom Meeting Only

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8803586978?pwd=ZU4vOVAYeTllLzVjZDdQcDkrNDlFQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 358 6978

Passcode: 2455

MISSION

The mission of Ben Franklin Academy is to develop young adults with character like America's founding Renaissance man, Benjamin Franklin: well-read, scientifically curious, and civically engaged.

VISION

Our students will excel academically through a challenging, sequenced curriculum that emphasizes math, science, and literacy. We will be a data driven institution, focusing on individual students. Our students, teachers, parents, staff, and leaders will be held accountable for the success of our school. Finally, we recognize that an education is incomplete without fostering the arts, sports, nature, and character.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1) improve educational experience on continual basis; 2) maintain financial stability; 3) increase parent satisfaction and demand for enrollment; 4) promote staff and professional development; 5) maintain and develop facility; and 6) renew Charter Contract by June 30, 2024.

Board Attendees: Bill Castor, Matt Keillor, Courtney Jourbala, Sarah Nisbet, Adam Lucero, Karen Ramon, Jason Page

Other Attendees: Diana Simpson, Amanda Trenck, Celeste Johnson, Karen Anderson, Judy Silva, Vogts, ET, Sarah Bettis, Colleen Bobbin, Lisa Schenck, Jean Fanning, Aric Gomez, Jean Fanning, Stacey Kimberly, Cristin McCoy, Rachel Hamburger, Lexie Christensen, Greg Todd, Annadee Wright, Nico, Diana John, Nikkee Stegmaier, Jenny, Nicole Hayes, Janet Harlow, Annette, Monica Romero, Julie Galan, Mollie Anderson, Ty Mansfield, Colleen Turner, Ariel Hackerott, Crawley, Missy, Cheryl O'Haire, Kelly Borchert, Kolody family, Carrie Keen, Betsy Brown, Katie Duncan, Warsinske, Tony Ligrani, Michelle Koeniger, Alaina Tinney

Bill calls the meeting to order at 9:00 am

- **9:00 a.m.** Opening (5 minutes) – Bill Castor
 - Welcome/Announcements
 - Mission/Vision
-

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Amend/Approve Agenda
 - Bill moves to approve the Agenda
 - Sarah seconds the motion
 - The Agenda is unanimously approved
- Consent Agenda (2 minutes) – Bill Castor (.25 Minutes)
 - Minutes of June 26th, Board Meeting
 - Bill moves to approve the Consent Agenda
 - Aam seconds the motion
 - The Consent Agenda is unanimously approved
- Open Comments (3 minutes/person) – Sarah Nisbet
 - Remarks will be limited to three minutes per person. Please see guidelines at end of agenda.
 - Open comments submitted through the online form before noon on Thursday, July 30th 2020, will be read at the meeting.
 - One open comment submitted: Lisa Schenck...If going with a hybrid model concern about students in day camps, gyms, etc...students
- Review and Vote on Approval of Remote Learning Resolution (3 Minutes)
 - Bill moves to approve the Remote Learning Resolution
 - Courtney seconds the motion
 - The Remote Learning Resolution is unanimously approved.
- Discussion and Recommendation Regarding Return to School Plans During COVID 19 (45 Minutes)
 - Adam: Concern of loss of touch points of contact with teacher. If doing a hybrid would like a remote learning training for parents.
 - Sarah: Could go with either 100% or hybrid. Really took a pause with the results from teachers and staff 66% preferring to start with the hybrid model.
 - Karen: Recommends starting with a hybrid start based on teachers and staff
 - Courtney: Wants to start with 100% in person with the premis that we may be shut down.
 - Jason: Wants to start 100% in person. Personally struggled with distance learning in the spring. Cleaning measures the same whether 100% or hybrid. More control of where everyone is and who students and staff are exposed to.
 - Matt: Earlier in summer ready for 100% learning now with the DCSD an our teacher an staff flip flop on their preference towards starting with a hybrid. Recommends starting with hybrid and going to 100% as soon as able.
 - Bill: Ok starting with hybrid model, but clearly favors in-person, full-time learning as soon as possible. Will not be able to please everyone, but decisions should be based on scientific data and not disparate opinions and feelings. We need to have subjective criteria for returning to full-time, in-person learning.

- Diana: Presentation put together by myself, Aric Gomez, and Sarah Boland. Proposing to start with the hybrid model and build up to 100% in person as quickly as possible. K-5 1st 4 weeks or less hybrid, 6-8 1st 6 weeks or less hybrid. This gives us time to streamline social distancing and cleaning procedures. Kids can learn these procedures in school and at home so all are more prepared for full remote learning if required. Small groups can help focus attention on kids, figure out where they are academically and truly set them up for success. Teachers have taken Google classroom training, will ask all parents to take this training as well. Materials for remote learning days can be sent home with students when they are in school. Mental health will be addressed with Second Step lessons on days they are at school in person. Still want to follow AABB instead of District's ABAB remote Friday schedule. Propose changes to the calendar. Aug 19th would become a planning day, Group A comes to school on the 20th and Group B comes to school on the 21st. A and B groups formed alphabetically with some adjustments made for class sizes and family preference (carpool and siblings). Parents can go from hybrid or 100% to fully remote at any time. Ask that coming from remote to school could come back when we transition from hybrid to 100% in class. Not needing to wait until Fall Break.

- Board recommendation: To start with the hybrid model and move to 100% in person learning as soon as possible based on subjective criteria.

- Bill moves to approve the plan submitted by Diana to start in a hybrid model and move to 100% in person as soon as possible.

- Matt seconds the motion to approve the plan to start in a hybrid model and move to 100% in person as soon as possible.

- The Board unanimously approves the plan to start in a hybrid model and move to 100% in person as soon as possible.

- Summary

Calendar:

BFA Annual Family Check-in	August 12 – 14
First Day of School	August 19
<i>August Board Meeting</i>	August 25th

- Review Action Items

Training Modules for self-review in July:

Module 02: Legal and Policy Issues

Module 03: Board Member Conduct

Module 10: Charter School Finance

Module 13: Pitfalls to Avoid

- Review Votes

- Review Future Agenda Items

- **10:00 am** Adjourn
 - Bill moves to adjourn
 - Jason seconds the motion
 - The meeting as adjourned at 10:32 am

All Ben Franklin Academy (BFA) Board of Directors (Board) meetings are open to the public and are conducted in compliance with Colorado Open Meeting Requirements.

The BFA Board works for the students, parents and patrons of BFA in promoting the vision and mission of the school. Community input that can help the Board meet the challenge of educating children to BFA's high standards is always welcome. Thus, the Board welcomes comments from members of the public during the public comment time set aside on the agenda on any topic.

The Board may choose to respond to public comments during this open forum but is not required to do so. The Board will only take action on items listed on the agenda. For other matters, the Board will receive comments only, and may, at its discretion, refer the matter or calendar the issue for future discussion.

This is our opportunity to hear from students, parents and patrons for deliberation and discussion.

Date Modified: 8/12/20