

# Boston Renaissance Charter Public School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 16, 2011

Minutes

**Attendance:** K. Saxon, T. Martin, R. Harris, L. Bligen, B. Holding, M. Leonard, E. Rivera-Carrasco, K. leong

**Absent:** A. Pless, K. Vander Laan, H. Raymond

### **Staff and Guests Present:**

Dr. Burnett, P. Ciaramitaro, J. Nesgos, C. Engerman, B.J. Turner, J. Xu,  
J. Hose, J. McCarthy, Yun Ping Jiang

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by K. Saxon

**Minutes:** January 19, 2011 minutes were approved by the Board.

M. Leonard motioned to approve and K. leong second the motion.

### **Calendar Updates: P. Ciaramitaro**

P. Ciaramitaro provided some calendar updates and due dates:

-Annual all-day retreat will be held at Granite Links at Quarry Hills from 8 am – 2:30 pm.

Refreshments at 8:00 am – Retreat to start promptly at 8:30 and close around 2:30 pm.

-Self-Evaluation forms are due to Ms. Ciaramitaro electronically by April 1, 2011.

-Financial Disclosure forms are due no later than May 25, 2011 (last meeting of the year). Trustees were encouraged to complete them and take them to the April 27th retreat.

**Public Comment:** No public comments presented.

**Instructional Technology Presentation:** Ms. Radden provided a Power Point presentation updating the Board on all the innovative technological resources, of which the Boston Renaissance takes advantage. The presentation was informative and well-received by all.

### **Committee Updates:**

**EXECUTIVE**—K. Saxon. There was no need for the entire Executive Committee to meet.

### **FINANCE**—L. Bligen

The minutes of the last committee meeting were distributed and shared with all Board members in their meeting folders. Mr. Bligen provided an overview of the Income, Balance Sheet and Preliminary Budget that were also provided to Board members in their meeting folders. The 2012 budget will be discussed, reviewed and presented to the Board for approval or modifications as soon as available. The Board was informed that the 2012 budget shows a major deficit, in part, because the total per-pupil allowance funded by the Commonwealth does not cover our entire student population. Each school department will have to reduce its budget.

### **BUILDING** — H. Raymond (C. Engerman represented)

A project update prepared by Daedalus was provided to the Board in the meeting folders.

No major developments or issues were mentioned.

### **NOMINATION AND GOVERNANCE** – R. Harris, K. Saxon

-Minutes of the February and March committee meetings were provided to Board members in their meeting

folders.

- The much-needed modification of the Board's By-laws is being reviewed by the school's outside counsel.
- M. Medley regrettably resigned from the Board due to a need to relocate out of state to take a new job.
- Two new candidates, Jessica Hose and Joanna McCarthy were introduced to the Board. Their bios and resume were provided to the Board in their meeting folders. The Board met briefly to discuss the candidates and their contribution to the Board. J. Hose will be a great addition to our Human Resources Committee and Joanna McCarthy will be a wonderful addition to our Development Committee.

Motion was made by R. Harris to elect J. Hose and J. McCarthy to the Board of Trustees.

The motion was seconded by M. Leonard.

Unanimous vote to approve nominations.

**DEVELOPMENT-** K. Vander Laan (represented by K. Saxon)

Minutes of the February and March committee meetings were provided to Board members in their meeting folders. The Board event scheduled for Friday, June 24th will be held at the school upon Dr. Harris's recommendation. Plans are underway.

**ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION—** M. Leonard

Minutes of the March committee meetings were provided to Board members in their meeting folders.

Updates of each of the three Houses and the strategic plan were provided.

Achievement Network (ANet) is working with teachers to develop more powerful lessons and creativity.

Preliminary results from ANet show marked improvement in student achievement.

**HUMAN RESOURCES—** M. Leonard

The Human Resources committee has not met. Probable re-organization is underway at the school level.

**Ad-Hoc Committee on Parent Involvement**

The ad-hoc committee has not met.

**PARENT ADVISORY BOARD—** E. Carrasco, G. Martin

Minutes of the March committee meeting were provided to Board members in their meeting folders.

Ms. Carrasco shared some of the goals and projects the Parent Board will be working on including: prioritizing the goals of the PAB, fundraising, organizing a yearbook committee, conducting a parent survey to obtain parent feedback and to identify parent needs, and initiating a uniform swap for parents to help defray the cost of providing uniforms for their children.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—** R. Harris

Dr. Harris highlighted the enthusiasm, spirit and attention to detail by the leadership team and faculty.

Preliminary indicators (ANet) show students outperforming all other schools in the network at the elementary levels (4, 5, and 6). Ms. Nescgos was recommended for the Thomas Passio's Principal of the Year Award.

An accountability plan was provided in the meeting folders together with updates from all directors/department.

**STRATEGIC PLAN—** K. Saxon, G. Martin

The Strategic Plan stakeholder assessment tool was briefly reviewed and provided in meeting folders. Board members were asked to respond to the on-line assessment tool in preparation for the annual all-day Board retreat.

**WRAP-UP:** No old business to report. There was no new business other than what was presented from the various committees.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 25, 2011. This is a change in schedule due to obligations of Board members.

**The Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 pm**