

## I. Call to Order

H. H. Kleiner, N. Vouvalis, A. A. Odum, J. Adams, B. Bingham, P. Willis present at 5:35 call to order

## II. Approval of Minutes

B. Bingham moves to approve the November minutes; A. Odum seconds. None opposed.

## III. Public Comment

No public comment

## IV. Financial Update from Red Apple

Steve Finley is the new Red Apple representative for Bear River Charter School. The Board introduced themselves, and Steve introduced himself to us.

Steve reported that our per-pupil funding for this year is based on our count as of October 1. However, next year, it will be based on our count as of the last year. So losing a student for some portion of this year will affect Bear River Charter School's budget next year. We also may stand to benefit from some new funding initiatives that will go to the legislature this year.

The Board briefly discussed the possibility of parents "paying" for a spot if an extended absence that would affect the school's budget were requested. The Board quickly decided that this was not legal and could not be put into place; concerns linger that the loss of one student does affect the budget for the remaining students at BRCS.

Bear River Charter School is in the top two of low cost for everyday operating (the building, energy, etc.) among Red Apple clients. Overall, the budget is right around break-even. We may dip below the positive soon, but this should overall be fine.

This week we lost a student in Kindergarten; the Board encouraged J. Adams to fill the spot if we could. We will have later discussion about the spots remaining in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

BRCS' audit came through clear – everything financially looks good, and the auditor gave a favorable opinion.

In January, we will talk about how best to invest some of our reserves.

## V. Green Grant Update

The Green grant that was presented to the Board in October has been granted to Bear River Charter School - \$1000.

## VI. Sabbatical Leave Request

Adrea Wheaton has two children at Bear River Charter School. Her husband is taking a sabbatical in Spain in February 2016, and she would like to request holding the spots until they return for the 2016-2017 school year. Given the information regarding the new per-pupil funding model, the Board felt that it needed some time to consider the impacts of this request and whether the average daily attendance model was going to be adopted next year.

## VII. Update on interventions with Middle School

Mr. Sepulveda is holding a math club, and the students have shown improvement in their test scores. Increases range from 19% to as much as 58%.

BRCS hired Christian Cannell to do some math interventions with struggling students. The average for the group he runs in math is currently an 85.44. In that same period, in the classroom the pull out group came from, Amelia Whitlock works in the classroom with Mr. Sepulveda during the class. They have formed two groups in the classroom – an advanced group, and an on track group. There are still a few who are behind a bit from the "on track"

group but not so behind that they need the pull out group, and Amelia is specifically working with those students.

Ms. Young is running a Grammar Group. The class average is 79%, but they are improving overall. There are some issues with this setup because students are having to choose between math help and ELA help, given the structure the school and parents agreed upon of using those students' study hour for the pull out groups.

To help with this, BRCS will administer the interim SAGE assessments for ELA, Math, and Science. This will help teachers and administrators to target their instruction.

More data is needed to determine whether additional remediation is required. J. Adams will obtain some more data, and the Board may vote electronically if J. Adams puts forward a proposal.

### VIII. Charter Revision Discussion

Tim Slocum and H. Kleiner met and revised the BRCS Charter. What used to be a 154 page document is now 16 pages. Much of what was taken out is material that was specific to the application for charter status. Much else should be parked in a policy or a bylaw, which are yet to be developed. This is more easily digestible for our important stakeholders; if a parent is investigating sending their child to BRCS, this document shows them "who we are."