



Burns Sci-Tech Charter School

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2024 - 6:00 pm Cafeteria

1. Call meeting to order: 6:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call: Albert Amalfitano, Jonathon Glugover, Dr. Rodger Thayer, Damian Hall, Richard Paczkowski, Suzanne Jarell, Adam Owens. Admin: Daniel Hargrave, Alexis Galerno, Brent Appy, Tim Carignan.
4. Approval of Minutes from February 27, 2024, Workshop and Regular Meeting: Motion to approve by Dr. Thayer, 2nd by Mr. Paczkowski. Motion passed.
5. Public Participation on Discussion Items.
 - A. Meghan Latham spoke about her role in managing information and requests for information on the BST Families Facebook page, helping with Volleyball, and being active in community/school relations. She urged Board members to increase presence on campus and discussed the importance of board members being present on campus more so now than in the past.
 - B. Darcia Bair said that she is a consistent attendee at board meetings and interviewed for a position as a board member. She asked for clarification from the board on SAC and new member selection, and on board members not answering emails. Stated that issues with previous administration have not changed with the new administration.
 - C. Mr. Paczkowski thanked both Megan and Darcia for their comments and encouraged others to participate during the Public Participation section of board meetings. Mr. Glugover explained about potential violations of the Sunshine Law under which board meetings are governed. Mr. Amalfitano asked that more parents be present and participate. Mr. Glugover said that workshops are also public meetings that all can attend, but there is no public participation.
6. Reports and Discussion/Actions:
 - A. Approve Mr. Hargrave's doctorate study. Motion to approve by Mr. Glugover, 2nd by Dr. Thayer. Motion passed.
 - B. Approval of AP Capstone preference for lottery – discussion and action. Motion to approve by Mr. Hall, 2nd by Mr. Glugover. Motion passed.
 - i. Discussed losing top end students to other schools in the past because of a lack of a higher tier educational program. Admin asked to reserve a percentage of lottery spots for AP Capstone.
 - ii. There are 13 different lotteries in the school now (1 per grade K-12). Found that, if we do offer a special program for the school, students can apply, affectively making a 14th lottery option.
 - iii. Admin asked for permission to start that process with our legal team for specifics.
 - iv. This program is specifically for students outside of BST applying for a seat at BST.
 - v. Dr. Thayer asked if the school is able to view the applications? Mr. Hargrave explained that it's still a lottery and applications are not viewed prior to the lottery. Student registration is where applicants are vetted.
 - C. Approval of Gifted preference for lottery – discussion and action. Motion to approve by Mr. Glugover, 2nd by Mrs. Jarrell. Motion passed.
 - i. Mrs. Galerno expanded on the AP Capstone program from an Elementary standpoint for BST gifted students and explained gifted classes at VSD. At BST, Gifted is similar to enrichment classes. Students are 'pulled out' with a gifted teacher in a small group setting. Mrs. Galerno

clarified that admin asked for permission to move forward with writing a similar program for elementary students.

- ii. Mr. Glugover brought up a concern about the possibility of the AP Capstone option taking away from others or hindering others. "My concern is if we are cutting out this group for this preference and this group for that preference are we getting into too many preferences."
 - iii. Mr. Amalfitano handed out BST 'Archway' options highlighting the 3 archways we are rolling out next year and Mr. Hargrave expanded on what the archways are going to be and a brief explanation as to how they will work. Mr. Glugover clarified his previous concern and Mr. Paczkowski expressed an interest in reviewing data and how these changes will affect our BST students.
- D. Approval of Gymnasium refinance - discussion and action. Motion to approve by Dr. Thayer, 2nd Mr. Glugover. Motion passed.
- i. Mr. Appy discussed refinance particulars: BST is 14 days from closing on an interest only bridge loan that will save 8k monthly. Refinancing the gym and high school will result in a savings of 33k per monthly. A resolution was drafted by lawyers and information was provided to board members.
- E. Discussion of Facilities Improvement Plan, Hazen Agreement – action. Motion to approve by Mr. Glugover, 2nd by Mr. Owens. Motion passed.
- i. Mr. Carignan discussed campus improvement projects: Phase 1 - fix washout by the gym. Phase 2 - Water mitigation off the building directing it down the hill and grade hill. Phase 3 - Clean wash out near the side and back of the 2-3 building. Items already repaired: new roof on the 2/3 building, K-6 Locks rekeyed, new air purifiers were purchased, and refinished the outside basketball court. Work is continuing. There is a plan to hire more custodians for classrooms, and campus buildings.
- F. Discuss and approve change of the June 2023/2024 and July and November 2024/2025 Board Meeting Dates- action. Motion to approve by Mr. Paczkowski, 2nd by Mr. Hall. Motion passed.
- i. Mr. Hargrave requested moving the June (25) regular meeting to June 18 with a longer workshop before the regular board meeting.
 - ii. Mrs. Galerno requested to move the July (23) regular meeting to July 9 with a short workshop before the regular meeting and move the November (26) regular meeting to November 19.
- G. Discuss grievance policy for parent and board members – discussion.
- i. Mr. Hargrave and Mrs. Galerno provided the previous grievance policy for reference and discussed the need to revise and refit our policy tailored towards best practices. Board members discussed defining what a grievance is vs. what a complaint is and will discuss at the June workshop, working with the school's legal team and reviewing policies of other schools.
- H. Discuss roles, clarification of officers, and responsibilities of board members – discussion.
- i. Discussion of board member roles and nominations will take place at the June workshop. Adding a year (per Bylaws) to Mr. Amalfitano's term will be discussed.
- I. Discussion on new public relations agreement and website – discussion.
- i. Mrs. Galerno explained that Gliss Consulting, the company currently designing and maintaining the BST website, will expand their duties to PR, Marketing, and Communications. Mrs. Galerno and Mr. Hargrave will be managing in-school communications.

7. Principal's Report.

A. Events:

- i. Kindergarten Signing: Mrs. Galerno discussed accepting 72 students into the Kindergarten and they are undertaking pre-assessments for placement.
- ii. Field Trips: New York, Brevard Zoo, Medieval Times, Epcot, Tallahassee, Space Center, Marine Discovery Center, Airboat Rides.
- iii. 7-12th grade Archways Presentation.
- iv. Beach Clean Up: Mrs. Carter's Beach clean-up was a success and there will be more of these events in the future.
- v. Volunteer Breakfast is May 3rd.
- vi. 4th grade sang the National Anthem at Solar Bears Game.
- vii. Senior week and school awards ceremonies: Mr. Hargrave suggested that in lieu of May and August board meetings, that the school board members attend the (6th, 8th, 12th) graduations and orientation respectively.
- viii. The last 2 weeks of school will be graduations starting with High School Graduation on Saturday, May 18th, at 1 pm in the gym.
- ix. 7-12th grade Field Day: Mr. Hargrave expressed how a parent volunteer told to him that many of our students used good manners (please and thank you) and how happy she was that her student goes here.
- x. K-6th grade Color Bash is May 30th.
- xi. 4th -12th Writing testing is complete we are currently waiting on the results.
- xii. Our high school students won 1st place in the Sea Perch competition and will be going to Internationals at the University of Maryland during the last week of school. Good Luck!
- xiii. High School Prom was a success and the 1st ever Prom King and Queen were selected! Congratulations Kevin Thayer and Mekayla Latham.
- xiv. 8th & 9th grade had their final dance of the year in the gym the theme was Under the Sea and fun was had by all.
- xv. The Little Mermaid was performed last week showcasing our students' amazing talents and abilities, if you missed it check out our blog on the website to catch up on all the magic.
- xvi. Orientation Aug 8th in the morning held in the Cafeteria & Gym.
- xvii. All parent and staff surveys have been reviewed by SAC, the board, and the Administration. They will be discussed, and changes made during the administrative retreat this summer.
- xviii. We are a STEM/STEAM school, and we want to make sure that our programs and classes are aligned with this in mind. We will be adding and changing some courses next year.
- xix. There is a new marine science special area for K-6 grades taught by Mrs. Duncan. Because this is a course that has never been taught, it is currently being written for submitting and approval.
- xx. Mrs. Roof will have a classroom in the garden area, the greenhouse has already been removed.
- xxi. 7th & 8th grades will incorporate more STEM. 7th will have a new STEM elective with Mrs. Avant that will be all project-based. There will be a huge science fair push for 7th & 8th grades. 8th grade will include tech literacy, digital info, and a business computer class with the Microsoft Office Suite.
- xxii. The high school will be writing a new class for approval that will include hands-on basic skill vocational classes, such as plumbing, engine repair, and A/C repair, to be combined with relevant math classes.
- xxiii. The high school will be converting the culinary classroom into a science lab for STEM & STEAM projects.
- xxiv. K-6 grades will be converting the maker space/classroom into a STEM library.
- xxv. The school has submitted a request for another school/campus guardian.
- xxvi. The Hootenanny is Scheduled for October 11th and will be held at the Brannon Center.

B. Communication.

- i. Remind, Facebook, and website – streamline to website.
Mrs. Galerno reminded families of the various ways to receive information and to check the website regularly.
- ii. Parent and staff survey/SAC.
Mrs. Galerno stated that the surveys/changes will be the focus of the admin retreat in June.

C. Students.

- i. Writing tests
- ii. Testing begins K-2
- iii. Dances

D. Programs

- i. Basketball, Volleyball, Track, Golf
- ii. Theatre Program Success

E. Staff

- i. Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- ii. Administrative Assistant Day
- iii. Staff/Teacher Appreciation May 6-10
- iv. Principal's Day (5/1)

F. General Info

- i. Middle and High School report – Mr. Hargrave
 - a. Talked about streamlining.
 - b. Every student in 7th grade will take a STEM course.
 - c. Science Fair
 - d. Computer skills for 8th grade.
 - e. 1 semester of a computer course for 8th grade.
 - f. Hiring a teacher for 2 courses.
 - g. Removing culinary and automotive next year.
 - h. Converting culinary into a science lab.
- ii. Elementary School Report – Mrs. Galerno
 - a. Discussed Ms. Duncan moving to Elem. Marine Science and proposing to the state that they approve this class added to the curriculum at BST.
 - b. Expressed that K-6 is revamping the STEM program with new curriculum and materials.
 - c. New STEM library in old media/Martinez's classroom.
 - d. Submitted for another Guardian and awaiting the final approval/process

8. Treasurer Report.

- A. Positive balance of 3.2m

9. Agenda items to consider for the next meeting.

- A. Mr. Glugover recommended that board members collaborate, and each take a month to show staff/teacher appreciation from the board to the faculty.

10. Board member issues concerns/comments.

- A. Mr. Glugover wants to address Ms. Bair's comments and asked that the board first review everything that the SAC provided, including every candidate's resume/application.
- B. Expressed that the people that were chosen were highly recommended by SAC.
- C. Informed that the board composition would not be found in the Bylaws but rather in school policy.
- D. Mr. Amalfitano asked about how far in advance the school calendar is updated.

- E. Mr. Paczkowski informed everyone about Musical Bingo, Friday May 10 – 6 to 8 pm at the Edgewater Elks to support the BST FFA Club.
- F. Mr. Hargrave asked for the board to discuss his salary at the next meeting. He expressed that he is currently still on his AP salary.

11. Public Announcements – Next Regular Board Meeting June 18th, 2024.

12. Adjournment. 8:08pm