

**BOSTON PREP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

Via Videoconference: <https://bostonprep-org.zoom.us/j/98822323850?from=addon>

October 20, 2023

8:00 AM - 9:30 AM

**Approved**

**Trustee Present:** Kim Borchert, Natalie Branch-Lewis, David Berkley, Priscilla Guerrero, Sarah James, Josh Johnson, Andrew Kaplan, Vanessa Lipschitz, Claire Newton, Arivee Vargas and David Wolff

**School Staff Present:** Meekerley Sanon, Brenda Jones, Tyler Martin, Anders Peterson and Vanessa Shiu

**I. Open Meeting Protocol**

- Kim Borchert, board chair, called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.
- An ice breaker was conducted to set a positive and engaging tone for the meeting.

**II. Welcome David Berkeley to the Board**

- The board welcomed David Berkeley, a Boston Prep teacher and new faculty trustee to the board of trustees.

**III. Vote Approval of Minutes and Audit**

**MOTION to approve**

- The July 20 meeting minutes from the previous board meeting.
- To approve the Boston Prep financial audit.

Motion, seconded, all in favor

**Vote approved**

**IV. Public Comment**

- The chair invited attendees for public comments, but there were none.

**V. DESE Visit Overview**

- Meekerley Sanon, executive director provided an overview of the recent DESE visit.
- Community reception was positive, and students actively engaged with the representatives.
- Next steps involve the Governance Committee to review initial findings.

**VI. Mission Statement Review**

- Meekerley led a review of the mission statement.

**VII. School Update**

- Meekerley reflected on the past board meeting and the previous school year.
- Explored the organization's current position and strategies for moving forward.

- Board members were invited to ask questions regarding the last school year.

**VIII. Review of School Timeline and History**

- Sarah James initiated a review of the school's timeline and history, highlighting key milestones.
- Timeline covered major events such as building projects, graduations, the impact of COVID, etc.
- MCAS data was presented, indicating areas for improvement.

**IX. Academic Performance Discussion**

- Identified root causes for academic decline, including curriculum challenges and issues with classroom management.
- Discussion on the need for alignment with MCAS and state standards.
- Concerns raised about teachers' beliefs regarding standardized testing.
- Emphasized the importance of adapting to changes in MCAS and learning from successful schools.

**ACTION:** Meekerley to schedule a meeting with Vanessa Lipschitz to follow up on further academic performance strategy.

**X. Looking Ahead - SY24 Priorities**

- Meekerley presented priorities for the upcoming school year (SY24).
- Highlighted expanded instructional roles and new partnerships.

**XI. Next Meeting and Closing**

- Kim reviewed the agenda for the next meeting.
- Kim concluded the meeting, thanking attendees for their participation.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:25AM*

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