

Bellevue Christian School Board Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Bellevue Christian School was held on Thursday, April 16, 2020, beginning at 6pm via a Zoom online video session.

Board President, Steve Sirich called the meeting to order. The following directors were present: Scott Lampe, Kirsten Miller, Josh Betts, Steve Sirich, Brock Weedman, Roxanne Kidd, Ruth Burnett, Rich Begert, David Burnett, Kelly Curran, and Bill Cox. The following were absent: Annie Duncan. The following staff/faculty were present: Brenda Fournier, Jennifer Smith, Adam Hart, Kim Postma, Kevin Dunning, Christine Satterlee, and Kevin Thomas. The following guests were present: Lon Swartzentruber and Matt Visser.

Josh led the group in devotions centered around John 17-21. We focused on the truth in God's word and that we can always depend on it. Ruth opened us in prayer and Steve closed.

Upon the closing of prayer, Steve sought and obtained a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2020 board meeting. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

At this time, Steve turned the meeting over to Kevin Dunning to discuss the Head of School Report. Kevin discussed the instructional adjustments being made surrounding Covid-19. Grades 7-12th have Monday's as a catchup day and a way to touch base with teachers as needed. Kids only attend class for 60 min instead of 80. Pre-4 added a weekly virtual get together with whole class. Feedback this week has been overwhelmingly positive. One more survey will be sent out in a couple weeks to get a pulse. Steve asks as we continue what we do well, do we have connection with other independent schools to compare? We are ahead of the curve with what we are doing. That includes the parents and their willingness to do things. WebEx will be featuring us as a user.

As far as the Governor's press conference today, we will remain out of school until the end of the academic year. Some kids may not be able to meet some of the credits for PE. There will be a handful of kids it impacts, but we will make exceptions. 8th grade grad and award nights canceled. Honoring class of 2020 will look different. We will stick to our calendar for graduation dates/timeframe. More exciting information to come.

As for our marketing efforts, an email was sent today. We increased social media posting by 1/3 over the last month. If we can bring families to BCS through our distance learning, it's a good thing.

There was a group of 9, including Brenda, that discussed SAS for 90 min today and will do the same on Monday.

Big news for Blake moving to the CAO position. Very little feedback about Blake moving positions. Blake will bring a discipline to telling our story.

We are in a brand-new situation than ever before with regards to enrollment. We may be aiming at 730 as we work on a budget. We are 96 below where we were last year. We want all kids to come, but we can't have small class sizes. The sections for JH could possibly diminish quite a bit.

Where are we in the payroll help from the government? SBA has our info and we are told we are in the cue. It will make a huge difference. That would cover our deficit for this year and possibly next year. We will discuss budget in May.

7:00 Strategic Planning Update – Bill and Kevin presented the plan initiatives and our progress. In May, the Board should vote to approve the plan. This includes the revised mission statement (Preparing young people to live faithfully for God (now to say Christ).) All agreed the change was good. They can use the longer statement as well as this abridged version. Bill, Kevin, Lon, and Matt will meet soon as well as a week before our May meeting to prepare for the approval.

With regards to administrative recommendations, the first item brings how we organize PTF leadership which is more consistent with common current practice. This was vetted by principals. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Second one is regarding changes regarding meetings over the internet/virtually so that it is legal. Change it to “as determined by school and BOD” get rid of exigent. The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion to move to the Executive Session was requested. The motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. at 8:23pm

A motion to adjourn the general session was requested. A motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08pm.

Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, May 14, 2020 – 6pm – Details to come

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Kidd, Secretary

Steve Sirich, President