



MEETING OF THE BOARD
Bridges Preparatory Academy
Thursday, February 25, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Directors for Bridges Preparatory Academy, a California nonprofit corporation was held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 via a public Zoom conference from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Present: Trena Spurlock, David Owen, Miguel Angel Romero, Bryan Lee,
and Mary Louise Silva
Absent: None
Others Present: Alejandro Gomez

CALL TO ORDER

Board Secretary Mary Louise Silva called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Ms. Silva acknowledged all staff and board members present. Ms. Silva shared that Executive Director Alejandro Gomez would be sharing updates regarding all the items reflected on the agenda.

COMMUNICATIONS (Public Comment)

None.

FACILITY UPDATE

Mr. Gomez shared that the lease for the facility for Bridges Preparatory Academy located at 400 S. Santa Fe Compton CA 90221 has been signed but in order to access the building this spring in preparation for the fall opening, a security deposit plus payment for 4 months of rent for office space only must be paid in full. Furthermore, Mr. Gomez has agreed to cover half the cost for a much needed fence to secure the facility.

RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Mr. Gomez shared that this fall, Bridges plans to enroll 56 incoming 6th graders and 56th incoming 7th graders.

The link to the enrollment application can be found on the school's website, ppacompton.org along with the admission policies and procedures. If more applications are received than available spaces for enrollment by the deadline of March, 30, 2021, a random public lottery is scheduled to take place on April 2, 2021.

Mr. Gomez briefly introduced how he is using Schola, an online recruitment system to promote the school and to attract families to enroll this fall. He also shared that at this time 20 students have pre-enrolled and that more families are likely to enroll shortly before the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Gomez also announced that once the deposit and office rent have been covered a banner promoting the school will be posted at the facility.

FINANCE UPDATE

Mr. Gomez announced that he plans to open a school bank account at California Credit Union as recommended by ExEd, the school's proposed back office provider.

Mr. Gomez also mentioned that he is exploring liability insurance providers.

STAFF RECRUITMENT & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Mr. Gomez shared that BPA will be using Edjoin, an online job board to recruit highly qualified teachers and staff for the school. The annual fee is \$750 per year. The goal is to hire teachers, counselors, special ed teachers and all classified staff.

Mr. Gomez also announced that he is exploring health insurance providers for BPA's teachers and staff.

CDS CODE

Mr. Gomez shared that by May 12, 2021 BPA will have a County-District-School (CDS) code, which is a 14-digit identification number required for all schools within California.

FUNDRAISING & REVENUE SOURCES

Mr. Gomez announced that he is trying to secure necessary revenue to cover the costs of opening and operating the school for year one until traditional sources of school revenue can be obtained based on average daily attendance. Funding is available through the Walton Grant, New School Venture Funds, State revolving loan, a low interest loan, and PCSGP Grant-Public charter school grant program- federal grant for planning and start up money.

Mr Gomez shared that these potential funding sources require extensive grant-writing and the money will not be available until after the school year has started, which is problematic since funding is needed now to cover various expenditures to allow the school to be fully operational this fall.

BPA'S FISCAL POLICY

Mr. Gomez briefly reviewed BPA's fiscal policy.

The board brought the fiscal policy for a vote.

It was MOVED to approve by Mary Louise Silva; SECONDED by Trena Spurlock. All in favor. None opposed.

MOU AGREEMENT BETWEEN BPA & LACOE

Mr. Gomez reviewed the MOU Agreement between BPA and LACOE. LACOE will serve as the BPA's authorizer and will agree to the terms and conditions as reflected in the MOU.

The board brought the MOU with LACOE to a vote.

It was MOVED to approve by Mary Louise Silva; SECONDED by Trena Spurlock. All in favor. None opposed.

LACOE SELPA CONTRACT

Mr Gomez announced the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) will serve as BPA's SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area) provider for all of the special education services needed.

The board brought the contract with LACOE for a vote. It was MOVED to approve the contract by David Owen; SECONDED by Trena Spurlock. All in favor. None opposed.

CONTRACT FOR BPA's EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr Gomez' contract was reviewed which would allow him to serve as the Executive Director to formally engage in the role in preparation for BPA's opening.

The board brought the contract for BPA's Executive Director for a vote.

It was MOVED to approve the contract by Miguel Angel Romero; SECONDED by Bryan Lee. All in favor. None opposed.

BACK OFFICE PROVIDER CONTRACT WITH EXED

Mr. Gomez reviewed the contract which would allow ExED to serve as BPA's back office provider handling all fiscal accounts and reporting.

The board brought the contract with ExED for a vote .

It was MOVED to approve the contract by Miguel Angel Romero; SECONDED by David Owen. All in favor. None opposed.

LOAN TO COVER NEEDED EXPENDITURES FOR PBA

Mr. Gomez shared that in the absence of a revenue stream for the school, a low interest loan is necessary to cover expenditures related to the school's opening. Most of the loan will be used to pay for facilities, consultant, and advertising. Once the aforementioned revenue comes in this loan will be paid off.

The board brought the loan contract for a vote.

It was MOVED to approve the contract by Bryan Lee; SECONDED by Miguel Angel Romero. All in favor. None opposed.

SALES RECEIVABLES -CHARTER CAPITAL

Mr. Gomez shared with the group that Charter Capital, CAM will take care of sale receivables and if needed cash advances for expenses and payroll.

The board brought the action for Charter Capital for a vote.

It was MOVED to approve the action by Mary Louise Silva; SECONDED BY David Owen. All in favor. None opposed.

GRANT CONSULTANT

Mr. Gomez announced that PCSGP grant of up to \$700,000 for planning and implementation will require the services of an experienced grant writer. Similarly, the writing services for a consultant for the preparation of the school LCAP will also be needed.

The board brought the action to enter into a contract with a grant writing consultant for approval.

It was MOVED to approve the contract by Miguel Angel Romero; SECONDED by Bryan Lee. All in favor. None opposed.

ADJOURNMENT.

It was moved to end the meeting at 7:55 PM by Mary Louise Silva; SECONDED by Trena Spurlock. All in favor. None opposed