

**Russell Byers Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2020**

Call to order

The Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p. m. by Linda Gamble, with all board members participating by phone.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Rob Craven	x	
Diana Gormley	x	
Linda Gamble	x	
Leah Katz	x	
Akida Neely	x	
Louisa Mygatt	x	
Estee Pickens		x
Haisheng Yang		x

Also on the call were Carol Domb, Abby Baker, Corey Turkish, Mark O'Connor, Melissa Fox and Marissa Douglas from RBCS; Laurada Byers and Sandy Horrocks from the Byerschool Foundation; and Ms. Naima Miller, parent, who joined late.

Resolutions

Resolution to Approve Minutes of June 18, 2020 meeting:

Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Trustees: That the Board approves the June 18, 2020, meeting minutes.

Resolved this 16th day of July, 2020

Motion: Diana Gormley

Second: Rob Craven

	YES	NO
Rob Craven	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Akida Neely	X	
Louisa Mygatt	X	

Resolution re Board Officers:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees: That the Board of Trustees approves the nomination of Louisa Mygatt to serve as Acting Vice Chair until September 17, 2020.

Resolved this 16th day of July, 2020

Motion: Diana Gormley

Second: Rob Craven

	YES	NO
Rob Craven	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Akida Neely	X	
Louisa Mygatt	X	

Resolution re School Safety Report:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees: To approve the School Safety and Security Report for the 2019-2020 school year.

Resolved this 16th day of July, 2020

Motion: Diana Gormley

Second: Rob Craven

	YES	NO
Rob Craven	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Akida Neely	X	
Louisa Mygatt	X	

Resolution to Approve Revised School Calendar:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of Trustees: That the Board accepts and approves the revised calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

Resolved this 16th day of July, 2020

Motion: Diana Gormley

Second: Louisa Mygatt

	YES	NO
Rob Craven	X	
Diana Gormley	X	
Linda Gamble	X	
Leah Katz	X	
Akida Neely	X	
Louisa Mygatt	X	

Finance Committee: no report

School Performance Committee: no report

Development Committee: The Foundation made its goals for the 19-20 school year. They are starting on the 20-21 year and planning for the 20th Anniversary.

Governance Committee: The Committee is working on some changes for the Faculty Handbook.

School Report:

Teaching and Learning

- **School opening options and plan for the 2020-2021 school year.**
 - **Option 1:**
 - Hybrid Model with students divided into Group A and Group B. The A group would attend on Monday and Tuesday and the B group would attend on Thursday and Friday. Wednesday would be a virtual day allowing the school to deep clean. Students will receive virtual instruction on the days they are not in the building.
 - Parents have the option to choose A or B day.
 - The PDE posted today a [report](#) that outlines Public Health Guidance Regarding COVID-19 for Phased Reopening of Pre-K to 12 Schools.
 - **Option 2:**
 - Virtual Model with all students 100% virtual
- Presently we are planning to open with option 1, the hybrid model unless we receive notification from the Governor that schools are not to open.
- Technology usage and internet access - Marc O'Connor

- **Professional Development:**
 - Plans are in process for the detailed professional development plan for August. Our first day for staff is August 17th.
 - Several teachers are registered to attend online EL PD this summer on various topics including crew, EL literacy modules, management in the active classroom, and E-Introduction to EL. Mr. Turkish and Ms. Baker will attend leadership PD's in June and July.
 - Math teachers in grades 4-8 are attending online Eureka PD's this summer.

- **Curriculum review committee**
 - The committee has decided to move forward with Eureka for math in all grades for math starting 2021-2022 school year. This year grade 4 will begin to

implement Eureka since they are departmentalizing; grades 5-8 will continue to use Eureka and all teachers will attend online PD this summer. Grades 5k-3 will still use Bridges for the 2020-21 school year.

- Grades 5k-5 will continue to use Reading Wonders for reading. Teachers in grades 6-8 will use novels/EL modules
- A writing curriculum, Strategies for Writers, will be purchased for grades 5k-8. This curriculum will include grammar.
- Introduction to Social Studies will be utilized for grades K-6. This curriculum includes a digital component and highlights current events.

- **The Site Selection Committee**

- We are fully staffed for the 2020-21 school year. An offer is out for our final vacancy.

Climate & Culture:

- A faculty meeting was held to share the options for school opening. Teachers did express concerns regarding their safety with returning to school.

Parent and Family Engagement:

- A parent meeting was held to share the options for school opening. Approximately 100 parents attended the meeting and also expressed concerns around school safety.
- Continue to monitor Help Desk email address - COVID19@byerschool.org.

Operations:

- School continues to be closed.
- Capital Projects have begun
 - Elevator - complete summer of 2020
 - HVAC - scope of work to be divided up between summer of 2020 and majority of work summer of 2021.
 - HVAC Work has begun. We have implemented systems to comply with CDC guidelines that include a nurse taking everyone's temperature as they enter the building and asking the 4 questions regarding each individual's health and contact with Covid-19. Work will continue throughout the summer with an expected end date August 14th.
 - Air scrubbers are being installed to comply with air quality standards.

Parent Representatives' Report: Teachers are doing a very good job in the Century 21 program.

Faculty Representatives' Report: Concerns raised at faculty meeting yesterday:

- health issues
- public transportation

- student compliance with mask requirements
- implications of teachers being recorded
- job security if teacher has health/family issues
- what happens if someone does get Covid-19
- need for training on hybrid model and virtual teaching; some would like it before the scheduled time.

Ms. Gamble congratulated Mr. O'Connor on the migration to Skyward.

Public Comment: Ms. Miller expressed concern that some parents are putting all the responsibility on the school; for example, having the school buy basic supplies that parents would normally buy.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm.

The next meeting is August 13, 2020 at 4:00.