

APPROVED



# Boston Renaissance Charter Public School

## Minutes

### Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Thursday October 28, 2021 at 8:30 AM

#### Location

marjorie Gardner is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Academic Excellence Time: Oct 28, 2021 08:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76336392428?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76336392428?pwd=VndiK3FZZGVYTkNXTEllc09kSU9FQT09)

[pwd=VndiK3FZZGVYTkNXTEllc09kSU9FQT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76336392428?pwd=VndiK3FZZGVYTkNXTEllc09kSU9FQT09) Meeting ID: 763 3639 2428 Passcode: 62Uy1ZmH

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#### MISSION

The mission of the Boston Renaissance Charter Public School is to nurture and develop academic, social and emotional competence while building confidence, character and citizenship among its students.

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#### Committee Members Present

A. Buckmire, E. Alphonse, M. Gardner, R. Clarke Jr.

#### Committee Members Absent

*None*

#### Guests Present

Kendra Leuken, Lower School Director, Rachel Beck, Upper School Director

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

B.

### **Call the Meeting to Order**

M. Gardner called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Boston Renaissance Charter Public School to order on Thursday Oct 28, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

### **C. Approve Minutes from June 10,2021**

A. Buckmire made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Sub-Committee on 06-10-21.

E. Alphonse seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

E. Alphonse Aye

R. Clarke Jr. Aye

M. Gardner Aye

A. Buckmire Aye

## **II. MCAS Presentation**

### **A. MCAS Data for 2021**

Rachel Beck, Upper School Director and Kendra Lueken, Lower School Director, attended the meeting to present School Year 2021 MCAS Data. Ms. Beck shared that when this data was presented to the upper school teachers, it was presented as a Data Analysis Walk. As teachers looked at data they recorded noticings and wonderings. The teachers looked at BRCPS data as compared to the state, as compared to the entire upper school, and then as compared to individual grade levels. Since 3rd grade is the first testing year, they did an i-ready comparison. The major focus was what is BRCPS going to do.

When looking to compare 2021 to 2019 (no test in 2020) we did not compare individually. Although it is important to note that the student performances were similar whether the test was taken remotely or in-person. This is true for both BRCPS and the state.

We do have targets that we need to hit on the 2022 MCAS Data. We will be looking at the lowest performing groups at each grade level. Math took a much larger hit in learning loss than ELA.

Ms. Lueken shared that in the Lower School the focus was looking at i-ready data. In the lower school we are targeting Tier 2 students to ensure that their foundational skills are solidified. We are doing this through our WIN Blocks. This is a block during the schedule that allows us to focus on intervention or enrichment. We are utilizing our specialists and Special Education teachers during this time. These groups are data-driven. We are looking at i-ready and Aimsweb data points. Aimsweb looks at the foundational skills and is nationally normed. i-ready measures actual standards growth.

David Bill, our Science coordinator, wrote and received a grant for a new Science Curriculum, Project Lead the Way. We are also looking at our Math Curriculum and we are researching and looking to pilot some different Math Programs in some classrooms. We are sustaining our curriculum in Literacy. In the Upper School, we have taken a more novel-based approach with culminating tasks and more culturally-based books. We have content leads in grades 3 and 4 for Math and ELA and we are using a cycle system where we collect certain assessments to monitor progress. We are also looking vertically for alignment with a more

systematic approach that is data-driven and allows us to build on each other. In grades K2-4, we have specialists analyzing data.

We have also started our Professional Development UDL-Universal Design for Learning .

We will have 1-to-1 coaching for teachers and we will be utilizing the RST's (Reading Support Teachers) in the inclusion classrooms, which is something we have not been able to do in the past. Students who are struggling will receive 30 minute intervention daily in small groups. During these small groups, reteaching, practicing, and or previewing new material will take place. WIN Blocks will be used to solidify foundational skills, which will allow better access to core curriculum. According to the DESE Acceleration Road Map, we need to teach Grade Level Standards. Win Blocks will allow us to take the time to ensure students receive the extra support that may be needed.

We received a Liberty Mutual Grant, thanks to Jack Moynihan, our Director of Development . This will be used for After School Tutoring. We will be looking to work with the lowest 20% in grades 3-6. This will be for both Math and ELA. Our teachers are invested. We have been sure to be purposeful and responsive with data. Each grade level has vast varying levels. It is important to allow flexibility in core instruction. We are working intentionally and thoughtfully for the Whole Child.

### **III. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Gardner