



**Willow Education and Bay Area Technology School
Board Meeting Minutes**

September 29, 2010

Board Member Attendance:

The following directors, constituting a quorum, were present at the meeting:

Baris Cagdaser, Ph.D.	-- President
Mehmet Sen, Ph.D.	-- Vice President
Sefa Isik	-- Director

Absent:

Ayhan Mutlu, Ph.D.	-- Secretary
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Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dr. Cagdaser.

1. Approval of Previous BayTech Board Meeting Minutes

The BayTech board meeting minutes from July 14, 2010 were reviewed. Mr. Aydogdu suggested typo changes on the minutes. Dr. Cagdaser moved to accept the minutes with the changes and Dr. Sen seconded. The minutes of the July 14, 2010 board meeting approved unanimously.

2. School Operation Update, presentation by the Principal

Mr. Aydogdu updated the Board about the school operations:

Academics:

Mr. Aydogdu first presented a list of AP and elective courses, which includes the following AP courses: World History, US History, English Language and Composition, Spanish, and the following electives: Digital Arts, Piano, Spanish 1 and 2, Turkish 1 and 2, Science Fiction, and Astronomy.

Mr. Aydogdu explained the plans for bringing back "Dean of Students" and "Dean of Academics" positions to the school administration for increasing the efficiency in the school operations.

Test Scores:

API score was raised by 16 points from the last year's 658 to 674, where the target assigned by CDE was a 7-point increase. Mr. Aydogdu is expecting to rise the score above 700 for the next year. Mr. Aydogdu pointed out to growths at the percentage of proficient and advanced students



at CST results in his presentation that were also attached to the meeting documents. Dr. Cagdaser and other board members congratulated Mr. Aydogdu on this achievement.

Enrollment:

School's current enrollment number is 190. 36 new students enrolled in 6th grade. Principal Aydogdu also mentioned his opinion about BayTech attracting academically higher level students in this year's enrollment. While 7 students left for another high school during the transition from 8th to 9th grade, 4 new students enrolled in 10th grade. Furthermore, since the beginning of the school year BayTech gained about 10 students. Overall, the school has gained 27 students comparing to the previous year; there were 163 students in the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Aydogdu was also pleased with the overall discipline level at the school.

Mr. Ozyer commented that BayTech is gaining popularity among the parents in the area. New starters in the 6th grade are pleased with after school programs and the attention that they have received from the teachers.

Mr. Aydogdu presented the results of a questionnaire that asked "How did you hear about BayTech?" Postcard was the most effective way with 47% and friend referrals was the second most effective with 20%.

Open houses will start in November to recruit for 2011-2012 school year.

Financials:

BayTech completed the 2009-2010 school year with approximately \$140K surplus due to more efficient financial management; the academic program was run by fewer number of full-time staff compared to previous years. Reduction in staff will also help the current year due to substantial cuts in public school funding.

Mr. Aydogdu reminded the approaching Prop 39 deadline. Baytech will apply to OUSD for facilities under Prop 39.

Recent Events:

Commemoration of 9/11 victims was held in a school assembly with emotions.

Back to School Night was held with 60 parents. Parents visited classrooms and collect information from the teachers. Parent club functions and the State budget cuts have been discussed. Despite all, the school didn't cut back any afterschool program. Parents donated some money.

Mr. Aydogdu mentioned personnel changes in the district's administration. Mr. Cagdaser reminded that 2012 is the charter renewal year; therefore, it will be important for the school administration to build informative relations with the District's office after the personnel changes.

Dr. Cagdaser requested a more detailed financial update for the next board meeting.

3. Board changes

Dr. Cagdasler presented Dr. Bahceci's resignation letter to the Board and mentioned Dr. Bahceci's memorable dedication and extraordinary efforts as the founder of Willow Education and the lead petitioner of BayTech. Dr. Bahceci moved out of the Bay Area and dedicated his career completely on public school education as he voluntarily quit his BioTech job in the BayArea. Other Board members congratulated him while mentioning his departure as an affecting loss for BayTech.

Dr. Sen mentioned the need for a new member to replace the seat vacated by Dr. Bahceci's resignation. Furthermore, he nominated Mrs. Deniz Dogruer for the Board of Directors. Mrs. Dogruer was nominated based on her past involvement and dedication to the public education as well as her own academic experience in higher education. Dr. Cagdasler supported the nomination and added that it would also be beneficial for the diversity of the Board as the second female member on the Board. Mr. Isik seconded, the Board voted unanimously on accepting Mrs. Dogruer as Director. Mr. Mutlu joined the voting by phone.

Dr. Cagdasler further suggested the need for changing the responsibilities of directors as mentioned in the ByLaws. He further nominated Mr. Isik as the treasurer in order to fill this position by an experienced Board member as it was left vacant by resignation of Dr. Bahceci. Dr. Cagdasler stated that Mr. Isik has been involved with the school since its startup and is familiar with these matters. Mr. Mutlu joined the voting by phone. Dr. Sen seconded, and the Board voted unanimously.

Public Forum:

Dr. Cagdasler opened the meeting to the public. No public comments were addressed so Dr. Cagdasler closed the meeting to the public.

Members agreed to meet on November 10, 2010 for the next board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Minutes by

Dr. Sen
Vice President
Willow Education

Mr. Sefa ISIK
Treasurer

Boris Cagdasler
President

