

Briya Public Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 10th, 2026, 6:10-7:30 p.m. on Zoom

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

Board members present

Doris Garay, *Chair*
Stuart Butler, *Vice Chair*
Geovanna Izurieta, *Treasurer*
Dimelsa Zelaya, *Secretary*
Brittany Pope
Jennifer Huang
Bill Bletzinger (left early)
Carolina Hernandez
Brenda Martinez

Staff members present

Christie McKay, *Executive Director*
Joel Goering, *Director of Finance*
Judy Kittleson, *NEDP & Adult Education Manager*
Stella Wang, *Board Liaison*

Board members absent

Alejandra Sandoval

Quorum was reached.

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 6:19pm.

2. Approval of minutes

- April 22nd Briya Board Meeting Minutes
 - ***Stuart Butler*** moved to approve the April 22nd, 2026 Briya Board meeting minutes; ***Bill Bletzinger*** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Roll call:
 - Doris Garay – yes
 - Geovanna Izurieta – yes
 - Dimelsa Zelaya – yes
 - Brittany Pope – yes
 - Jennifer Huang – yes
 - Bill Bletzinger – yes
 - Carolina Hernandez – yes
 - Brenda Martinez – yes
 - Stuart Butler – yes

3. **Finance Committee** - reported by Joel Goering

- FY27 Budget

- Joel reviewed the budget development timeline. The budget is due to PCSB by July 14.
- Executive Summary
 - Our goal is to maintain our financial sustainability amid a challenging external environment.
 - The budget isn't just a financial document but also represents the school's priorities. We have a few new programs—2gen ESOL pilot program and large multiyear literacy grant (CLSD) are now reflected in the budget. We have had multiple stakeholder meetings this past year to inform what ultimately led to this budget and programming.
 - We project an enrollment of 750 students, which is less than our current paid enrollment. We have budgeted 750 for the last few years to be more conservative.
 - We feel confident that the per pupil rate will be increased from what is currently in the budget, but we kept the old rate (2.55%) to be conservative.
 - We took out one of our federal workforce grants (AEFLA) which may still be added back. We are still in discussion about this.
 - We did include the local and state AFE grant for workforce funding because the Council seems likely to maintain this funding.
 - We have included the CLSD literacy grant revenue and expense.
 - Fundraising: Our target is less than previous years because we are currently in a multi-year grant cycle with two of our largest funders.
 - Staffing: proposed increases to staff salaries (average 2.7%)
 - Rent/Occupancy: maintain current leases and arrangements, minimal changes.
 - Contingency: \$100k contingency for unforeseen expenses and additional \$30k for the evening 2-gen ESOL pilot.
- For FY26-27 and FY27-28, we project positive net income of \$46k and \$201k, respectively. Because of changes since earlier versions, we have positive net income projected and positive cash flow projected.
- Bill shared that this has been a very thorough process and the Finance Committee has looked at multiple scenarios. Because we have been conservative, we are able to be in a stronger position now.
- Joel presented staffing highlights and levers and risks.
- ***Geovanna Izurieta moved to approve the FY26-27 budget as presented; Stuart Butler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.***
 - Roll call:
 - Doris Garay – yes
 - Geovanna Izurieta – yes
 - Dimelsa Zelaya – yes
 - Brittany Pope – yes

- Jennifer Huang – yes
 - Bill Bletzinger – absent for this vote
 - Carolina Hernandez – yes
 - Brenda Martinez – yes
 - Stuart Butler – yes
 - Conflict of Interest Contracts (renewals)
 - Amy Houser and Julia Toro are both former Briya board members and provide services to the school. Amy provides communications, marketing, and project management support. Julia provides immigration legal support. These contracts have existed for many years. This renewal is for the 2026-27 school year.
 - The board is aware of these contracts, that the contractors are former board members, and agree the rates being charged are appropriate (i.e. fair market value or less) for the services provided.
 - ***Brittany Pope moved to approve the conflict-of-interest contracts as presented; Stuart Butler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.***
 - Roll call:
 - Doris Garay – yes
 - Geovanna Izurieta – yes
 - Dimelsa Zelaya – yes
 - Brittany Pope – yes
 - Jennifer Huang – yes
 - Bill Bletzinger – absent for this vote
 - Carolina Hernandez – yes
 - Brenda Martinez – yes
 - Stuart Butler – yes
 - April Financials were skipped for the sake of time, not much has changed from prior reports.
4. **Director's Report** – presented by Christie McKay
- City budget update & federal budget update
 - There's been a lot of work around the city budget. These are the pieces we are advocating for and have seen progress on.
 - There will be a slight percentage increase in PPF.
 - Students worked hard to advocate, and there will be an increase to their monthly transit subsidy from \$70 to \$100, starting Oct. 1.
 - AFE local and state funding was put back into the budget.
 - No age limits on new enrollees to DC Healthcare Alliance with incomes up to 138% and restored dental and vision benefits.
 - DC SAYS staff survey
 - Annual, citywide survey administered by OSSE. 143 Briya staff (85%) responded.
 - School climate was highest rated, safety while traveling to school was lowest rated.

- Glows include staff-student relationships, student-to-student support and interactions.
- Grows include individualizing PD opportunities, and safety while traveling to and from school.
- Staff don't feel safe in the outside environment which is hard to control. Inside the school, staff feel safe. Doris believes this demonstrates the effort the school puts in to ensure staff feel safe in school.

2. **Academic Committee** - reported by Judy Kittleson

- Outreach and enrollment update
 - We had a successful year, and the team is now preparing for 2026 count.
- Board performance review summary
 - Judy presented a summary of the performance review that board members filled out. Board members will receive the detailed report after the meeting.

3. **Development Committee** - reported by Christie McKay

- Board slate
 - Christie will share this via email before our next board meeting.
- Board meeting schedule 26-27
 - The board discussed and there are no edits to this draft schedule. Stella will submit this to PCSB.

5. **Announcements/New Business**

- The EC Exhibition of Learning is on June 24 from 9:00-11:00am.
- NEDP graduation is Monday, June 15 at Fort Totten 6:00pm.
- CDA graduation is Tuesday, June 16 at UDC Lamond Riggs 3:30pm and 6:30pm.
- Thursday, June 18 is our year-end schoolwide carnival.
- Each of our pre-K classes are having graduations across all sites next week.
- The board is welcome to attend any of these events.
- On June 15 the PCSB's Treasurer is coming to Briya to attend the NEDP graduation, which will be a great opportunity for us to share about our model.
- At the evening CDA graduation on June 16, we are happy that Bainum's CEO has agreed to be the keynote speaker.
- Last month, Briya received unanimous approval for another five years of our charter from PCSB. Dimelsa did a great job sharing in front of the board.

6. **Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.