**Boulder Preparatory Charter High School**

**Board of Trustees Meeting 3/25/15**

**Quarterly Administration Report summarizing Block 3, 2014/2015**

**The Faculty:**

* Our new English teacher started full time this block teaching one college course, an advance literature course, and team-teaching our signature Autobiography course. She has been a great addition to the team.
* Adjuncts for the block were Connor Carmichael, teaching civic leadership and comedic literature; Alex Wyman, teaching physics, robotics and advanced math; Sandy Chervenak, teaching nutrition and helping with the piano/voice class; Kerrin Duffy, teaching art history and photo journalism; Brad Davis, teaching robotics; and Rick Bernstein, teaching an acting class.
* Ezra Huscher returned after his one block off and is waiting to hear whether he was accepted to the Ph.D. program at CU.
* Staff continue to participate in professional development during the block to improve both their teaching and general school interactions.
* We hosted a science student teacher this block from the University of Southern California. He team-taught a genetics class with Lili and helped with the math and biology courses.
* Lili completed classroom observations for five staff members.

**The Students:**

* We enrolled nearly 20 new students this block, but lost about half that for various reasons.
* Students participated in an all-school field trip to the Denver Museum of Nature and Science to see the whale exhibit.
* 18 students passed all their classes this block which significantly outnumbered the five students who passed no classes. In blocks past, the number of students with all-passing grades and no-passing grades were about equal.
* Students have assembled a peer leadership committee and identified some community action projects to work on.
* On the last day of school, 14 students performed (acting, piano, singing) for the entire school.

**The Program**

* We offered an after-school chess intensive this block with an average of 8 participants each session. On the last day of the intensive, they had a chess tournament.
* During spring break, there were two intensives. One intensive was for field science and students spent two nights at CU’s mountain research station. The second intensive was a financial literacy course where students learned to help advise the Board with our investment account.
* 100% of our students/families opted out of the state standardized tests (PARCC).
* Families of upcoming graduates came for a hands-on FAFSA workshop where our staff walked them through the application process.
* Ray Lozano, a comedian and drug/alcohol expert, spoke to both students and parents about the impacts of alcohol on teens.
* Students received a private tour and cooking workshop at Escoffier Cooking School. They were eager to recruit our students. Students also toured CSU and CU.
* We have a record number of students riding the school bus from Lafayette. Many of them are coming from as far away as Westminster, Broomfield, and Arvada.
* Boulder Prep competed in the District’s Green Energy Challenge where schools compete to see who can reduce their energy consumption the most. Students from the Environmental Science Class completed an energy audit and worked on energy saving practices. Data will be tallied over break, and we should receive notification at the end of March on which school won.

**The Facility**

* We had our health department inspection where they identified some areas that we need to improve on. The items will be relatively simple to correct, and they should be back at the beginning of next block for our follow up.
* The excessive snow in Jan/Feb/Mar limited our solar energy production. Students and staff did their best sweeping the snow off the panels to get every bit of energy possible.
* We continue to struggle keeping up with the bills for the Condo Association due to the unexpected repairs and snow removal costs.
* Extended campus classes included Piano/Voice at Parlando Music School in the Dairy Center, Trapeze at Frequent Flyers Studio and P.E. at the Boulder Rec center.
* Despite multiple emails to the district, we still have not heard about our bond allocation.

**Development**

* We received a commitment from a donor for another $10K to continue funding our performing arts program.
* Boulder Prep was written into a grant with Mental Health Partners that will help fund a Licensed Professional Counselor for the school to work on substance prevention and genera mental health for our students.
* We have received many auction item donations for our fundraiser, but still struggle with registrations and food/wine donations.