

**Gateway Science Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
June 3, 2019, at 5:00 pm**

**Concept Schools Regional Office
6025 Chippewa St. Ste. 206
St. Louis, MO 63109**

MEETING MINUTES

1. Session Opening:

Mr. Goerger commenced the meeting to order with the roll call (5:09 pm) at the address 6025 Chippewa St., Suite 206, St. Louis, MO 63109.

Members Present: Orville (Beau) Goerger, Patricia Hunt, Ben Diefenbach (online via Zoom), Patrick Walker, Mehmet Kahveci (online via Zoom), Tim Bagwell

Members Absent: None

GSA: Matt Sagnak, Principal

Concept Schools: Engin Blackstone, Superintendent, Hasan Damar, Treasurer (online via Zoom)

MCPSC: Martha McGeehon

Board Candidate: Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris

Mr. Goerger read the mission statement.

2. Adopt an Agenda:

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adopt an agenda. Dr. Kahveci seconded. Motion approved.

3. Public Input:

Celia Mullikin, the local coordinator of CIEE – International Student Exchange Program, joined the meeting at 5:30 pm and presented a plaque to GSA for fostering intercultural understanding, friendship, and peace for future generations of global ambassadors. GSA partnered with CIEE at the beginning of 2018-2019 school year and hosted three international exchange students.

4. Announcements/Acknowledgements

Mr. Blackstone expressed his appreciation to the Board members for their support and being present at the end of year programs.

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Dr. Kahveci made a motion, Mr. Diefenbach seconded to approve the consent agenda.

Approval of April 15, 2019, Meeting Minutes:

No discussion

Approval of April 2019 Financials

Mr. Damar presented the financials with the reconciliation details and answered the questions. End of April financials shows both total income and expense percentages are in very close proximity with the approved budget. Year to date net income amount is \$1,850,198, and the school has a total of \$3,628,799 in its main and saving accounts as of April 30, 2019.

Approval of FY20 Budget

Mr. Damar presented the FY20 budgets and answered the questions. The FY20 budget is prepared based on the projected enrollment number for next year and the multi-year actual income and expenditures. Mr. Blackstone mentioned that hiring new staff is still in process, and some figures may still change. Therefore, the proposed budget might need to be revised at the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Approval of Personnel Report:

Mr. Blackstone stated that the personnel roster for the new school year is not finalized yet since hiring new staff is still in process. He will present the full report at the August meeting.

Approval of the Increase on Salary Scale

Mr. Blackstone proposed to increase the teachers' base salary from \$35,000 to \$37,000 and add \$1,000 extra to all teachers 2019/2020 contracts. The proposed change will increase the average teachers' salary from \$42,300 to approximately 44,000.

Approval of Middle/High Building Extension Project Cost

Mr. Blackstone shared the three bids for the project, which are \$2.2M, \$2.8M, and \$3.8M. He mentioned that the figures are not final yet since the architect is still working on finalizing the drawings. The Board decided to have a special meeting to approve the general contractor with the exact project cost as soon as it is ready.

Consent agenda approved unanimously.

6. Student Achievement and Activities:

2018 Annual Report and Renewal Update

Ms. McGeehon, Deputy Director for Accountability at MCPSC, presented the Commission's report for GSA. She mentioned that the report is based on the third-party School Quality Report and the DESE's school achievement data. GSA met all its goals but academic proficiency. Ms. McGeehon mentioned that it is also above the public schools level but lower than the goal

set in the performance contract. Since the final report was shared on the day of the meeting, she would be happy to answer the Board members' questions after they review the full report.

Ms. McGeehon also talked about the renewal process. GSA may qualify to apply 10-year renewal based on this year's report card from the State. The Commission expects GSA to submit its renewal application by September 1, 2019, but she stated that the timeline is still negotiable.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Blackstone shared the highlights for the Class of 2019, and also mentioned that the GSA high school is the best charter school in Missouri based on the US News Best High Schools list.

Facility Update: Mr. Blackstone shared his concerns about not getting the new classrooms ready for the first day of school but working hard to make it happen.

Staffing Update: The administrator assistant for the Board and Superintendent position is posted on Indeed, and Mr. Blackstone will complete the hiring process by August.

7. Board Related:

New Board Member: Dr. Lewis-Harris briefly introduced herself and answered Board members' questions.

Dr. Walker made a motion to approve Dr. Lewis-Harris as a new Board member, Dr. Kahveci seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Board Training Update:

Mrs. Hunt would like to make sure the Board training policy is updated, and Mr. Blackstone suggested to add it to the next meeting's agenda.

2019/2020 Board Meeting Dates:

- 1) August 19, 2019, at 4:00 pm
- 2) October 14, 2019, at 4:00 pm
- 3) December 9, 2019, at 4:00 pm
- 4) February 10, 2020, at 4:00 pm
- 5) April 6, 2020, at 4:00 pm
- 6) June 1, 2020, at 4:00 pm

7. Other Business:

Breakfast Lunch Program:

Mrs. Hunt asked about GSA's practice for unpaid lunch balances. Mr. Blackstone mentioned that we have a procedure in place to contact parents' multiple times to collect the amount dues, then provide an alternative lunch if no progress has been made. Mr. Matt also clarified that these are the parents who do not qualify for free or reduced lunch based on the criteria set by

the State. He couldn't provide the number of occasions but will check and be specific by the next meeting. Dr. Walker mentioned that he has a problem with students penalized for their parents' lack of responsibility. The discussion is tabled and will be included in next meeting agenda.

Recognition of End of Year Programs Organizers:

Mrs. Hunt would like Mr. Blackstone to consider having a special recognition for the end of year programs organizers. Mr. Blackstone confirmed to work on it for next year.

NPL Meeting:

Dr. Walker is representing GSA at the NPL's Board, and he mentioned that he would be happy to take GSA's agenda items regarding the facility solutions to their meeting.

8. Adjourn the Meeting

Dr. Walker moved to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Hunt seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.