

**Gateway Science Academy Board of Directors Special Meeting
April 5, 2022, at 3:00 pm**

**6025 Chippewa Street, Ste#206
St. Louis, MO 63109**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 861 6031 7745
Password: Gators**

AGENDA

Call to Order	Dr. Bagwell
Roll Call	Dr. Bagwell
Mission Statement	Dr. Bagwell
Approval of the Agenda	Dr. Bagwell
Public Input Session	Dr. Bagwell

(Please note, the GSA Board public participation policy allows each speaker no more than three minutes, and each topic is limited to no more than 20 minutes except with the concurrence of the majority of the Board. Individuals who do not have an opportunity to speak during the allotted time will be given the first opportunity at the next regularly scheduled meeting, and they can also submit their comments via email to gsaboard@gsastl.org)

Announcements/Acknowledgements

Consent Agenda *Dr. Bagwell*

Approval of March 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes *Dr. Bagwell*

Action Item:

Approval of Refinancing the Existing Loans *Mr. Blackstone and Mr. Damar*

Other Business:

New Building Project Update *Mr. Blackstone*

Adjourn the Meeting *Dr. Bagwell*

Items in italics are action items.

**Gateway Science Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
March 16, 2022, at 4:00 pm**

**6025 Chippewa Street, Ste#206
St. Louis, MO 63109**

**Zoom Meeting ID: 864 6817 2631
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MEETING MINUTES

1. Session Opening:

Dr. Bagwell commenced the meeting to order with the roll call at 4:00 pm.

Members Present: Tim Bagwell, Ben Diefenbach, Orville (Beau) Goerger, Kennedy Maranga (online), Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris (online), Patricia Hunt (online)

Members Absent: Ali Durhan

GSA: Matt Sagnak-Assistant Superintendent, Brian Schick-Principal, Mustafa Icel, Principal

Concept Schools: Engin Blackstone – Superintendent, Hasan Damar – Treasurer

Dr. Bagwell read the mission statement.

2. Adopt an Agenda:

Mr. Diefenbach made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Goerger seconded.

Roll Call to Adopt the Agenda:

Orville (Beau) Goerger: **Aye**, Tim Bagwell: **Aye**, Ben Diefenbach: **Aye**, Kennedy Maranga: **Aye**, Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris: **Aye**, Patricia Hunt: **Aye**

Motion approved.

3. Public Input:

None

4. Announcements/Acknowledgements

Mr. Blackstone provided the progress on the funding equity bill and acknowledged the GSA community's support. The bill is moved to the Senate floor.

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Goerger made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Mr. Diefenbach seconded.

Approval of January 26, 2022, Meeting Minutes

No discussion

Approval of January and February 2022 Financials

The Board Finance Committee met on March 14 and reviewed the January and February 2022 financials. Mr. Damar presented the budget details below:

- The January P&L report shows \$2,019,118 in total revenue and \$1,751,838 in expenses. It shows a \$267,280 surplus.
- The February P&L report shows \$1,473,228 in total revenue and \$1,614,094 in expenses. It shows a \$140,865 deficit
- YTD surplus is \$1,053,737.
- YTD revenue is 70.73%, and expenditure is 67.40%. They are expected to be close to 66.67%
- The total cash balance is \$4,511,516 as of February 28, 2022. We have 94 days of unrestricted cash on hand.
- The total loan balance is \$3,599,104

Approval of Personnel Report

Mr. Blackstone presented the personnel report with the new hires and resignations.

Roll Call to Approve the Consent Agenda:

Orville (Beau) Goerger: **Aye**, Tim Bagwell: **Aye**, Ben Diefenbach: **Aye**, Kennedy Maranga: **Aye**, Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris: **Aye**, Patricia Hunt: **Aye**

Consent agenda approved unanimously.

6. Items for Action: Approval of COVID Guidelines Update

Mr. Blackstone proposed the following changes to the COVID Guidelines for Board's approval:

MASK STATUS:

- GSA Health Team and Administration recommends changing the mask status to **Optional**.
- GSA resumes mandatory masking for all staff and students if the Covid community level reaches **HIGH** per CDC guidelines.
- GSA also reserves the right to resume mandatory masking if the number of positive cases drastically increases at any GSA Campuses.

- Masks required days 6-10 after symptoms/positive test. Teachers will be notified if students are required to mask. If a student cannot/refuses to mask correctly, they will be asked to stay home until their 10-day isolation is complete.

CONTACT TRACING: Eliminated

TEST TO STAY OPTION:

GSA offers a test to stay option for unvaccinated close contacts. They can stay in school if masked consistently and correctly. They need to be tested three times during the first seven days, and the school will provide rapid test kits for students and staff. They can participate in extracurricular activities.

Mr. Diefenbach made a motion to approve the proposed changes. Mr. Goerger seconded.

Roll Call to Adopt the Agenda:

Orville (Beau) Goerger: **Aye**, Tim Bagwell: **Aye**, Ben Diefenbach: **Aye**, Kennedy Maranga: **Aye**, Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris: **Aye**, Patricia Hunt: **Aye**

Motion approved unanimously.

7. Student Achievement and Activities - Superintendent's Report:

District Dashboard

- Mr. Blackstone presented the District Dashboard with the student achievement and enrollment information.

Pre-K Program Update

- GSA will be starting a full-day Pre-K program next school year (2022-2023) on both the South and Smiley campuses.
- Both locations will be accepting a maximum of 20 students each
- Approvals from MCPSC and DESE are granted.
- Partnered with Southside Early Childhood Center and St. Louis Pre-K Collaborative
- Households eligible for free or reduced lunch will qualify for the 27 full-day State-funded seats. We are exploring funding options for the remaining 13 seats.
- Surveyed our parents and staff. We have 54 responses so far.
- Pre-K enrollment will start after Spring Break

8. Board Related:

Concept Schools Management Contract

The Concept Schools updated the management contract and is ready for the School Board's and attorney's review. It will be included in the next meeting agenda for the Board's approval.

Personal Financial Disclosures (PFD) Updates:

Dr. Bagwell reminded that filing PFD is due by May 2, 2022. Four Board members filed the PFD, and the rest will complete it by its due date.

Board Acknowledgement of Closure Requirements

Board members reviewed and acknowledged the closure requirements set by the State and Sponsor.

Annual School Quality Review (SQR)

The school quality review is scheduled for April 21, 2022. The board interview and meeting observation will take place on May 4, 2022. The SQR protocol is shared with the Board and school administrators to review.

9. Other Business:

New Building Project:

The Need:

- We currently serve 746 MS/HS students at the Fyler Campus and have 5-6 teachers with no room. Next year's projected enrollment is 800, and we need more classrooms to accommodate the increase in enrollment.
- We design the usage of the current building in the best way we can to limit the interaction between MS and HS students; however, it is so challenging with limited space.

Options Explored:

- We have been looking for an ideal place to separate MS and HS for years. However, we have no better option than what we have in hand.
- We are considering renovating the building we purchased last year and getting it ready by August.

Current Project Progress:

- We started working on the project about a month and a half ago. Our architect almost completed the drawings (90% progress)
- We will have an approximate project cost by next Monday.
- Loan options are available.

The Board asked Mr. Blackstone to have a total project cost ready before the final decision.

9. Adjourn the Meeting

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Lewis-Harris seconded.

Roll Call to Adjourn:

Orville (Beau) Goerger: **Aye**, Tim Bagwell: **Aye**, Ben Diefenbach: **Aye**, Kennedy Maranga: **Aye**, Jacquelyn Lewis-Harris: **Aye**, Patricia Hunt: **Aye**

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.