

**Gateway Science Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
August 19, 2019, at 4:30 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 (4:37 pm) at the address 6025 Chippewa St., Suite 206, St. Louis, MO 63109.

Members Present: Orville (Beau) Goerger, Patricia Hunt (4:42 pm), Ben Diefenbach, Mehmet Kahveci (online via Zoom), Tim Bagwell, Jackquelyn Lewis-Harris (4:42 pm)

Members Absent: Patrick Walker

GSA: Nuh Celik, Principal

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

Mr. Goerger read the mission statement.

2. Adopt an Agenda:

Mr. Diefenbach made a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Bagwell seconded. Motion approved.

3. Public Input:

None

4. Announcements/Acknowledgements

None

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

Approval of June 14, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes

No discussion

Approval of May and June 2019-End of Year- Financials

Mr. Damar presented the financials with the reconciliation details and answered the questions. The end of FY19 financials shows a net income amount of \$1,412,828, and the school has a total of \$3,583,738 in its checking and saving accounts as of June 30, 2019.

Approval of Health Insurance Benefit Increase

Mr. Blackstone proposed to increase the employer contribution of the insurance premiums from 60% to 70% and asked for the Board's approval. The proposed increase in insurance benefits will cost \$161,505 for the school.

Approval of Personnel Report

Mr. Blackstone presented the full personnel report for the 2019-2020 school year.

Approval of SPED Local Compliance Plan

Mr. Blackstone asked the Board's approval to adopt DESE's updated model local compliance plan for special education services.

Approval of the Staff and Student/Parent Handbook

Mr. Blackstone presented the 2019-2020 Staff and Student Parent Handbook with the changes and asked for the Board's approval.

Consent agenda approved unanimously.

6. Student Achievement and Activities – Superintendent's Report:

- The new school year started with staff on August 1st and students on August 8th. It was a smooth start with full of excitement.
- The enrollment number is 1488 with the retention rate of 90.1%
- The admin team and teachers have worked on revising the academic support plan for the low achieving student and ready to implement it for higher student achievement this year.
- The construction is in progress. Mr. Blackstone and the finance team are still working on finding a loan for the project. 5/3 Bank did not approve the requested amount of 2M loan, and Mr. Blackstone is now in contact with a local bank.
- Mr. Blackstone and four Board members attended the law seminar on August 5th. They shared some highlights from the seminar.

7. Board Related:

New Board Member: Mr. Blackstone will email the Board candidate application to Dr. Rashmi Nair.

Board Positions:

The following Board positions are approved unanimously:

President: Orville Goerger

Vice President: Patrick Walker

Secretary: Ben Diefenbach

Treasurer: Tim Bagwell

Board Training Policy Review and Upcoming Opportunities:

Mr. Blackstone shared the current Board training policy for the Board's review. No changes made on the policy. He also shared information about two upcoming Board training opportunities.

Annual Conflict of Interest Statement:

Board members reviewed and signed the conflict of interest statement.

Annual Evaluations – Management and Board

The evaluation documents are shared with the Board members, and it will be completed at the next meeting.

Policy Updates:

Mr. Blackstone will work on the required policy updates, have them reviewed by the school's attorney, and bring them to the Board when they are ready.

7. Other Business:

Breakfast Lunch Program:

Dr. Lewis-Harris and Mrs. Hunt talked about a proposed federal law that would end the school lunch shaming.

MCPA Annual Conference:

Mr. Blackstone shared conference information and asked interested Board members to contact him for registration.

8. Adjourn the Meeting

Mrs. Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Bagwell seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.