



### Board of Directors Meeting

**Time: May 26, 2022 @ 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join on Zoom: Meeting ID: 871 3216 1053 Passcode: 585948**

**Roll Call by Secretary:** Eric Bentson (present), Ashley Goverman (present,) Rosemary Herold (present, arrived a few minutes late,) George Hynd (present,) Bob McFerran (present,) Stephanie Sams (present), Stephanie Tecklenberg (present,) Sedric Webber (present,) Trey Zimmerman (present)

Administration: Ashley Brooks and Dr. Summer Brown

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

*To provide an exceptional, evidence-based, multi-sensory education for students with dyslexia to open the gates to their academic potential in an environment that empowers students to develop a positive and socially conscious self-image*

1. Call to Order at 4:36pm
2. Roll Call & Mission Statement recited
3. Adoption of Agenda for May 26, 2022 meeting motioned by Stephanie Sams; Bob McFerran 2nd; All in favor  
Moment of silence for the tragedy in Texas.
4. Adoption of Minutes for April 28, 2022 motioned by Stephanie Sams; Bob McFerran 2nd; All in favor
5. Public Comments
  - a. No public comments
6. Executive Director's Report
  - a. Tomorrow is our End of the Year Family Picnic. Our Gates Family Association has done some fundraising and organizing. An ice cream truck is planned as well as pizzas. Parents & families are invited. Mr. V, Sally Fickling, and A. Bogan will be attending from CIE. George Hynd will be providing a tour. Mr. V will be ready for the tour at 8:45am.

5010 Wetland Crossing Rd.  
North Charleston, SC 29418  
[info@gatesschool.org](mailto:info@gatesschool.org)  
[www.gatesschool.org](http://www.gatesschool.org)



- b. Teachers and students are cleaning out cubbies and wiping down tables to prepare for the last day.
- c. Eric Bentson will be bringing speakers and a microphone to set up for the picnic.

#### 7. Principal's Report

- a. Many things have been packed into the past month. Anne Walker has completed 100% of all state testing, MAP, and field tests within the required timeframe.
- b. Thank you to all of the parents for organizing Teacher Appreciation Week.
- c. SC Leaps and observations are complete.
- d. 2 more submissions for the CAP. Due 5/31 and 6/1 and they are complete are ready to be submitted.
- e. All but 2 IEP meetings which the district is aware of have been completed due to extenuating circumstances. 17 held this week.
- f. Stephanie mentioned some preliminary MAP numbers that student progress is 89% in Math and 95% in Reading.
- g. Stephanie thanked Summer for all of her hard work because she has been on this journey for many years as a SPED consultant on the Planning team to transition to our Principal.

#### 8. Board Chair's Report

- a. Open House was a success. It was a great time to talk with families with lots of amazing stories from parents about the success of their students and progress made.
- b. Dr. Rhodes came to the Open House and encouraged everyone to watch his TedTalk about his lifelong struggle with dyslexia.
- c. Appeal in Columbia last Wednesday, 5/18 in front of the Institute Board.
  - i. Several board members, staff, and parents along with approx 80 on Zoom attended.
  - ii. Gates expresses our gratitude to the Institute for the 9 hour hearing and patiently listening to all of the evidence that we went through and decided it was not time to revoke the charter and that Gates deserves a chance. Very happy with the outcome. We only had until 4:30pm, even though we did have plenty more witnesses and evidence to submit. One additional development did occur regarding "veiled threats" issued to our SPED consultant on Gates' witness list.
  - iii. Gates gives a huge thank you to all the witnesses, especially to Kaity Flake. She showed just how much the SPED team has been working to meet requirements. Additional thanks to Board Member George Hynd, parent Jane Walsh, & Executive Director Ashley Brooks for testifying on the schools behalf. Also thank the other witnesses who agreed to testify but were unable to take the stand due to the limited amount of time allotted.

#### 9. Treasurer's Report

- a. Financial Summary attached.

#### 10. Fundraising Update:

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- a. Family & Corporate Program has launched for 2022-23.
- b. Coming in fall and winter will be more specific initiatives for projects
- c. Gates Family Association (GFA) - Chair positions and committees have already done an amazing job with Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week, as well as the Family Picnic occurring tomorrow. The Board, School, & GFA plan to meet over the summer to partner and discuss initiatives to focus on.

11. Executive Session; Stephanie Sams makes motion to go into exec session at 5:09; Eric Bentson 2nd; All in favor

- a. No votes taken during Executive Session; motion by Stephanie Sams at 6:19pm; Eric Bentson 2nd; All in favor

12. Action Items from Executive Session

- a. Ashley Goverman motions to authorize Stephanie Sams, on behalf of the Board, to sign and send the letter regarding the contractual matter discussed with legal counsel in Executive Session. Bob McFerran 2nd; No discussion. Roll call vote passed unanimously.

13. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Stephanie Sams at 6:22pm; Sedric Webber 2nd; All in favor.

Minutes submitted by Ashley Goverman.

# Gates School

## Financial Summary

May 26, 2022

Good afternoon, here is this month's Financial Report:

- Government funding anticipated this calendar year is approximately \$450,000. Typically these are in the form of reimbursements, so the school has paid money upfront but is waiting for reimbursement from the government. The vast majority of this total has not yet been received by the school:
  - Planning and Implementation Phase 2 grant which is a deciding factor for the creation of a school and its operation in the first year. This is approved and next payment should arrive next month.
  - ESSER 3 government funding totals 203k which is anticipated to arrive between August through October.
  - "Fringe Benefits Contribution" which is paying monthly. This totals \$150,000 for the year.
  - IDEA reimbursement should be arriving in the next month.
- Because of the longer than expected wait for all these funds to arrive we are going to take out a loan from a local lender which may be repaid upon receipt of the reimbursements.
- SC Budget Update: We are tracking potential changes in SC government in regard to the calculations and ratios used to determine school funding from the state. We are working with our accounting team on the various possibilities.
- On a final note I just want to say thank you to the Gates school families, teachers and administration. This year has truly had the highest of highs and the lowest of lows but you all are incredible and the reason Gates is what it is today and why we are so hopeful for the future and years of impact for so many children! Thank you!