



Board of Directors Meeting

Time: August 25, 2022 @ 4:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join on Zoom: Meeting ID: 849 2307 5285

Passcode: 796100

Roll Call by Secretary: Eric Bentson (present), Ashley Goverman (present,) Rosemary Herold (not present,) George Hynd (not present,) Bob McFerran (present,) Stephanie Sams (present,) Sedric Webber (present,) Trey Zimmerman (present)

Admin: Jean Castelli, Dr. Linda-Jean Schwartz, Ashley Brooks

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 4:35pm by Stephanie Sams.
2. Mission Statement & Roll Call by Ashley Goverman
3. Adoption of Agenda for August 25, 2022 meeting; Motion by Bob McFerran; 2nd Ashley Goverman; All in favor
4. Adoption of Minutes for July 28, 2022 meeting; Motion by Eric Bentson; 2nd Trey Zimmerman; All in favor
5. Public Comments: No public comments
6. Executive Director's Report:
 - a. HVAC repairs still in progress. 3 out of 4 units are working. Waiting on part to complete 4th.
 - b. State mandated audit is almost complete. Due at the end of October. Trey Zimmerman will get the last bit of info to send to Kiddy.
 - c. Kids First Conference in September in Columbia if anyone wants to join. Ashley B., Stephanie, George, and maybe Trey will attend.

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- d. Nov 1-3 Public Charter School Alliance of SC in Spartanburg.
- e. Have had a lot of different training sessions in Columbia and need to divide and conquer next week. Jean goes on Tuesday for state test training. Ashley And Gillian going on Wednesday for MTSS training & Literacy Leader training. Thursday - Stephanie, Ashley, Jean, Trey meet Thursday with Erskine leadership.
- f. Very busy time of year, but going smoothly. Working together and helping each other out.

7. Principal's Report

- a. Great start to the year. First week of school. Students have been transitioning to the new school well.
- b. Getting closer to a streamlined car rider process.
- c. New staff at OG training this week. They are very excited to get back to the classrooms to implement new strategies.
- d. Substitutes this week have done a nice job with new staff being out for the week.
- e. First lockdown drill on Monday at 1:30. Staff will prepare the children to help the students understand why it is necessary.
- f. Dr. Schwartz and Ms. Castelli have attended multiple trainings at Erskine in Columbia. Made some great contacts from other schools in the Lowcountry.

IEP Transfer process

- a. Staff at Erskine have been incredibly helpful with the IEP transfer process.
- b. Completed all transfers for all incoming new students with IEPs, successfully, correctly, and on time.
- c. Each of those students have to have a follow up IEP meeting by September 30th.
- d. Very thankful for the amazing Gates staff.
- e. Dr. Schwartz went up to have an all-day "hands on" meeting with Sarah Love going through individual files.

8. Board Chair's Report

- a. Recognize school for great start of year for Gates admin, teachers, & staff; Ms. Castelli and Dr. Schwartz have a very strong working relationship with the Institute SPED staff (Merrick and Love)
- b. Spoke with Superintendent Runyan a few weeks ago and we both affirmed our commitment to making this a highly successful year for Gates.
- c. 9/1 in-person meeting in Columbia w/ Superintendent Runyan & various members of Institute to discuss goals for year 2
- d. 1st reading of 2 simple amendments to by-laws - (Include info from the attachment)
 - i. Change address
 - ii. Amend board vacancies section to maintain statutory compliance regarding the number of appointed vs. elected seats.



9. Treasurer's Report

- a. The school began its 22-23 fiscal year on July 1st with an approved operating budget.
- b. We have received the 2/3 balance of the loan from SC Community Loan Fund with a one year term. The first 1/3 amount was received in May.
- c. The school has repaid those who offered very short-term bridge loans for use during the June/July time period. There are a few outstanding which had a longer term of up to one year.
- d. Previously requested Planning & Implementation funds of \$80k just arrived, these were part of last year's school budget.
- e. In addition, there is over \$200k in reimbursements due from the state which is mostly comprised of ESSER 3. We are expecting this to arrive any day.
- f. Financial Audit – the 3rd party auditor is actively working with Veris and we are answering any questions promptly as they come up.
- g. Debt Service -- \$32k per month is being sent to US Bank which is compiled and paid twice a year for debt servicing (June and December)
- h. There are 40% more students enrolled in the school this year as compared to last year. This will result in approximately a \$40k increase in monthly revenue from the state. We are tracking this closely as the state updates funding three times on the 5th, 45th, and 135th day of the school year.
- i. The school's quarterly financials will continue to be posted as a part of the minutes with the next being at the conclusion of Q1 for the 22-23 fiscal year

10. Gates Family Association Introduction

- a. Introduction of Co-Chair for GFA, Liz McNulty.
 - i. Amanda Hodges & Liz McNulty co-chairs. Lisa Bentson is heading up the library committee. Lisa Young is doing Gates University. Attempting to give teachers a break from 1:30 end of day on Friday with various parents, speakers, community members. Aquarium comes 9/30. Beekeeper. Farmer. Fundraising committee is Blair Turnage. Teacher Appreciation group, Landry Brown. Special Events: Sallie Gray Clayton. Met in summer initially and have had multiple Zoom meetings. Will include weekly info in Gazette. Helen Ochoa is Secretary. Strong push to get parents involved.

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- a. Fundraising Update: 3 main goals for fundraising this year for GFA - tinting for the front windows & library - sun shades for the playground - picnic tables

11. General Fundraising

- b. Board Fundraising: Pledged to raise \$70,000 in the budget.. 2 large fundraisers. Silent auction in fall & golf tournament in spring. Sedric has booked the Cane Bay YMCA in Summerville on 10/22.

12. Adjourn at 5:46pm; Motion by Stephanie Sams; 2nd Bob McFerran.

Next regular scheduled board meeting is 9/22.

Minutes submitted by Ashley Goverman.