

**Global Scholars Academy (GSA) Board Minutes**  
**Tuesday, June 19, 2018**  
**Held in GSA Conference Room at 8 a.m.**  
*Meeting was called to order by Dr. Jim Johnson at 8:08 a.m.*

**Open and Welcome**

**Roll Call of Members:** Ms. Amy Noble

**Board Members Present:** Dr. James Johnson, Mr. William Smith, Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell, Mr. Kirk McCoy

**Board Members Present via phone/Skype:** Dr. Tawannah Allen, Dr. Zakiya Whatley, Dr. Sandra White

**Board Members Absent:** Dr. Linda Bass, Ms. Tammie Hall, Mr. Brian Wilson, Ms. Virda Adams

**Non-Board Members Present:** Mr. Jason Jowers (phone), Ms. Brittany Curry, Ms. Jamie Nobles, Ms. Amy Noble, Ms. Kathy Barnes, Mr. Jalal Osman, Ms. Candace Garrett.

**Agenda Approval**

Ms. Curry asked for an amendment to the agenda regarding the addition of an Exceptional Children (EC) presentation by Mrs. Kathy Barnes. The agenda for today's meeting was unanimously approved following a motion by Dr. White and a second by Mrs. Hairston Mitchell with the amendment of the addition of an EC presentation by Mrs. Kathy Barnes.

**Public Input**

Ms. Candace Garrett - EC Teacher and Mr. Jalal Osman - EC teacher introduced themselves.

**Meeting Minutes Approval**

The Board minutes from Thursday, May 24, 2018 were unanimously approved following a motion by Mrs. Hairston Mitchell and a second by Mr. McCoy.

**Kathy Barnes – EC Presentation**

Mrs. Barnes presented her findings of an unofficial Exceptional Children audit at GSA. She met with Mr. Jowers and the Exceptional Children's team on May 31, 2018 to review the results. Mrs. Barnes audited EC files and documented concerns. She suggested keeping a confidential spreadsheet for the school to review and to document ongoing data. The ECCATS system will be adopted at the school. This system will be user friendly for the staff.

Over the past few months, Ms. Garrett and Mr. Osman have reviewed the EC files, held IEP meetings, and reduced service hours that were not needed. They will incorporate more inclusion in the classroom. They have an ongoing improvement team and action plan. Mr. Osman commented that GSA staff is doing a great job with EC students. An EC training for staff will be held at the beginning of the school year. There may be a need for additional support in the EC department if there is a large influx of new EC students in the new school year.

Dr. Allen made a motion to accept Mrs. Barnes report and to retain her services on a consultant basis to help with our EC program. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

**Standard Reports:**

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Quick Hits***

Ms. Noble gave a brief overview of Active Shooter Training attended by Ms. Noble, Mrs. Kelly, and Mr. Prince. Recommendations from the training included having all front doors secure and guest would buzz in, bulletproof glass at office window, wedges for classroom doors, and a fire extinguisher in each classroom to be used as a weapon. We are researching having Active Shooter Training for staff during teacher workdays.

The audit for the 21st Century program is scheduled for July 3.

Technology services – the Board suggested looking for alternative solutions and to send out RFPs.

A discussion was had regarding staff contracts.

***Jason Jowers – Head of School School Enrollment and Academic Updates***

We are in the process of EOG retakes now through Wednesday.

Results have come back from the State regarding the Teacher Working Conditions survey. Mr. Jowers will present findings at the next Board meeting.

Open House for the 2018-2019 school year will be July 11. A few remaining spots in grades K-6 are being filled.

EOG results – growth data. Currently, proficiency is at 51%. This is 5% higher than last year. If we receive the same bump in growth from retakes as was exhibited last year, we project to be at 60% proficiency. This is about 8% growth. Overall, pleased with the results. Approximately 40 scholars are retesting.

***Jason Jowers – Head of School 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program Updates***

Summer Camps – June 18-22

Art of Cool (Grades 3-8)

K-2 Reading

21<sup>st</sup> Century audit – July 3

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Tech Stewardship***

No updates – everything is going well.

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Financial Report***

Ms. Curry presented the monthly compilation financial statement. We are trending as expected. The transportation grant was received. Expenses are trending a little light. Union Baptist Church – received \$55,749 ytd. No major expenses to note. We are preparing for yearend close with Thomas and Gibbs.

Mr. McCoy moved to accept the Thomas and Gibbs financial report dated May 31, 2018. Mrs. Hairston Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Grants***

We have received a grant to go to Grandfather Mountain in the Fall.

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Budget Planning***

Board members received the budget last month. Mr. Smith would like the Finance committee meet to delve into some of the details.

Mr. McCoy moved to accept the budget for the 2018-2019 school year as proposed with the caveat that the Finance committee will review details regarding salaries. Mrs. Hairston Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

**New Business:**

***Jason Jowers – Head of School Literacy Partnership***

NC State Education department reached out to Mr. Jowers regarding a new program called Wolfpack WORKS (which is in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction). They would like to establish a partnership with GSA where their students would work with scholars in our lower grades on literacy and provide additional training to our staff. They are creating a system of modules for new teachers to access for information on instructional practice and to gain best practices to take back to their classrooms. The Board gave feedback on the program and asked for a document regarding what GSA would gain and what they expect of us.

**Old Business:**

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Verizon Update***

Last month, a Verizon service change was presented. Ms. Curry requested an amendment to the approval. Instead of iPads, Chrome books are requested due to a change to using the Summit Learning platform. Further discussion is needed regarding this learning platform, so a motion was not entertained. The Board and Mr. Jowers will discuss the path forward.

GSA will not move forward with the internal phone system as we are locked in contract with our current provider until 2020.

Mr. Smith made a motion that no GSA staff member is to sign a contract with an external vendor without Board approval from a member of the Finance Committee (Mr. Smith, Mr. McCoy, or Mrs. Hairston Mitchell). Mr. McCoy seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

***Brittany Curry – Managing Director Staff Retreat***

Ms. Curry presented information about having a staff bowling outing.

Ms. Curry asked for feedback regarding a Performance Matrix for the staff. The Board will review and offer remarks.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Smith made motion for the Board meeting to adjourn with a second by Mr. McCoy. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.