

Global Scholars Academy (GSA) Board Minutes
Tuesday, January 19, 2021
Held via Zoom at 6 p.m.
Meeting was called to order by Dr. James Johnson at 6:05 p.m.

Open and Welcome

Roll Call of Members: Ms. Amy Noble

Board Members Present via phone/Zoom: Dr. James Johnson, Mr. William Smith, Dr. Tawannah Allen, Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell, Mrs. Shelton Gore, Dr. Sandra White, Dr. Linda Bass, Dr. Zakiya Whatley

Board Members Absent: Mr. Kirk McCoy, Ms. Tammie Hall

Non-Board Members Present: Dr. Pamela Baldwin, Ms. Brittany Curry, Mrs. Eboni Alexander, Ms. Jamie Nobles, Ms. Amy Noble, Mr. Leland Davis, Mrs. Kendra Johnson, Mrs. Bettie Lyons, Ms. Miranda Markham, Ms. Sharon Watford, Ms. Kelsey Ward, Ms. Marlisha Blakeney, Dr. Rachel Person, Mrs. Sherry King, Mrs. Jeane Carpenter, Mr. Ben Owens

Agenda Approval

The agenda for today's meeting was unanimously approved following a motion by Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell and a second by Mr. William Smith.

Public Input

None

Review Minutes

The Board minutes from Monday, December 7, 2020 were unanimously approved following a motion by Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell and a second by Dr. Tawannah Allen.

Presentations Mr. Ben Owens The RISE Project Open Way Learning

Mr. Ben Owens - Redefining Innovative Schools Through STEM Experience

Mr. Ben Owens shared "Our Why" for the RISE project. They want students to see relevance in everything they are learning. Holding students to high expectations but giving them the support they need. Building a culture of innovation and using an Open Way Learning Maturity model.

Dr. Pam Baldwin talked about programs GSA is currently building including Passion Friday and working toward building a STEAM lab.

Standard Reports:

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Academic Reports

Dr. Pam Baldwin welcomed GSA's newest staff members:

Ms. Kelsey Ward – Bilingual Communications Manager / Office Support

Mrs. Charrice Carrington - Nurse

Amy Noble – Executive Admin. Asst. to Head of School/Office Manager Enrollment

Current enrollment stands at 194. One scholar withdrew due to a change in living arrangements.

The Lottery Application Period for the 2021-2022 school year opened today and we have begun receiving applications.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Return to School

Dr. Pam Baldwin gave an update on the Return to School for the 3rd quarter. The number of scholars that are participating in face-to-face learning is 59%.

Mrs. Eboni Alexander – Assistant Head of School School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)

Board approval is needed for the updated SHAC policy that was presented in the November Board meeting. Mrs. Shelton Gore motioned to accept the update as presented in the November Board Meeting. Second by Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell. Unanimous approval. Motion carries.

Leland Davis – I.T. & 21st Century Director Tech Stewardship & 21st Century Update

Mr. Leland Davis presented the Help Desk Summary. Most unresolved tickets are phone line issues that are currently being addressed.

Mr. Leland Davis presented an update on the 21st Century Community Learning Center - STEAM Focused.

He shared Extended Day class offerings with the full schedule beginning next week for on-site scholars. Once established, online learning offerings will be offered as well.

Brittany Curry – Dir. of Development, Marketing, & Communications Grants/Fundraising Updates

Ms. Brittany Curry presented the fundraising tracker. The 21st Century Grant has come in at \$400k per year!

SRO grant is at about \$10k and we should have confirmation next week.

An anonymous donor gave \$20k.

21st Century Grant - we have until September to spend the \$400k.

Charter Renewal Update - GSA was recommended for 10 more years!

GSA 10 Year Anniversary updates - Ms. Brittany Curry gave updates regarding the newsletter, GSA blog, faculty input, commemorative assets, social media, tentpole event, and celebratory projects (including the GSA STEAM Cookbook). Ms. Brittany Curry will continue to bring updates each month.

Jamie Nobles – Accountant Financial Reports

Ms. Jamie Nobles presented the Topline Tracker through December 31, 2020. The biggest call out is in Technology regarding COVID funds with about \$10k of unused funds being transferred to Technology to purchase iPads and Chromebooks.

2021-2022 school year budget planning has begun. Faculty and staff are being surveyed for supplies needed for the school year.

The timeline for the budget - plan is to have a draft to Financial Committee in March and then present to the Board in May.

Mr. Leland Davis is working on an amended budget for 21st Century.

The 2020 990s are complete and have been filed. The Board has also received a full financial audit.

Self Help Bank Update - Dr. Tawannah Allen has signed the paperwork and should be to the bank soon.

PPP Forgiveness Application – the goal is to have the application reviewed in March by the Finance Committee, then present to the Board and submit by end of March.

Mr. William Smith – We have received information for 2nd round of PPP loan. At this point, we would not qualify for an additional PPP loan. Criteria changes from time to time, so we will continue to review. We are looking at doing an RFP for banking services. We will change banks if we get the right response from the RFP and it would be as of September 1, 2021. The Finance Committee has approved this. Requesting Board approval.

A move to approve the financial report as presented was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. William Smith with a second by Dr. Tawannah Allen.

A move to approval doing an RFP for banking services - Unanimously approved.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Kenan Funds Proposal

The remaining funds are \$18,070. We are proposing the following:

Uniform shirts and hoodies - \$10,500

High School Math Classes and Supplies - \$4500

Transportation Cards - \$3070

This proposal has already been shared with the Finance Committee.

A move to approve the Kenan Funds Proposal as presented was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. William Smith with a second by Dr. Sandra White.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Fundraising/Grants 2020-2021

Dr. Pam Baldwin shared categories that planning would support and what gaps remain including Annual Fund, Major Gifts, In-kind, Grant Awards and whether they are restricted or unrestricted funds.

She expounded upon Grant Awards and Program Report Codes (PRC). PRC Codes don't always require writing a grant but rather only requested the funds for specific efforts. Dr. Pam Baldwin will work with splitting these different grants out to assist in understanding what gaps need to be filled.

Major Gifts are classified as \$10k or more.

In-Kind under \$5000 should use an in-kind form and an IRS form.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Board Member Appointments

Dr. James Johnson suggested having a Board of Advisors to give directions and advice as it pertains to fundraising. They would not need to participate in the monthly Board meetings.

Board terms for Dr. Zakiya Whatley and Dr. Sandra White Board expired January 1.

Board terms for Mr. Kirk McCoy, Ms. Tammie Hall, and Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell will expire March 1.

Discussion tabled for Closed Session.

Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell stated that the Bylaws committee met last week and she will share information with Dr. Pam Baldwin.

Looking Forward

Save the Date! Upcoming Dates given.

GSA Highlights***Mrs. Bettie Lyons and Ms. Miranda Markham – Cafeteria Managers FFVP***

Dr. Pam Baldwin thanked Mrs. Bettie Lyons and Ms. Miranda Markham for all they do to take care of our GSA families.

Ms. Miranda Markham shared about the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program and program enhancements that will occur after the pandemic.

Adjournment for Closed Session:

A motion was made by Mr. William Smith to go into Closed Session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes under the North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(1) and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) at 7:28 p.m. Second by Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell.

Open Session:

A motion was made to go back into Open Session by Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell at 7:55 p.m. with a second by Mr. William Smith.

A move to reappoint Board Member terms of Dr. Sandra White, Dr. Zakiya Whatley, Mr. Kirk McCoy, and Mrs. Dorothy Hairston Mitchell was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. William Smith with a second by Dr. Tawannah Allen.

Adjournment

Dr. Tawannah Allen made motion for the Board meeting to adjourn with a second by Mr. William Smith. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.