

Global Scholars Academy (GSA) Board Minutes
Tuesday, May 18, 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 Mitchell, Mr. Kirk McCoy, Dr. Sandra White, Dr. Linda Bass

Board Members Absent: Mrs. Shelton Gore, Ms. Tammie Hall, Dr. Zakiya Whatley

Non-Board Members Present: Dr. Pamela Baldwin, Ms. Jamie Nobles, Ms. Amy Noble, Mrs. Melissa Tijerina, Mrs. Charrice Carrington, Dr. Khari Grant

Agenda Approval

Mr. Smith shared an amendment to the agenda with the following items under New Business: approval of 2021-2022 budget, Rebekah Barr to perform external audit approval, approval of the Therapy Smarts contract. The amended agenda for today's meeting was unanimously approved following a motion By Dr. White and a second by Mrs. Mitchell.

Public Input

None

Review Minutes

The Board minutes from Tuesday, April 20, 2021 were unanimously approved following a motion by Mrs. Mitchell and a second by Dr. White.

Standard Reports:

Academic Reports

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

Current enrollment stands at 193. EC is serving 23 scholars with 3 in progress and EL is serving 46 scholars.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Tech Stewardship

Tech turn in - scholars are beginning to turn in their technology and those in person are leaving their devices at school now. Virtual students will begin turning in their devices on May 27.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Grants/Fundraising Updates

Dr. Baldwin gave a brief update on the fundraising tracker. GSA is waiting on ESSER funds. Have applied for some additional grants and waiting to hear back from them.

10-year anniversary update - the 10-year anniversary banner is out front. The gold polos came in this week.

Waiting on a few board members to turn in a brief paragraph reflecting on the 10-year anniversary.

Jamie Nobles – Accountant Financial Reports

Ms. Jamie Nobles presented the Topline Tracker through April, 2021. Revenue is coming in as expected. We have received all State funding. Last allotment of 21st Century grant waiting to come in.

No big changes with fundraising. Total revenue at the end of April \$2,983,398. Spending slightly under what we have planned. Total expenditures at the end of April \$2,811,357.

Received another small allotment for summer reading funds this month.

PPP loan update: GSA's loan has been fully forgiven!

Mr. Smith thanked Ms Nobles on behalf of the Finance Committee for all her hard work on the PPP loan update.

A move to approve the financial report as presented was unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Smith with a second by Mrs. Mitchell.

Old Business:

Amy Noble – Executive Admin. Asst. to Head of School/Office Manager Lottery 2021-2022

Ms. Noble gave an update on the lottery for the 2021-2022 school year with a projected enrollment of 218.

New Business:

Melissa Tijerina Instructional Specialist Intersession Camps

EOG camp will be open to all scholars.

RtA Camp - Read to Achieve - comes with State funding for grades 1-3 that are a year below grade level or 3rd graders not at proficiency. - 3 weeks, 72 hours of instruction and reading

EOG Camp - June 14-18 - Math camp and scholars will have a chance to retake Math EOG if needed.

Kindergarten Camp - 3 weeks - 4 hours a day - remediation in Math and ELA

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Proposal of a New Foreign Language

Dr. Baldwin presented a proposal for a second foreign language offering.

Working with the planning team to think about innovative ways to serve our scholars.

Propose to decrease the Middle School team from 4 people to a 3-person Middle School Team: English-Language Arts/Social Studies, Math, Science and then utilize the 4th position to hire a Spanish teacher.

Motion to accept recommendation for transformation of MS teaching mixture and position to hire a Spanish teacher by Mr. Smith with a second by Mrs. Mitchell. Motion carries unanimously.

William Smith – BOD Treasurer

2021-2022 School Budget

At the last Board meeting, the Finance Committee presented the full budget to the Board. The Finance Committee recommended moving forward with Option 2 which would give staff a 3% increase for 2021-2022. Assumption of 210 scholars at GSA. Fundraising - we feel comfortable about having a \$200k goal included in the Annual Fund. The proposal was sent to the Board last month and no questions were received. Tight budget and expenses in line with the budget from this past school year. This year the PPP loan will be off the books as a liability.

A motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Budget as presented to the Board in April by Mr. Smith with a second by Dr. Allen. Motion carries unanimously. Mr. Smith thanked the Finance Committee and admin staff for their work on the budget.

Dr. White had a question about the financial sustainability of the school - for streams of revenue - are we looking at what our streams are and trying to move forward with a diverse stream? Discussion was had.

William Smith – BOD Treasurer

Letter from Rebekah Barr to perform the GSA audit again

The Finance Committee is recommending we continue to hire Ms. Barr to perform the GSA audit and the 990 and there is also a contract to perform the audit with proper signatures.

A motion to retain Rebekah Barr to perform the external audit and 990 and audit accounts for \$6900 for the audit and \$800 for the 990 by Mr. Smith and second by Mrs. Mitchell. Motion carries unanimously.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Therapy Smarts Contract

Asking for approval for the contract to continue services for speech. Pricing is comparable and fair.

A motion made to authorize Dr. Baldwin to sign the Therapy Smarts contract to contract for speech services by Mr. Smith and second by Dr. White. Motion carries unanimously.

Dr. Johnson - Regarding exceptional children, a lot of attention in the workplace and foundation world about embracing neurodiversity. A lot of companies are now recruiting neurodiverse talent. We may be able to bring resources in on neurodiversity.

Looking Forward

Save the Date! Upcoming Dates given.

Mrs. Mitchell shared that the election of Board officers and other Board members will be held in June.

Adjournment for Closed Session:

A motion was made by Mr. Smith to go into Closed Session 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 6:58 p.m. with a second by Dr. Allen.

Open Session:

A motion was made to go back into Open Session by Mr. Smith at 7:15 p.m. with a second by Mrs. Mitchell.

A motion to approve the Personnel Report was made by Mr. Smith with a second by Dr. White. Motion carries unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Smith made a motion for the Board meeting to adjourn with a second by Dr. White. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.