

Global Scholars Academy (GSA) Board Minutes
Tuesday, June 15, 2021
Held via Zoom at 6 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Dr. James Johnson at 6:04 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, Mrs. Shelton Gore, Dr. Sandra White

Board Members Absent: Mr. Kirk McCoy, Dr. Linda Bass, Ms. Tammie Hall, Dr. Zakiya Whatley

Non-Board Members Present: Dr. Pamela Baldwin, Ms. Brittany Curry, Ms. Jamie Nobles, Ms. Amy Noble, Dr. Khari Grant, Mr. Leandro Rodriguez, Ms. Tara Delgado, Angela Coleman-Talbot, Ms. Tracie Moss, Ms. Colleen Cannon-Karlos, Mr. Eric Rowe, Ms. Marnikka Young, Mr. Favio Ruiz, Mr. Ryan Hansen, Ms. Tracie Moss, Mrs. LaKeisha Thomas, Ms. Rita Wells, Ms. Cara Agner

Agenda Approval

The agenda for today's meeting was unanimously approved following a motion by Mrs. Mitchell and a second by Mrs. Gore.

Public Input

None

Review Minutes

The Board minutes from Tuesday, May 18, 2021, were unanimously approved following a motion by Mr. Smith and a second by Mrs. Gore.

Presentations

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School New Staff Intros

Dr. Baldwin introduced the new hires joining the GSA staff for the 2021-2022 school year.

Dr. Pam Baldwin – Head of School Staff Demographics

Dr. Baldwin shared the demographics of staff for the 2021-2022 school year. A few of note, 53% hold an advanced degree and 31% speak more than one language.

Standard Reports:
Academic Reports

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

Current enrollment stands at 192. EC is serving 22 scholars with 3 in progress and EL is serving 45 scholars.

Eric Rowe – Instructional Technologist Tech Stewardship

Mr. Rowe spoke about the creation of the MakerSpace (STEAM Lab) - creating a collaborative workspace.

Staff and Scholar Technology Check-in - scholar technology has been returned. Teachers and support staff will submit devices for check in and inventory on June 17.

Scholar Technology Recommendations - the teachers were surveyed, and the consensus was for scholar technology to remain on campus in the classroom. We will outline a process for checking out the technology for each classroom and the teachers will manage that process.

Mrs. Mitchell moved for GSA to resume completely in person without the necessity for one-to-one devices to go home with a second by Dr. Allen. Motion carries unanimously.

Once we have a reset, Dr. Baldwin will bring back to the Board a conversation regarding fees for damage.

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

Ms. Curry gave a brief update on the fundraising tracker. The ESSER II and III and IDEA 060 were all approved, and funding received for ESSER II and III.

We will start the Consolidated App shortly. We look forward to submitting the Technology grant again.

The newsletter is coming out each month and we are getting good readership. Ms. Curry encouraged Board members to share a brief reflection on their time on the Board with GSA.

Jamie Nobles – Accountant Financial Reports

Mr. Smith - Financial Committee met last Tuesday and the information presented tonight is reflective of information discussed at the meeting.

Ms. Jamie Nobles presented the Topline Tracker through May 31, 2021. Revenue is coming in as expected. We have received all State and County funding. Last allotment of 21st Century grant received in June.

Total revenue at the end of May \$3,089,680. Spending slightly under what we have planned. Total expenditures at the end of May \$3,078,452.

Tabitha Funding earmarked for salary has been moved into the operating account to offset that as all of our expenditures are coming out of the operating account. Total cash balance: \$697,162.

ESSER II and III funds were awarded. Some additional funding will come in as well.

The finance office is preparing for the fiscal year end close out. The Financial audit with Rebekah Barr will be held in August.

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

Old Business:

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

Ms. Noble gave an update on the lottery for the 2021-2022 school year. She shared updates since the slide deck was submitted. Kinder has 23 with other spots holding for potential retentions. 2nd has 24 with additional spot offered. 4th grade now has 22 enrolled with no waitlist. 6th has 24 with additional spot offered. This time of year, we hear from a few families that they are moving and a few more spots opened. As soon as they open, we offer the spot to the next child on the waitlist.

New Business:

Mrs. Dorothy Mitchell – School Board Member

Board Elections

Mrs. Mitchell offered up the roles of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer and moved to offer the slate of officers as Dr. Johnson for Chair, Mr. Smith for Treasurer, and Dr. Allen for Secretary.

Mr. Smith offered up Mrs. Mitchell as Vice Chair. Mrs. Mitchell amended her motion to include Mr. Smith's recommendation with a second by Dr. White. Motion carries. Terms begin July 1 for one year.

Two Board member seats will be up for election in August.

Mrs. Mitchell moved to re-elect Ms. Tammie Hall for a 3-year term, second by Mr. Smith. Motion carries.

GSA has honorary Board memberships and Board emeritus seats available as well.

Mrs. LaKeisha Thomas – Counselor - Grades 5-8 8th Grade Scholar High School Decisions

Mrs. Thomas shared 8th grade scholar high school decisions for next year. There are 18 scholars in 8th grade. Ten will be attending Durham Public Schools, 3 are undecided, 1 will be attending a private school, 2 will attend Early College, and 1 will attend a college prep school.

Decisions include Woodberry Forest, Josephine Dobbs Clement Early College, Cristo Rey Research Triangle High School, Southern, Hillside, Northern, Riverside, and South Granville.

Looking Forward

Save the Date! Upcoming Dates given.

Intersession Camps are underway. Open House for the 2021-2022 School Year will be July 17. The next BOD meeting is August 17.

Dr. Baldwin thanked the staff for all their work during this hard year. The Board thanked all the staff for the hard work they have done this school year. Celebrate small victories!

Adjournment for Closed Session:

A motion was made by Mr. 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) at 6:53 p.m. with a second by Mrs. Mitchell.

Open Session:

A motion was made to go back into Open Session by Mr. Smith at 7:45 p.m. with a second by Mrs. Mitchell.

Adjournment

Mr. Smith made a motion for the Board meeting to adjourn with a second by Dr. White. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.