



GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

HOME OF THE BLAZERS

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 27, 2017

Board Members Present: Patty Baucom, Jeff Bullock, Eddie Burch, Brian Dentler, Keith King, John Short, Donna Smith, Pauline Sternick

Absent: Tony Kouskolekas, John Mansure, Ryan Summey

AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Eddie Burch at 6:26 PM.
2. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve agenda: Patty Baucom
2nd: John Short
Vote: unanimous
3. Approval of February 27, 2017 Minutes
Motion to approve February 27 minutes: Donna Smith
2nd: Patty Baucom
Vote: unanimous
4. Public Comments - none
5. Administrative and Committee Reports
 - a. Principal Report and Blazer Minute (see below)
Mr. Armstrong will follow up on our request to terminate portable leases.
Budget draft will be presented to Finance Committee in mid-April and be present to Board at April board meeting.
Two expenditures: Bus repair ~\$14-15,000.
Two switches sent out during hail storm. ~\$2500 to repair. Not covered by warranty.

Motion to approve FY18 School Calendar:

Shelley Bishop presented programs in which GMC Service Learning Center students participate. Juniors and Seniors may apply for Service Learning Center. They go out into the community to four elementary schools: Woodland, Taylors, Tigerville, and Brushy Creek. Over 500 Operation Christmas Child boxes delivered to Charlotte processing center. GMC students also went to help at the processing center. Blazer Blocks work together to fill boxes. Students can earn up to 10 service hours for OCC boxes. Over 800 books have been donated to Little Free Libraries in Needmore Center and Victor Park.. Allison Peterson spoke to Service Learning class about Multiple Sclerosis. Students are raising money for the MS Walk on April 1 and will also coach kids from Greenbrier Elementary at the Special Olympics on April 19 at Furman. GMC students visited Greenbrier on March 10 to “practice” events. Ms. Bishop presented list of tentative Senior Project Internships Business Partners for 2017-18. There are 7 new business partners this year. GMC Lady Blazer Soccer Team beat Christ Church Episcopal School for the first time ever.

b. Development Report (see below)

The 2 grants we were in the running for were denied. There are 2 more outstanding that we are waiting to hear from.

c. Chairman Report (see below)

- Board Group Picture on website – postponed until all members present.
- Board Recommendation regarding Principal Contract for FY17-18

Motion to accept Principal Contract recommendation:

2nd:

Vote: unanimous

d. Facilities Report (see below)

- Portables – waiting on Greenville County for OK.
- Mr. Armstrong is working on landscaping with parents. Matthew Praytor is getting a list of the minimum required for Certificate of Occupancy.
- Vernon is working on plan for water and sewer disconnects. The electrical disconnects have been arranged gratis.

e. Financial Report (Donna Smith)

- Accept February financial reports
- Draft of FY18 Annual Operating Budget due at April 24 board meeting

f. Academic Excellence Report – none

Action Item: Pauline will get revised timeline on principal review to Keith King.

g. Policy/Governance Report

- Board Nomination Period Date update

Motion to accept amended board election schedule: Patty Baucom

2nd: Donna Smith

Vote: unanimous

- Charter Revision has a May 1 deadline.

6. Upcoming Events:

April 6	Raise the Blaze Kickoff @ 9:00 AM
May 8	Awards Ceremony @ 6:00 PM (Praise Cathedral)
May 18	Senior Project Presentations
May 26	Graduation @ 10:00 AM

7. Executive Session to discuss contractual and personnel

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:20 PM: Donna Smith

2nd: Brian Dentler

Vote: unanimous

Return from Executive Session at 7:10 PM.

8. Board Action

Board Recommendation regarding Principal Contract for FY17-18

Motion to approve Principal 2 year contract package: Brian Dentler

2nd: Keith King

Vote: unanimous

9. Adjournment
10. Motion to adjourn at 7:13 PM: Donna Smith
2nd: Jeff Bullock
Vote: Unanimous

Next Board Meeting: April 24, 2017

Principal Report

- Met with Greenville Tech. officials to discuss per credit hour model and career pathways for GMC students on February 28.
- ACT was administered online to all juniors on February 28 at no cost provided by the SCDOE.
- GMC held a parent breakfast on March 1.
- Our Perkins/CATE equipment funds were received from GCSD on March 6.
- The junior ring ceremony took place at NGU on March 6.
- Admin. was invited by Greer Leadership as part of a forum discussion related to education issues at the new NGU Campus in Greer.
- Enrollment packets were given to current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students for the 17-18 school year.
- GMC's Mrs. Bishop, Ms. Earle, and Mr. Stone met with junior parents and students to discuss senior project internship and senior project course requirements for the 17-18 school year on March 7 and 8.
- ESOL testing occurred on March 14.
- Mr. Dillard and one of our educational support teachers met in Columbia with SCPCSD as part of our transition on March 14.
- Our student beam signing occurred on March 16.
- A letter was submitted to GCSD to be released from the portable lease effective June 30. We have not received a response.
- GMC completed requisition #9 on March 15 with BBT for construction costs.
- State report card surveys have been completed for junior students and parents.
- Our FY18 budget has been delayed one month to have a planning session with Brashier and Greenville Tech Charter principals based on a transition to the SCPCSD.
- GMC Spring Break was from March 17 (snow day) until March 24.
- GMC's calendar committee met two times over the month of March to submit a 17-18 school year draft to our Board.
- GCSD officials met with GMC admin. and staff members to discuss transition from GCSD to SCPCSD on March 27.
- GMC's 135th day took place on March 27. Our 135th day enrollment was between 438-439 students.

Development Report

- We have 431 students enrolled at GMC.
 - 9th- 112
 - 10th-113
 - 11th-108
 - 12th-98
- Waitlist
Freshmen Applications 123 waitlist
 - 2017/18 Waitlist
 - 10th-9
 - 11th-10
 - 12th-37
- The Raise the Blaze Campaign has 100% staff and steering committee participation with one board member pledge outstanding.
- The Steering Committee has \$182,315 committed in pledges to date with several large outstanding asks. We expect to be at over \$200k by the kickoff on April 6.
- Outstanding Grant Request for Raise the Blaze:
 - Greenville Women Giving-\$42,000 (Made it to voting stage.)
 - AT&T- \$52,000(Made it to final 4)
 - Steelcase Grant (\$65,000 in kind for furniture)
- The Steering Committee met 3/27 and assigned the next round of prospects.
- Raise the Blaze Public Kickoff will take place April 6th at 9am in the foyer area of the new building.
- GMC received a \$1,000 grant request from Walmart store #1244 to help with Senior Project Presentation Night.
- GMC has been selected for a \$2,500 grant from Walmart store #2328 to be divided between:
 - Art Club and Class: \$500
 - Student Government:\$500
 - Student Ambassadors: \$500
 - Digital Media Club:\$250
 - Yearbook: \$250
 - GMC Writing Center: \$500
- I attended the SCANPO (South Carolina Association of Non-Profit Organization) Annual Conference in Columbia from March 6-8th.

Chair Report

*February 28 - GMC Construction Meeting

*March 14 - GMC Construction Meeting

*March 27 - GMC Fund Raising Steering Committee Meeting

Facilities Report

Committee: Vernon Rutland (chair), Eddie Burch, John Mansure, Tony K, Pauline Sternick

Portable update

- We have notified Greenville County in reference to ending the portable lease.
- Langford electric has been contracted to disconnect the electrical boxes from each portable to make them ready for transport. They have agreed to do the work pro bono. They have also agreed to let use one of their enclosed 48ft trailers for temporary storage.
- We are discussing plumbing demo with Gary Black, from triangle construction, for suggestions on removal. Triangle will also ensure that the abandoned sewer is properly capped.
- We have also notified Forest Brothers, out of Saluda, about moving the portables. We gave them May 25 as a start date.

- 4 of the portables belong to GMC and we are looking to auction/sell them.

Propane or natural gas

We currently use natural gas for the science labs. Vernon and Eddie are still working with CPW to determine what needs to be done to get natural gas tap for the new site. Not necessarily needed now but will definitely be needed when Gym is built. Tap Cost is the big hurdle at this time. (Looking at ways to get around that cost)

Target Dates

4/6/17 – Raise the Blaze – Major Gift Kickoff
5/8/17 – Elevator Installation
5/25 - 6/3/17 – Portable Classroom Extraction Begins
6/23/17 – Portable Classroom Extraction Complete
6/26/17 – Grading at Upper Level
8/10/ or 8/14/17 – First Day of School

Financial Report

February Highlights:

- Cash Balance \$4.73 M, including Construction Account \$2.7M
- Monthly income exceeds expenses by \$54,358

February Revenue

- The updated Base funding amount of \$290,642 was received again in February
- The Base funding amount will be updated again after the 135 day count

Policy/Governance Report

Recommendation to amend board election schedule as follows:

- On Friday, March 31 notice for Board election nominations and the form to complete will be announced in the Blazer News and posted to the GMC website. (two weeks past the original timeline)
- Nomination forms will be accepted until Friday, April 14 at 12 noon. (Meaning nominations would be accepted for two full weeks instead of four.)
- A sample ballot could then be published on the school website by 3pm **on April 15** and sent out the following Friday in Blazer News (April 21) and could include the voting information.
- A meet and greet could then still be held on Monday, April 24 from 5 to 5:30pm before the scheduled Board meeting. But since we changed the meeting time I suggest we start at 5:30 and take the first 15 minutes or so to introduce the folks seeking a board seat.
- Then we could be back on track and hold the election on Monday, May 1.