



# GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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## HOME OF THE BLAZERS

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 29, 2016

Board Members Present: Patty Baucom, Jeff Bullock, Eddie Burch, Keith King, Tony Kouskolekas, John Mansure, John Short, Donna Smith, Pauline Sternick, Ryan Summey  
Absent: Brian Dentler

The following board members were sworn in for their new terms: Eddie Burch, Tony Kouskolekas, Donna Smith, and Pauline Sternick

1. Call to Order by Eddie Burch at 6:10 PM.
2. Approval of Agenda  
Motion to approve agenda: Keith King  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ryan Summey  
Vote: unanimous
3. Approval of July 25, 2016 Minutes  
Motion to approve July 25, 2016 minutes: Patty Baucom  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Jeff Bullock  
Vote: unanimous
4. Public Comments - none
5. South Carolina Public Charter School District Presentation (Elliott Smalley, District Superintendent; Bobby Rykard, Director of Performance Management, Catherine Watt, Director of New Schools, Vamshi Rudrapati, Director of Federal Programs)

Elliott Smalley outlined SC Public Charter School District priorities.

1. Authorizing great schools
2. Making sure children have equity and access to a good education
3. Know how to grow the schools that work
4. Accountability for models that are not doing well
  - Dream Gap – 83% of SC kids said they want to attend post-secondary education but only 14% are college ready on the ACT in SC
  - Willing to grow excellent schools.
  - PPF Revenue is \$700 more per student than GCSD.

Catherine Watt, Director of New Schools, is happy to answer any questions and direct us to appropriate district personnel for additional input.

Bobby Rykard, Director of Performance Management, remarked on our great test scores, noted increase of ppf is the unweighted amount so amount would increase even more with weightings, reiterated the District wants high-performing schools to grow and is supportive of that growth.

Mr. V (Vamshi Rudrapati), Director of Federal Programs, says SCPCSD Federal Programs is the best in the state!

Discussion of down sides – adjustment due to agreements with local district, administrative element of transition from local district to statewide, depending on proviso year to year rather than ppf in local district where base student funding is supplemented locally by property taxes, etc.

5. Administrative and Committee Reports

a. Principal Report and Blazer Minute (see below)

We expect an unqualified report from our audit.

b. Development Report (see below)

Change in wait list for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> is due to students who were chosen in lottery or transferring in deciding to pursue other options. “Raise the Blaze” is the theme for MGI which will kick off in January. Enrollment lottery will take place in November concurrent with Brashier and Greenville Tech Charter.

c. Chairman Report (see below)

d. Facilities Report (see below)

Motion from committee to use FY16 Transition Funds (~\$274,000) for completion of Wing 1\* (\$217,000) and 3 Science Labs (\$50,000-\$60,000)

*\*Wing 1 -\$ 205,500 + 6% change order is \$217,000*

*These prices are not good any longer but like they are probably not far off.*

Vote: Unanimous

Motion from committee to make Wing 2 (\$229,019) be the first priority for the MGI and that the remainder of the list, Learning Commons Area, Senior Project Room, Senior Project Internship Room, Technology Room, be completed next.

Vote: unanimous

Motion from committee to ask the students to consider using Spirit Week fundraiser to complete Outdoor Commons area\* and/or do Senior Project(s) to design Outdoor Commons Area\*.

Vote: unanimous

e. Financial Report (see below)

Motion to accept July Financials: John Mansure

2<sup>nd</sup>: Ryan Summey

Vote: unanimous

f. Policy/Governance Report

Motion from committee to recommend the proposed Gift Acceptance Policy and Naming Guidelines Policy pending attorney review and changes for First Reading

Vote: unanimous

2016-2017 Committee Assignments

<b>Executive</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>Finance</b>	<b>Governance/Policy</b>
Eddie Burch (Chair)	<b>Vernon Rutland</b>	<b>Donna Smith</b>	<b>Patty Baucom</b>
John Mansure (Vice-Chair)	Eddie Burch	Patty Baucom	Jeff Bullock
Donna Smith (Treasurer)	Tony Kouskolekas	Brian Dentler	Brian Dentler
Pauline Sternick (Secretary)	John Mansure	Keith King	Keith King
	Pauline Sternick	Pauline Sternick	John Short
	Ryan Summey	Paul Barnard	Pauline Sternick

<b>Academic Excellence</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Personnel (ad hoc)</b>	<b>Appeals (ad hoc)</b>
<b>Keith King</b>	<b>Ryan Summey</b>	<b>John Mansure</b>	<b>Tony Kouskolekas</b>
Patty Baucom	Jeff Bullock	Patty Baucom	Jeff Bullock
Jeff Bullock	John Short	Eddie Burch	Keith King
John Short	Donna Smith	Tony Kouskolekas	John Mansure
Pauline Sternick	Pauline Sternick		Donna Smith
	Heather Wyss		

6. Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss contractual matters relating to possibility of moving to SC Public Charter School District: Patty Baucom  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tony Kouskolekas  
 Vote: Unanimous  
 Entered Executive Session at 7:10 PM.  
 Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:30 PM: Tony Kouskolekas  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Mansure  
 Returned from Executive Session at 7:30 PM.
7. Board Professional Development – Nov. 15-17, 2016 PCSASC Annual Conference, Columbia
8. Adjournment  
 Motion to adjourn: Eddie Burch  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Patty Baucom  
 Vote: Unanimous

**Next Board Meeting: September 26, 2016**  
*Minutes as submitted August 29, 2016 pds*

## **Principal Report**

- GMC has made requisition #2 of \$274,465.78. That should be reflected in the August finance report and will come from the BB&T loan.
- Our new GMC teachers came to our “Welcome Wagon” event on August 4. This is GMC’s version of new teacher orientation.
- GMC teachers reported for their first day on August 8. Students’ first day was August 11.
- Portable B10 internet and fire alarm was installed on August 11.
- Strange Brothers and Triangle have made great progress. The retention pond is in place. Most of the precast storm drainage is in place. The current sewer and fiber optic lines have been moved. A tremendous amount of digging has occurred over the last couple of weeks.
- We met with representatives from the SC Public Charter School District on August 16 along with Brashier Middle College representatives.
- Our “In the Field” audit occurred between August 22-24. We expect an unqualified report.
- The representative from the Winkler Group was at GMC August 23-25 to start the process for a major gifts campaign.
- GMC had a major water leak between the café and B5 on August 23. Thanks to Triangle Construction for expediting a solution to the leak.
- We had an issue with our main teacher copier; however, that issue was corrected with our vendor.
- Parking-We continue to work with Greenville Tech in finding a solution to their parking concerns. We have moved senior students to the W. McElhaney side of our campus. We have moved our buses to where B10 used to be. We have frozen the issuance of student parking permits until we see the effects of our efforts. We hope this has opened parking spaces in the lower parking area which should open spaces in the upper parking area.
- GMC has completed the transition to BB&T for PIP and Operating accounts.
- Our Fall sports (cross country, swimming, volleyball, girls’ golf, and fishing) have started or will start within the next 2 weeks.
- GMC English teacher, Megan Schonhar, accepted her Top 10 award from GCSD as a finalist for teacher of the year on August 11.
- Also, Ms. Schonhar received full funding for 5 Chromebooks through Donors Choose.
- Our teachers are developing their student learning objectives to reflect long range goals and student data.
- GMC Class of ’16 graduates had the 8<sup>th</sup> highest ACT composite score (22.3) among all high schools in South Carolina. That composite score is the highest among all high schools in Greenville County.

## **August 2016 Development Report**

- We have 443 students enrolled at GMC.

### Current Enrollment

9th -114

10th -117

11th -111

12-101

### Waitlist

9th -0

10th -0

11th -36

12th -13

- We had a significant number of students decide the first and second week of August not to return to GMC. You will see this reflected in our waitlist number for 9th and 10th grade.
- We have implemented a new fundraising policy for the school year to help diversify our income. Athletics has been very successful in selling sponsorship and has secured over \$5,000 in sponsorship dollars so far this year.
- In response to the change in fundraising policy PIP upped its grant budget to support clubs and organization as well as classroom need from \$1500 to \$3,500.
- PIP has implemented a new lunch program that allows students to order up until 8am every day. This is a change from having to order a month at a time last year. We have received great feedback so far, and had only a few user errors.
- Fall 4 GMC has been rebranded to the Trailer Park Trot. The Trailer Park Trot will take place on the campus of Greer Middle College Charter High School. It will be a Halloween themed carnival event with an obstacle course/trail run through the campus of GMC including food and activities for all.
- The consultant from the Winkler Group was here three days this week to work on what we are calling the Raise the Blaze Initiative. Based on our findings with the Planning Study, they are confident that we raise \$400,000 to enable us to complete all four wings of the new building. Our current work has focused on identifying and beginning to recruit the volunteer leadership. We have created a gift chart and begun to identify potential donors at varying levels. Additionally, we are refining the case statement with the priorities approved by the board and interviewing alumni to add a personal touch to our campaign. Also we are creating the formal proposal for Mr. Armstrong to present to a potential major donor to GMC.
- Open enrollment for incoming freshmen for the 2017-2018 school year will take place September 26-November 4. Our information night will be September 26th at Praise Cathedral beginning at 6pm. We have issued press releases and placed yard signs and advertised in several local papers. Tours will begin in September.

## **Chairman's Report - August 2016**

\*August 02 - GMC Construction Meeting

\*August 16 - 1) GMC Construction Meeting

2) State Charter Meeting @ Brashier campus

\*August 18 - Joint meeting of facilities & finance committees

\*August 24 - Governance committee meeting

## **Facilities Committee Report**

Members: Vernon Rutland (Chairman), Eddie Burch, John Mansure, Ryan Summey, Tony K, Pauline Sternick

The facilities/Finance committee held a joint meeting on 8/18/16 to discuss a priority list for construction using Transition funds and MGI funds. The following motions are being brought to the full board for a vote as a result of that meeting:

- Motion to use FY16 Transition Funds (~\$274,000) for completion of Wing 1\* (\$217,000) and 3 Science Labs (\$50,000-\$60,000)

*\*Wing 1 -\$ 205,500 + 6% change order is \$217,000*

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- Motion to make Wing 2 (\$229,019) be the first priority for the MGI and that the remainder of the list, Learning Commons Area, Senior Project Room, Senior Project Internship Room, Technology Room, be completed next
- Motion to ask the students to consider using Spirit Week fundraiser to complete Outdoor Commons area\* and/or do Senior Project(s) to design Outdoor Commons Area\*.

*\*see attached plans for size and dimensions of the patios. The patios are included in the current plan and will be poured with building pad.*

Other misc info:

- A construction camera will be installed soon for security purposes as well as time lapse video progress to use for future Fund raising campaign
- All construction traffic will use back entrance
- Interior Color schemes to be presented soon

## **July Financial Report Highlights:**

- Cash Balance: \$8.59M , including construction account of \$6.42M
- Monthly Income exceeds expenses by \$78,319
- Construction costs are included under the Facilities sections (Line Item 254). The costs for the month were \$22,708.

Revenue

- Base funding of \$240,606 is under budget by \$11,862. This is based on the FY 16 135 day headcount. The district should update for the new WPU in January.
  - IDEA funds of \$47,861 were also received.

McKay Kiddy said we may want to talk about how you want to present your financials now that we have the bond on the books and consider some changes for August. Because the bond closed on 6/30, bond proceeds were all  
138 W. McElhaney Rd. Taylors, SC 29687 Phone: 864.469.7571 Fax: 864.469.7573 [www.greermiddlecollege.org](http://www.greermiddlecollege.org)

recognized on 6/30/16 as revenue. This is skewing your budget to actual for the current year pretty significantly. We may want to adjust your budget, or depending on the bond reporting requirements, shift the basis of reporting to government-wide basis which is more like GAAP. In either case you may want to revise your budget.

### **Governance/Policy Committee Report:**

Members Present: Patty Baucom (Chair), Brian Dentler, Keith King, John Short, Pauline Sternick

Others Present: Jimmy Armstrong, Eddie Burch

The committee held a meeting on 8/24/2016 to discuss the following:

1) Proposed Naming and Gift Acceptance Policies

Motion to recommend the proposed Gift Acceptance Policy and Naming Guidelines Policy to full board pending attorney review and changes: Pauline Sternick

2nd: Eddie Burch

Vote: unanimous

Procedures for cash donations should be covered in financial policies. Naming policy has provision in case a donor falls into disrepute in the future.

**Action Item:** Review Financial Policies for cash donation procedure. Change Board of Trustees to Board of Directors.

**Action Item:** Follow up with attorney on changes to policies.

2) Shared information learned at recent meeting with two representatives from the South Carolina Public Charter School District (SCPCSD); discussed the differences and similarities between the Greenville County School District (GCSD) and the SCPCSD; mentioned the presentation before the full Board at the meeting on Monday 8/29/16 and how a recommendation could be forthcoming afterwards.

**Action Item:** Mr. Armstrong will send a note to the GCSD to highlight the significant contributions of GMCCHS.

3) Briefly discussed the duties/expectations of the Governance/Policy Committee, the need to update the school charter and bylaws. Pauline will share the necessary documents via Google Doc and we will all begin to make changes where necessary

4) Discussed need for another committee meeting sometime in September. Date/Time/Location will be forthcoming.