



Greer Middle College Charter High School Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes

Monday, January 26, 2015
Greenville Technical College - Greer Campus

Attending (checked):

X	Eddie Burch	X	Russell Christopher	X	Ted Hoffman	X	Tony Kouskolekas
X	Connie Lanzl	X	John Mansure	X	Vernon Rutland	X	Darin Scheidly
X	Donna Smith						
X	David Atchley	X	Jimmy Armstrong	X	Melanie Bargar		James Dillard

January 26, 2015 Minutes

Call to Order

Time: 6:07

Blazer Minute

Jimmy recognized Micah Williams, who was not able to attend the meeting because of his involvement in the Mr. GMC pageant. Micah, a cross country runner on GMC's state championship team, was previously named all-region and all-state. Recently, Micah entered the USA Track and Field Junior Olympics competition in Myrtle Beach and finished in the top eight, and because of his finish in the top eight, was named an All-American and the Gatorade South Carolina State Runner of the Year. Such national and state accolades are extraordinary for a school our size. Congratulations, Micah, and thank you for bringing such wonderful recognition to GMC!

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Russell Christopher / 2nd: John Mansure

Vote: All approved / 0 opposed

Public Comments

Alison Peterson, Sylvia Axmann, Katie Fowler, Beth McMeekin, Pauline Sternick

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (December 12, 2014)

Motion to approve: Darin Scheidly / 2nd: Eddie Burch

Vote: All approved / 0 opposed

Administrative and Committee Reports

- **Executive Director David Atchley**

David presented an update on the capital campaign and gave a detailed report to the Board to be reviewed in Executive Session. The campaign is pretty much on track and hit the first two major milestones. David stressed that we have one shot at launching this campaign successfully, and that we will need to maintain positive energy and momentum.

- **Principal** **Jimmy Armstrong**
(See attached report)
 - There will be a third party IT audit and Jimmy will present the report to the Board in February.

- **Development** **Melanie Bargar**
(See attached report)
 - To date there are 124 student application for GMC for next year. This is a lower number at this date than in the last several years.
 - Arts Intersession went very well. One artist was so impressed with the school and the students that the artist is now offering art classes on Wednesday afternoons. The program affords very positive public relations for GMC.
 - The brochures for the Capital Campaign are printed and in Melanie's office.
 - Melanie has been contacted by several members of the media concerning anonymous emails that they have received that paint the school in a negative light. They indicated that they were not publishing them.
 - Melanie showed an almost completed video created by Travis Runyon that included testimonials from students, teachers, and parents.
 - Spirit Week is going on this week versus Brashier, and the students are more than halfway toward their goal. Melanie circulated a donation basket among Board members and the attendees to help the cause.

- **Chairman** **Vernon Rutland**
None

- **Finance** **Ted Hoffman**
(Report provided for Board; PowerPoint slides presented as a report at the end of the minutes)
 - Ted provided a PowerPoint presentation concerning the status of the EFA funding. Changes include
 - Reclassifying "gifted and talented" as "high achieving"
 - See Jan 1 changes
 - At this point the \$600K that would result from this year's budget will help pay for the debt service for the facilities
 - The estimate is that a \$5M bond will be required for the facilities
 - In FY16 the amount per students will probably not increase by the same percentage as weighting factors may decrease. The budget for next year will take the projected amount into account.
 - We are financially on track. \$278K per month is likely to continue.
 - Ground Lease status:
 - Bill Tripp of Greenville Tech has our list of questions but we are waiting for the actual lease.

- **Facilities** **Vernon Rutland**
(See report)
We are waiting on the county for permits, information on retention ponds etc., but we are working diligently to try to complete it.

- **Governance** **Darin Scheidly**
(See report, distributed at meeting)

- One open position on board was posted on 1/14/15. All applications must be in by noon, Friday, January 30, and the election will be held on February 10. Each family has one vote. If time permits, there will be a meet and greet for the candidates.
 - A second position became open on January 22 and will be posted as soon as possible. Anyone seeking to run who also applied in the previous open position must again submit an application.
 - Three candidates have applied for the Board position to date.
 - Applications for the permanent position of Principal/Executive Director are being sought. The Personnel Committee is reviewing all applications, which are due by the end of February. The objective is to conduct interviews in March and make the decision by the end of March. The position of Assistant Principal is also being sought. The committee needs a parent representative, and an email will be distributed to parents inviting them to apply.
- **Appeals** **Tony Kouskolekas**
One item will be discussed in Executive Session.

Old Business

- **Vote on facility plans presented in December**
A discussion of the plan raised some questions concerning the student size to be accommodated, the amount of debt service, and the current proposed costs of \$11M. The capital campaign is not expected to raise that entire amount. The original expectation was to raise \$5M through the capital campaign and \$5M through a bond. Some discussion involved the gymnasium, \$3.5M, and whether this was a flexible part of the plan in terms of timing or inclusion. Because of unresolved questions, the Board asked the decision to approve the facilities was referred back to the Facilities Committee and they were asked to return with a recommendation.

New Business

- **Board Vacancies, Personnel Committee Chair**
 - Russell Christopher has accepted the position of Personnel Committee Chair.
 - Board vacancies were discussed in the Personnel Committee Report above.
- **Election of new Board Chair**
Motion to elect Vernon Rutland as Board Chair: Eddie Burch / 2nd: John Mansure
No additional nominations
Roll call vote: 8 yes, 1 abstention (Lanzl)
- **Election of Vice Chair**
Motion to elect John Mansure as Vice Chair: Vernon Rutland / 2nd: Donna Smith
No additional nominations
Roll call: 8 yes, 1 abstention (Mansure)
- **Board Calendar**
No additions.

Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appeals matter:

Vernon Rutland / 2nd: John Mansure

Vote: All approved / 0 opposed

Time: 7:29

Motion to exit Executive Session: Vernon Rutland / 2nd: Eddie Burch

Vote: All approved / 0 opposed

Time: 8:36

Motion to approve current organizational chart modified on December 15:

Tony Kouskolekas / 2nd: John Mansure

Vote: 8 no / 1 yes (Hoffman)

Motion to change organization chart to reflect that the Executive Director position is not an employee of GMC but is a contractor, connected to the Board by a dotted line on the organization chart: Tony Kouskolekas / 2nd: John Mansure

Vote: 6 yes (Burch, Mansure, Kouskolekas, Rutland, Scheidly, Smith) / 2 No (Christopher, Lanzl) / 1 Abstention (Hoffman)

Motion to accept Ms. Cowdrey's proposal B with the specified changes: Tony Kouskolekas / 2nd: John Mansure

Vote: All approved / 0 opposed

Motion to Adjourn: John Mansure / 2nd Eddie Burch

Time: 8:50

Remaining Board Meeting Dates: February 23, March 23, April 27, May 18, June 22