



# GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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## HOME OF THE BLAZERS

### **Board of Directors Minutes January 24, 2022**

Members Present: Donna Smith, Pauline Nichol, Tony Kouskolekas, Jennifer Jones, Elliott Figueroa, Matt Williams, Justin Ross, Lori Larsen, Darin Scheidly

Administration Present: Jimmy Armstrong, James Dillard, David Gantt

Members Absent: John Mansure, John Short

1. The meeting was called to order by Donna Smith, Chair at 5:32 PM.
2. There were no public speakers who desired to address the board.
3. Reading of the GMC Mission Statement: Pauline Nichol.
4. Mr. Armstrong announced that the Blazer Brag for January would be presented at the February meeting.
5. The board reviewed the proposed agenda for the meeting. Darin Scheidly made a motion to approve the agenda. Matt Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
6. The board reviewed the meeting minutes from the November 22, 2021, regular board meeting. Elliot Figueroa made a motion to approve the minutes. Matt Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Administrative and Committee Reports:
  - a) Administration Report – Jimmy Armstrong presented the report:
    - i. January is School Board Appreciation month. Mr. Armstrong thanked the board members for their service.
    - ii. Mr. Dillard and Ms. McCraw attended the state Charter School Alliance conference where they made a presentation regarding school goal setting and team building.
    - iii. The GMC Student Ambassadors adopted four families and eleven children for Christmas. The group collected over 300 items and \$1,000 in gift cards for the families.
    - iv. The school held its first-ever winter band concert.
    - v. The school held its Eduscape back-to-school transition seminars on January 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. We also held a student Career Day on January 6<sup>th</sup> where the students learned about college requirements and career opportunities.
    - vi. The school has created an Algebra I Strategies program and has identified several students who need additional assistance with Algebra I. The school is utilizing federal funding to provide the additional academic assistance.
    - vii. The school has a charter renewal conference with the state district on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The district charter renewal meeting is scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup>.
    - viii. Spirit Week started today. It was delayed due to the inclement weather. The week culminates at the basketball game on Friday where the school will debut the GMC Pep Band and the GMC fight song.
    - ix. Regarding enrollment, the school offered 125 slots for the incoming freshman class. Of the 125 slots, 103 applicants have submitted enrollment packages. Freshman Intake Day is March 12<sup>th</sup>. We expect all freshman intake packages to be submitted by March 12<sup>th</sup>. Current student waitlist is 133 students.

- x. Regarding Development, the fundraising campaign goal for a digital piano for Arts Department was met. The GMC Donors Campaign has received \$19,000 in pledges. Board members had a 100% giving participation rate. PIP hosted a teacher luncheon in December and provided the refreshments for Board Appreciation Month.
  - xi. Darrin Scheidly asked whether the Algebra I Strategies program would be offered in the future. Mr. Armstrong said that the school would continue the program if it was needed. Mr. Armstrong anticipates continuing issues regarding math deficiencies arising from online instruction arising from COVID lockdowns.
  - xii. Tony Kouskolekas asked about the quality of the basketball program regarding revenue generation. Mr. Armstrong stated that both programs had become more competitive under the current coaches with the addition of the gym. He also stated that several students had applied to attend GMC based upon their desire to play here. Most of the applicants were admitted through the lottery program, which is a limit to our ability to attract athletes.
- b) Executive Committee Report- No report was presented at this time.
- c) Finance Committee- Elliot Figueroa presented the report:
- i. Mr. Figueroa gave a synopsis of the school's end-of-month financial condition as of September 2021:
    - i. Current cash balance is \$2.6 million. Current school equity is \$15.5 million.
    - ii. Monthly revenues for the school were \$146,000.
    - iii. Net monthly revenues were negative for the month because the school was awaiting reimbursement from various federal programs for spending that had been approved. These expenditures were a part of the ESSER COVID relief funding.
- d) Facilities Committee- Jimmy Armstrong presented the report.
- i. Mr. Armstrong stated that the school had incurred some additional maintenance costs because of the constant running of the HVAC fans for air circulation and for UV-C radiation system in the air handlers.
  - ii. COVID cases had dropped to 1-2 active cases with about 20 quarantines since returning from winter break.
  - iii. Jennifer Jones asked whether the school had received any complaints about the school's COVID protocols. Mr. Armstrong stated that he had received one or two inquiries/complaints about the school's policies, but not a significant number of complaints.
- e) Policy & Governance Committee- No report was presented.
- f) Academic Excellence Committee – No report was presented.

## 8. New Business

- a. Elliott Figueroa inquired about the status of obtaining land for athletic fields. Mr. Figueroa stated that some of the practice fields currently being used were not lighted. Mr. Armstrong stated that there had been no movement from GTC regarding the property request. Donna Smith stated that the board was looking at other property in the area for the fields.
- b. Donna Smith asked Mr. Armstrong what the school's most important need is currently. Mr. Armstrong stated that an automated mobile stage and lighting system for the Activity Center was the most pressing need. The system would enhance the school's ability to provide more student activities and presentations.
- c. Jennifer Jones asked about the school's course catalog and whether the school had offered any new courses. Mr. Armstrong stated that some new course offerings had been included in the catalog and that the school was waiting to see how many students signed up for the new offerings to determine whether a specific course would be offered.

- d. Darin Scheidly asked whether school was considering cancelling or postponing any school functions because of the COVID Omicron surge. Mr. Armstrong stated that all regular and extracurricular activities were on schedule and in-person and would stay that way unless something unforeseen occurred in the interim.
9. Tony Kouskolekos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.
10. Next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for **March 28, 2022 at 5:30 pm.**

## Addendums



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### Principal Report 1-24-2022

- January is School Board Appreciation Month. Thank you for your continued service to our school!
- Members of GMC admin. attended the SC Charter Alliance Conference Nov. 29-Dec.1. Mr. Dillard and Ms. McCraw presented on Leadership Team goal setting and implementation.
- Ms. McCraw attended state level SPED training on Dec. 3.
- GTC exams were held Dec. 7-13.
- Student Ambassadors, under the facilitation of Ms. Schonhar, led the effort to solicit items and gift cards for 4 families with 11 children. Over 300 items and over \$1000 in gift cards were donated for this effort.
- GMC exams were held Dec. 13-16. Dec. 17 was an exam make-up day.
- During our exam week, GMC admin. members circulated throughout our building providing comfort drink and food to our faculty and staff.
- On Dec. 14, the SCPCSD rebranded to include a silhouette of SC and the edges of the state signifying a vision and set of beliefs.
- On Dec. 16, our fine arts department performed our first ever Winter Showcase. Mr. Rainey, Ms. Manwaring, and students are to be commended for their performance and interaction with the audience.
- EDUscape took place on Jan. 4 and 5 and Career Day took place on Jan. 6.
- On Jan. 12, Mr. Sherman, superintendent of High Point Charter, visited and toured our school.
- Mr. Dillard, Ms. Furr, and Ms. Looper identified students that are struggling in Algebra I. Most of those students and parents agreed to enroll in another block of Algebra I strategies to help with their successful completion of a math unit.
- Mr. Gantt and Mr. Roman are continuing their inventory of CTE equipment at GMC.
- Our Academic Leadership Team continues professional development focusing on pacing and questioning students as formal observations also continue second semester.
- Inclement weather took its toll on GMC in person schedule the week of Jan. 18-21. We used eLearning as part of our instructional days 18-21. Jan. 18-21 do not have to be made up.
- On Jan. 19, members of the SCPCSD met virtually with GMC admin. as part of our charter renewal. Everything went well. The next SCPCSD Board meeting is set for Feb. 10. We expect our charter to be renewed on Feb. 10.
- GMC Spirit Week is Jan. 24-28 with lots of activities scheduled for the week culminating with our basketball game on Friday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> against Landrum.
- Our basketball teams are in region play. We started jv girls and jv boys basketball teams this school year.