



GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL HOME OF THE BLAZERS

Board of Directors Minutes September 21, 2021

Members Present: Donna Smith, John Mansure, Pauline Nichol, Tony Kouskolekas, Jennifer Jones, Elliott Figueroa, Hannah Mahaffey

Administration Present: Jimmy Armstrong, Anne Goff, David Gantt

Members Absent: John Short, Matt Williams, Darin Scheidly

1. The meeting was called to order by Donna Smith, Chair at 5:32 PM.
2. Public Speakers: The board received comments from the following persons:
 - a. Sarah Magg addressed the board concerning the school's policies on COVID, PCR testing and quarantining.
 - b. Jeffrey Magg addressed the board concerning the school's policies on COVID and vaccinations.
3. Reading of the GMC Mission Statement: Pauline Nichol
4. The board reviewed the proposed meeting agenda. Pauline Nichol moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Elliot Figueroa. Motion passed unanimously.
5. The board reviewed the meeting minutes from the August 31, 2021, regular board meeting. Pauline Nichol made a motion to approve minutes. Jennifer Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Administrative and Committee Reports:
 - a) Administration Report – Jimmy Armstrong presented the report:
 - i. The Academic Leadership Team started teacher observations during the month.
 - ii. The Leadership team has been reviewing and modifying the school's Mission Statement. Once the draft is completed, the proposed modifications will be presented to the board and the parents.
 - iii. The school's faculty and staff received training for the new Title IX regulations promulgated by the U.S. Department of Education on September 10th.
 - iv. The school's current enrollment is 509. Two students are transferring out-of-state soon. With the transfers, school enrollment will still exceed the budget enrollment count of 500.
 - v. Incoming Freshmen Information Night is September 27th for 8th grade parents. The school has printed yard signs about the school's upcoming application lottery. The school has contacted several local organizations who have disseminated lottery information. Mr. Armstrong encouraged all board members to put out yard signs. The school also ran an article in Greer Gazette promoting the Freshmen Application Lottery.
 - vi. The Blazer BBQ fundraiser is scheduled for October 15th.
 - vii. PIP gave \$500 to band for sheet music and \$350 for books for the leadership class.
 - viii. PIP is working on meeting their budget goals for October.
 - ix. Jennifer Jones asked about the implementation of the Scribbles software for the lottery application. Mr. Armstrong stated that the school is using Scribbles for the entire lottery process.
 - x. Tony Kouskolekas asked about the need to revise the school's mission statement. Mr. Armstrong replied that after 12 years of school operation, it was time to review and revise as

part of the charter renewal. Mr. Armstrong discussed the process involved in revising the statement and how it was facilitated.

- b) Executive Committee Report- No report was presented at this time.
- c) Finance Committee- John Mansure presented the report:
 - i. Mr. Mansure gave a synopsis of the school's end-of-month financial condition as of August 2021:
 - i. Current cash balance is \$2.5 million. Current school equity is \$15.8 million.
 - ii. School has approximately \$450 thousand in outstanding liabilities.
 - iii. Monthly revenue was \$471 thousand versus a budget amount of \$416 thousand.
 - iv. Expenses was \$964 thousand versus \$413 thousand budgeted. The large discrepancy between actual and budgeted was \$493 thousand cost for the bond restructuring. This expense was a straight out-of-pocket expense. Although this was a large one-time expense, the net savings for the restructuring is at least \$910 thousand over the next ten years.
 - ii. Tony Kouskolekas asked if the restructuring expense could be spread over the year. Mr. Mansure replied says it does present an unfair monthly financial picture, however it will not make a difference for the year-end financial picture.
 - iii. John Mansure moved to accept the financial report. Motion to accept the report passed unanimously.
 - iv. Jennifer Jones asked about whether the school anticipated any changes in per pupil funding. Mr. Armstrong stated that the current per pupil was \$6,000.
- d) Facilities Committee- Jimmy Armstrong presented the report:
 - i. No major facility issues currently other than ordinary maintenance.
 - ii. Jennifer Jones asked about wrapping the new bus. Mr. Armstrong stated that the school is painting the hood of the short bus first and then would have all three vehicles wrapped at the same time. The athletic logo for the buses would be more distinctive flames since we are the Blazers.
 - iii. The school has been unable to sell the 1998 bus but will continue to try.
- e) Policy & Governance Committee- Pauline Nichol presented the report:
 - i. The school needs to hold elections for two board positions in the near future. The special election needs to fill one open seat and elect one expiring seat.
 - ii. Mr. Armstrong presented the proposed timeline for the election process. Ms. Nichol stated the election announcement with the proposed timeline would be published starting September 22nd. The election would be held on October 19th and 20th with results published on October 21st.
 - iii. Donna Smith asked about how the school would address multiple voting by the same people. Mr. Armstrong stated that we were working on insuring that only one vote per child would be allowed.
 - iv. John Mansure moved to approve the election process and timeline. Elliot Figueroa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- f) Academic Excellence Committee – Hannah Mahaffey presented the report:
 - i. The committee discussed the recommendations from last year surveys with Mr. Armstrong and, Mr. Armstrong provided feedback regarding the recommendations.
 - ii. The school's course catalog is being reviewed by the guidance department in light of the recommendations.
 - iii. Additional student clubs have been started: Youth-in-Government, Art Club and Blazer Tribe have started this year. Other recommendations are being implemented throughout the year.
 - iv. The committee will review the survey questions to tweak them prior to this year's survey. Donna Smith asked about the tentative date for the surveys. Ms. Mahaffey stated that we may spread out the survey dates: teachers once a year with grade levels surveyed during different quarters. Parents will probably be once a year as well.

7. New Business

a. Appointment of Board Members:

- i. Three board positions were up for re-appointment. Donna Smith, John Mansure and Tony Kouskolekas recused themselves from the process.
- ii. Pauline Nichol took over chairing the meeting for the appointment process.
- iii. Jennifer Jones moved to appoint Donna Smith, John Mansure and Tony Kouskelekos to remain in their appointed seat for another two-year term. Elliot Figueroa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously among the elected board members.

b. Rescheduling of next Board Meeting: The school's Fall Break is on October 25th and 26th. Elliot Figueroa asked to move the meeting to October 27th. The Board agreed to reschedule the October board meeting to October 27th.

8. John Mansure made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

9. Next Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for **October 27, 2021 at 5:30 pm.**

Addendums



GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal Report 9-21-2021

- Our academic leadership team started observations the Tuesday after Labor Day.
- As part of our charter renewal, our academic leadership team participated in developing a mission statement. Faculty and staff are voting on the preferred mission statement. That mission statement will move forward to other stakeholders.
- On September 10th and to accommodate an antique car show on the grounds of GTC-Benson, we moved our student parking area to where the portables were and the adjacent grass area.
- On September 10th, our faculty and staff received Title IV training provided by our district.
- Our athletic teams are competing well. Both our cross country teams won the Adidas Cross Country Invitational held in Cary, NC going against 31 boys' and 28 girls' teams.
- Members of admin. team attended the Greer Chamber Celebration and the GTCCHS Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.
- COVID mitigation -- We are completing the following in order to keep our students, faculty and staff safe at GMC:
 1. Run the HVAC fans when students/faculty attend school.
 2. Clean regularly and fog classrooms during the lunch period.
 3. Student seats are 3 ft. apart if practical and practice physical distancing.
 4. Monitor close contact prior to a quarantine.
 5. Quarantine a student for 4 days and on the 5th day a student may test.
 6. Closely monitor athletics and team members.
 7. School nurses communicate with school administration each afternoon.
 8. Notify parents that
 1. OTC COVID tests are not considered valid by the school.
 2. Students should be kept home a) if they have symptoms of illness, b) are awaiting COVID test results for any reason, and/or c) if anyone in the household is awaiting COVID test results due to symptoms.
 3. All should wash hands regularly
 4. Continue to have family conversations about masks. Masks continue to be optional at GMC.
 9. Act immediately and school-wide on any decisions.
 10. Be prepared to cancel or postpone any after school event with limited notice via email, phone messenger, and social media.



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Enrollment and Development

9-21-2021

Enrollment Update:

Current Numbers:

9th- 136

10th-128

11th- 136

12th- 109

- 100 yard signs have been dispersed throughout our community. Locations available upon request.
- Langston Charter and Mitchell Road Christian Academy have sent out information to all parents.
- Article ran in Greer Citizen.
- Flyer sent to Leadership Greer Class of 42. Several businesses have sent out information to their employees/posted at their business. (SC Port Authority, Greer Relief, Greer Police Department, Great Homes of the Upstate, Pelham Medical Center). Meyer Center and GTC Main Campus have flyers. Posted flyer in Greenville Young Professionals Facebook Group.
- Currently working on sending information to local churches to spread in their newsletters/youth departments.
- Currently 63 guests signed up for Info Night. Several sign ups for tours are scheduled.



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Academic Excellence Committee Report

09.13.2021

2:00 PM

Greer Middle College Charter High School

Type of Meeting: Committee Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Hannah Mahaffey, Academic Excellence Committee Chair

1. Call to Order/Welcome
 - a. Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM
 - b. Committee members present:
 - i. Hannah Mahaffey
 - ii. Jennifer Jones
 - iii. Pauline Nichol
 - c. Administration present:
 - i. Mr. Armstrong
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Academic Excellence Committee Recommendations Review and Updates
 - A course audit to determine gaps in classes offered as compared to other local public, private, and charter high schools. **Guidance counselors will evaluate courses in November and December to begin adding courses for the 2022-2023 school year.**
 - Evaluate and revise the process for establishing student-led clubs and activities. **Completed. Three new student organizations have been formed since the start of the school year.**
 - Develop replacement and upgrade schedule for IT equipment to ensure consistent functionality and eliminate surprise expenses. **In progress.**
 - Offer two Saturday service days to allow families to earn double volunteer hours while providing routine school maintenance (painting, landscaping, cleaning, etc.). **In progress.**
 - Track and report to the Board of Directors retention numbers for students and conduct exit surveys when they leave. **Exit surveys are in use and retention numbers are in progress.**
 - Set expectations with teachers on the frequency of classroom feedback. **Completed.**
 - Remind faculty of the role of the Board of Directors. **Completed.**
4. Action Items for Remainder of 2021
 - a. Set timeline for 2021-2022 surveys
 - b. Review survey questions to determine effectiveness and remove/add questions as needed
5. Adjournment
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM