



# GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL HOME OF THE BLAZERS

## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 23, 2024

**Board Members Present:** Zach Salvato, Darin Scheidly, Tony Kouskolekas, Pauline Nichol, Jennifer Jones, John Short, Walker Smith, Pamela Adams-Singleton, Lori Larsen

**Members Absent:** Donna Smith, Elliot Figueroa

**Administration Present:** Jimmy Armstrong, Anne Goff, David Gantt

- 1) The regular monthly Board of Directors was called to order by John Short, Vice Chairman, 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, Secretary
- 4) The board was asked to review the proposed agenda for the meeting. Tony Kouskolekas made a motion to approve the agenda. Darin Scheidly seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) The board reviewed the meeting minutes from the August 26, 2024 regular GMC Board Meeting. Tony Kouskolekas made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Pamela Adams-Singleton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Administrative and Committee Reports:
  - a) Administration Report- Jimmy Armstrong presented the report:
    - i) Presentation of middle school integration plan by Faculty Task Force Committee– Justin Lowman, Ella Kate Meyers and Nathan Gallion:
      - (1) The task force investigated how to house the middle school students on the GMC campus until the new school facility is completed.
      - (2) The task force worked through the logistics of how to operate the school facility with the middle school students integrated in with the existing student population.
      - (3) The task force developed a plan using the following criteria: 5-6 dedicated middle school classrooms. The task force goals were to keep the GPA students together and limit middle school/high student interaction.
      - (4) The task force determined that the Social Studies/CTE hall would be the best location for the GPA classrooms. The GPA students can be limited to enter/exit the hall from a single hallway. The students can use the stairwell at the end of Social Studies/CTE hall to go to the breezeway. They would use the bathrooms beside the Science hall. The High Schools students would be restricted to using use downstairs bathrooms.
      - (5) The task force then considered the relocation of the GMC teachers from History/CTE hall. The options that are being considered include using the college seminar and Mr. Rainey's Spanish classroom.
      - (6) Pamela Adams-Singleton asked about socialization space for the middle schoolers. The team didn't investigate issues concerning the space for socialization.

- (7) Walker Smith asked about PE space. Mr. Armstrong said that the middle school PE times would be at different times from the high school, and the middle school students don't usually change into PE clothes.
  - (8) Lori Larsen asked about how the school was prepared to manage and monitor bathroom access. Mr. Armstrong said that the administrative team is located outside those two bathrooms to be used by the middle school students and that they will redirect high schoolers away from the upstairs bathrooms.
  - (9) Mr. Armstrong stated that there will be a middle school holding area after school and a high school holding area for high school students before class to separate the two groups.
  - (10) Pauline Nichol asked the task force how concerned they were regarding the crowdedness of the halls with the redirection of the high school students. Mr. Lowman and Ms. Meyers said that it was a concern. However, because the high school does have a significant portion of the students that take college classes and that travel to internships and have other off-campus activities that should hopefully alleviate some of the traffic.
  - (11) Darin Scheidly asked had the task force considered the process of transitioning back to separate schools. The task force members all said that the faculty would rally around Social Studies/CTE teachers to assist in moving them back into their classrooms.
  - (12) Walker Smith asked whether there would be middle school recess. Mr. Armstrong said certainly recess is in the plan.
  - (13) John Short thanked the team for their hard work on the plan.
- ii) Mr. Armstrong stated that there have been no material changes to the employee handbook or student handbook since the last board approval of the handbooks.
  - iii) On Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>, six GMC students attended Greer Chamber's Junior Leadership Class 35.
  - iv) SLO conferences are ongoing with faculty at GMC. Should be completed by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - v) On September 13<sup>th</sup>, GMC hosted our first Party on the Patio organized by StuGo.
  - vi) Our girls' cross-country team traveled to Alabama and our boys' team traveled to California for team competitions.
  - vii) GMC experienced an internet outage on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The fiber line was cut around 2,900 feet from our campus. The outage should be corrected by the afternoon of Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - viii) On September 16<sup>th</sup>, SC Rep. Neal Collins toured the school.
  - ix) Faculty representatives along with Mr. Dillard and Ms. McCraw participated in an internal focus group to determine an area best suited for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at GMC.
  - x) Regarding Development, Ms. Bailey and Ms. Timanus attended the SCNSPRA Conference in Columbia. Superintendent of Education Ellen Weaver shared her vision for the upcoming year.
  - xi) The annual Blazer Picnic is being rebranded to the NO-GO Silent Auction. The auction will be virtual and will take place the week of November 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The PIP committee is requesting event sponsors and auction items.
  - xii) We have launched the new GPA logo and have incorporated it into school social media and publications.
  - xiii) The first information session for GPA will take place Monday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.

- xiv) PIP approved a \$650 grant for Ms. Elliot's Sports Medicine class and a \$500 grant for Mr. Rainey's Band/Chorus Classes.
- xv) PIP provided Sunset Slushies in September for staff appreciation week.
- xvi) Regarding enrollment, current Enrollment/Waitlist Numbers:
  - (1) 9th- 133/67
  - (2) 10th- 131/89
  - (3) 11th-136 /55
  - (4) 12th- 131/15
- xvii) Mr. Armstrong presented information regarding Greer Prep Academy to the staff on Friday, September 20th. We currently have 312 people signed up to attend the GPA Information Session on September 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be additional Information Nights in November and February.
- xviii) GMC Information Night for incoming freshmen will be held on Monday, October 28th. We currently have 220 signed up for this Information Night.
- b) Executive Committee Report- no report was presented.
- c) Finance Committee Report- Jennifer Jones presented the report:
  - i) Ms. Jones presented the financials for August 2024:
    - (1) Current cash balance is \$3.7 million. Total Assets are \$15.3 million. Current long-term debt is \$9.2 million. Net equity is \$5.2 million.
    - (2) The school is awaiting a funding adjustment from the state district. The school's enrollment is eleven students higher than last year, but the school may not receive a straight increase because district funding for all its schools comes from a common funding pool. The district has not determined the per pupil funding amount for this year yet.
    - (3) August general fund was a net loss of \$25 thousand. Overall net revenues are 12 thousand over budget.
    - (4) The school was in compliance with all of its bond covenants. Net assets are about twice the amount needed under the covenants.
    - (5) The external audit was just completed the second week of September. The audit report should be completed in October. At this point, the audit seems to have gone smoothly.
    - (6) First Tryon joined the finance committee meeting on Friday. The private investor funding option is proceeding forward quickly.
  - ii) Ms. Jones moved on behalf of the Financial Committee to approve the preliminary financial statements for August 2024. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
- d) Facilities Committee Report- There was no report presented.
- e) Policy & Governance Committee Report- Darin Scheidly presented the report:
  - i) Mr. Scheidly stated that the committee met and review four specific policies regarding the school's operation. The policies were:
    - (1) Personal Electronic Devices Policy
    - (2) Enrollment and Lotter Policy
    - (3) School Procurement Policy based upon 2021 Model School District Procurement Code.

- ii) Mr. Scheidly stated that the committee had reviewed the drafts of each policy to confirm that the drafts conformed to the policies and processes of the school. The committee recommended that the board adopt these policies at this time.
  - iii) Mr. Scheidly made a motion on behalf of the Policy & Governance Committee to adopt the four policies recommended by the committee. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
- f) Academic Excellence Committee- No report was presented.
- 7) There was no new business for the board.
- 8) Darin Scheidly moved to adjourn the meeting. Lori Larsen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6: 17 pm.
- 9) The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for **October 28, 2024, at 5:30 pm.**

## EXHIBITS



# HOME OF THE BLAZERS

## Principal Report 9-23-2024

There have been no material changes to the employee handbook or student handbook since the last Board approval of the handbooks.

On Aug. 29, 6 GMC students attended Greer Chamber's Junior Leadership Class 35.

SLO conferences are ongoing with faculty at GMC. Should be completed by Oct. 1.

On Sept. 13, GMC hosted our first Party on the Patio.

Our girl's cross country team traveled to Alabama and our boys traveled to California for team competition.

GMC experienced an internet outage on Friday (Sept. 20-23). The fiber line was cut around 2900 from our campus. The outage should be corrected by the afternoon of Sept. 23.

On Monday, Sept. 16, SC Rep. Neal Collins toured GMC.

Faculty reps along with Mr. Dillard and Ms. McCraw participated on an internal focus group to determine an area best suited for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at GMC. Their presentation is part of this report.

## Development Report

Ms. Bailey and Ms. Timanus attended the SCNSPRA Conference in Columbia. Superintendent of Education, Ellen Weaver, shared her vision for the upcoming year.

The Blazer Picnic is being rebranded to the NO-GO Silent Auction. The auction will be virtual and will take place the week of November 18-22nd. The PIP committee is requesting event sponsors and auction items.

-We have launched the new **GPA** logo and have info flier, website, etc. The first info session will take place Monday, Sept 30 @ 6PM.

### PIP

-Approved a \$650 grant for Mrs. Elliot's Sports Med Class.

- Approved \$500 for Mr. Rainey's Band/Chorus Classes.

-Recognized staff birthdays monthly with a gift card.

Provided Sunset Slushies in September for staff appreciation.

### Enrollment Report

Current Enrollment/Waitlist Numbers:

9th- 133/67

10th- 131/89

11th-136 /55

12th- 131/15

Greer Prep Info Night:

Mr. Armstrong and I presented info regarding Greer Prep to the staff on Friday, September 20th. We received great feedback with great questions to help us best prepare for Monday night(Sept. 30)!

We currently have 312 people signed up to attend the Info Session on September 30th!  
We'll have two other Info Nights in November and February.

GMC Info Night:

Will be held on Monday, October 28th. We currently have 220 signed up for this Info Night.  
More advertisements will go out after the GPA Info Session.



**GREER MIDDLE COLLEGE**  
**CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**HOME OF THE BLAZERS**

Board of Directors

August, 2024 Finance Report

9/20/24 Finance Committee Meeting

**August 2024 Financial Highlights**

**GMC**

- Balance Sheet
  - As of August 31, 2024, Cash Balances were **\$3,753,792**.
  - Total Assets were **\$15,293,339**.
  - Total Current Liabilities were **\$646,813**.
  - Total Other Liabilities were **\$9,424,957**, with the majority being the \$9,417,000 debt.
  - Total Equity was **\$5,221,569**.
  
- Statement of Revenue & Expenses
  - Revenue
    - Total General Fund Income for August was **\$517,645** against a budget of **\$509,250** (**\$8,395 Favorable**). Other funds' revenue was \$183,654.
  - Expense
    - Total General Fund Expenses for August was **\$543,041** against a budget of \$537,021 (**\$6,020 UnFavorable**). Unbudgeted expenses in Special Revenue Funds were \$146,171.
  - Net Income
    - August General Fund Net Income (Loss) was (\$25,396) versus a budget of (27,771), which was **\$2,375 Favorable**. Total Net Income for August 2024, including all funds, was \$12,087.

- Notes:
  - Debt Covenant Requirement Projections:
    - Days of Cash on Hand = 191 Days. Bond Covenant requires 120 days.
    - Debt Service Coverage is projected to be 1.25, with a requirement of 1.20. If necessary, we will request a waiver at year-end from Truist as done in some previous years.
    - Unrestricted net assets are projected to be \$3.1 million, with a requirement of \$1.5 million.
  - Other items related to the balance sheet, income, and expenses:
    - Audit field work was completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. The audit report is scheduled for completion by October 18<sup>th</sup>, with a presentation at the October board meeting.
    - State funding: Funding was based on the FY24 year-end WPU count.

### **Greer Preparatory Academy**

- \$8K was paid for the land loan extension / amendment.

**Greer Middle College Charter High School**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of August 31, 2024**

	General Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Other Special Revenue Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	Pupil Activity Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	PIP Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Total All Funds <u>Aug-24</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>					
Current Assets					
Cash					
Truist - Operating #7840	\$ 967,596	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 967,596
Truist - PIP #7238	-	-	-	46,191	46,191
Petty Cash	380	-	650	150	1,180
SC Local Govt Investment Pool	2,738,825	-	-	-	2,738,825
Accounts receivable					
A/R & PIP MyFoodDays receivable	5,971	-	-	10,058	16,029
Miscellaneous receivables	220,667	-	-	-	220,667
Other current assets					
Deposits	-	-	1,505	-	1,505
Due from GMCK12 LLC/GPA	290,260	-	-	-	290,260
Due from State District/SCSDE	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid insurance	35,537	-	-	-	35,537
Other misc prepaids	45,580	-	-	-	45,580
Other Assets					
Fixed assets, net	10,495,558	-	-	-	10,495,558
Due to/from other funds	-	7,957	426,454	-	434,411
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>14,800,374</u></b>	<b><u>7,957</u></b>	<b><u>428,609</u></b>	<b><u>56,399</u></b>	<b><u>15,293,339</u></b>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>					
Current liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ 9,043	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,043
Other current liabilities					
Accrued salaries / benefits	42,876	-	-	-	42,876
Accrued interest payable	105,600	-	-	-	105,600
Accrued tuition / books	37,600	-	-	-	37,600
Other accrued expenses	17,283	-	-	-	17,283
Due to/from other funds	431,243	-	-	3,168	434,411
Other liabilities					
Deferred revenues	-	7,957	-	-	7,957
Bonds payable	9,417,000	-	-	-	9,417,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>10,060,645</u></b>	<b><u>7,957</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>3,168</u></b>	<b><u>10,071,770</u></b>
<b><u>Equity</u></b>					
Net assets, prior year	4,486,159	-	339,757	53,544	4,879,460
FY24 Audit & Post Closing Adjustments	(11,999)	-	-	-	(11,999)
Current year revenues in excess of expenses	265,569	-	88,852	(313)	354,108
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b><u>4,739,729</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>428,609</u></b>	<b><u>53,231</u></b>	<b><u>5,221,569</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b><u>14,800,374</u></b>	<b><u>7,957</u></b>	<b><u>428,609</u></b>	<b><u>56,399</u></b>	<b><u>15,293,339</u></b>

**Greer Middle College Charter High School**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - All Funds**  
**For the month ended August 31, 2024**

	General Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Other Special Revenue Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	Pupil Activity Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	PIP Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Total All Funds <u>Aug-24</u>
<b>Revenues</b>					
1000 Local funding / interest / GTC fees	\$ 12,696	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,696
1000 GTC fees	2,040	-	-	-	2,040
1700s PIP Sales to Students	-	-	-	14,967	14,967
1700s Pupil Activity Funds revenue	-	-	72,445	-	72,445
1920 Contributions	1,088	-	-	-	1,088
1920 Contributions - capital campaign / restricted	-	-	-	-	-
1990 Miscellaneous local income	2,100	-	-	-	2,100
3000 State funding	411,325	-	-	-	411,325
3000 Other special revenue	-	82,867	-	-	82,867
5000 Transfers in from other funds	88,396	-	12,575	800	101,771
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 517,645</b>	<b>\$ 82,867</b>	<b>\$ 85,020</b>	<b>\$ 15,767</b>	<b>\$ 701,299</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
<b>100 - Instructional</b>					
100 Salaries	\$ 190,407	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190,407
<b>200 Fringes</b>					
210 - health insurance	20,843	-	-	-	20,843
220 - retirement	47,343	-	-	-	47,343
230 - FICA	12,390	-	-	-	12,390
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>300 Purchased services</b>					
311 - instructional services	8,780	-	-	-	8,780
313 - student services (speech, autism, etc)	-	-	-	-	-
323 - equipment repair	1,460	-	-	-	1,460
325 - rent	768	-	-	-	768
332 - travel	-	-	-	-	-
345 - technology services	3,540	-	-	-	3,540
373 - Tuition Greenville County	31,500	-	-	-	31,500
373 - Tuition GTC	-	-	-	-	-
400 Supplies / textbooks	9,463	-	-	-	9,463
410 - IT replacement cycle	-	-	-	-	-
500 Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-
600 Other	-	-	-	-	-
640 - membership dues/fees	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total instructional expenses</b>	<b>326,494</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>326,494</b>
<b>200 - Support services</b>					
100 Salaries	61,950	-	-	-	61,950
<b>200 Fringes</b>					
210 - health insurance	5,693	-	-	-	5,693
220 - retirement	15,028	-	-	-	15,028
230 - FICA	4,080	-	-	-	4,080
Other	149	-	-	-	149

**Greer Middle College Charter High School**  
**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures - All Funds**  
**For the month ended August 31, 2024**

	General Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Other Special Revenue Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	Pupil Activity Funds <u>Aug-24</u>	PIP Fund <u>Aug-24</u>	Total All Funds <u>Aug-24</u>
300 Purchased services					
312 - instructional improvement	9,125	-	-	-	9,125
313 - student services	11,465	-	-	-	11,465
314 - staff services	-	-	-	-	-
315 - management services	11,520	-	-	-	11,520
318 - audit services	800	-	-	-	800
319 - legal services	1,413	-	-	-	1,413
321 - utilities (not electricity)	747	-	-	-	747
323 - repairs / maintenance	4,609	-	-	-	4,609
323 - repairs replacement budget	-	-	-	-	-
324 - Insurance	6,338	-	-	-	6,338
325 - rentals (storage) / leases (copiers)	400	-	-	-	400
325 - lease of land from GMCK12 LLC	10,209	-	-	-	10,209
329 - other property services	561	-	-	-	561
332 - travel / professional development	17	-	-	-	17
340 - telephone	1,095	-	-	-	1,095
345 - IT / technology software subscriptions/maint.	4,571	-	-	-	4,571
350 - advertising	105	-	-	-	105
391 - Food service	-	-	-	-	-
400 Supplies					
410 - supplies	7,118	-	-	-	7,118
470 - electricity	10,509	-	-	-	10,509
500 Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-
600 Other					
620 - interest / bond payment	21,000	-	-	-	21,000
640 - membership dues/fees	3,132	-	-	-	3,132
690 - other, bank fees	1,847	-	-	-	1,847
691 - 2% fee to SCPCSD	9,691	-	-	-	9,691
Total support services expenses	<u>203,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,172</u>
271 - PIP expenses	-	-	-	16,189	16,189
271 - Pupil Activity Funds	-	-	41,586	-	41,586
400 - Other / Transfers					
710 Transfer to other funds	13,375	82,867	5,529	-	101,771
Total other expenses / transfers	<u>13,375</u>	<u>82,867</u>	<u>5,529</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>101,771</u>
Total expenditures	<u>\$ 543,041</u>	<u>\$ 82,867</u>	<u>\$ 47,115</u>	<u>\$ 16,189</u>	<u>\$ 689,212</u>
<b>Revenues in excess of expenditures</b>	<u>\$ (25,396)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 37,905</u>	<u>\$ (422)</u>	<u>\$ 12,087</u>
Summary of Fund Balances:					
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 4,486,159	\$ -	\$ 339,757	\$ 53,544	\$ 4,879,460
Prior FY25 months - Net Income (Loss)	290,965	-	50,947	109	342,021
Current Month Net Income (Loss)	(25,396)	-	37,905	(422)	12,087
FY24 Audit & Post Closing Adjustments	(11,999)	-	-	-	(11,999)
Fund Balance / Equity	<u>\$ 4,739,729</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 428,609</u>	<u>\$ 53,231</u>	<u>\$ 5,221,569</u>

GMC Policy and Governance Committee

9.2024

The Policy and Governance Committee have reviewed the following new policies and recommend to the full GMC and GPA boards adoption of policies as additions to the current policy library.

Policies recommended for approval

- Personal Electronic Devices Policy
- Enrollment and Lottery Policies
- Procurement Policy
- 2021 Model School District Procurement Code

The Policy and Governance Committee will recommend adoption during September 23, 2024, board meeting

# Greer Middle College Charter High School

## Adopted Board Policies

Policy #: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted by Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Title: Personal Electronic Devices

### Background:

Per Proviso 1.103 in the FY 2024-2025 state budget:

To receive state funds allocated for State Aid to Classrooms, a school (district) shall implement a policy adopted by the State Board of Education that prohibits access to personal electronic communication devices by students during the school day. For purposes of this provision, a personal electronic communication device is considered to be a device not authorized for classroom use by a student, utilized to access the Internet, wi-fi, or cellular telephone signals.

This means that schools (districts) are required "to adopt a policy adopted by the State Board of Education that prohibits access to personal electronic communication devices by students during the school day. This model policy must be adopted by schools (districts) and is applicable to grades kindergarten through twelve for the 2024-2025 school year. The local school board must ensure that this policy is included in the school's publication of the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards of conduct for schools and in the student handbook. Administrative support for teachers is critical for this or any policy to be successfully implemented."

Schools (Districts) may, but are not required to, publish additional guidance or administrative rules as may be necessary to implement this policy with fidelity. Any previous device or cell phone policies in conflict with this policy are superseded by this model policy."

### Policy:

The purpose of this policy is to create a phone-free school environment that fosters a positive learning experience free from electronic distractions. By prohibiting the use of personal electronic devices during the school day, this policy aims to provide an environment that enhances focus and engagement, allowing students to develop the college and career-ready skills outlined in the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. Students will have more opportunities to engage in meaningful interactions, collaborate with peers, and cultivate the essential skills necessary for success in college, careers, and life.

The Model Policy Prohibiting the Use of Personal Electronic Devices during the School Day has been developed in compliance with the General Appropriations Bill, H. 5100 of 2024, Proviso 1.103.

**Proviso 1.103.** (SDE: Anti-Bullying/School Safety) To receive state funds allocated for State Aid to Classrooms, a school (district) shall implement a policy adopted by the State Board of Education that prohibits access to personal electronic communication devices by students during the school day. For purposes of this provision, a personal electronic communication device is considered to be a device not authorized for classroom use by a student, utilized to access the Internet, wi-fi, or cellular telephone signals.

# **Greer Middle College Charter High School**

## **Adopted Board Policies**

This proviso requires each local school (district) to adopt a policy adopted by the State Board of Education that prohibits access to personal electronic communication devices by students during the school day. This model policy must be adopted by schools (districts) and is applicable to grades kindergarten through twelve for the 2024-2025 school year. The local school board must ensure that this policy is included in the school's (district's) publication of the comprehensive rules, procedures, and standards of conduct for schools and in the student handbook. Administrative support for teachers is critical for this or any policy to be successfully implemented.

Schools (Districts) may, but are not required to, publish additional guidance or administrative rules as may be necessary to implement this policy with fidelity. Any previous device or cell phone policies in conflict with this policy are superseded by this model policy.

### **Policy Language**

#### **I. Definitions:**

A. "Personal electronic device," hereinafter referred to as "device," means any device utilized to access the internet, wi-fi, cellular telephone signals, or to capture images or video. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, smart watches, tablets, and gaming devices.

B. "Personal Electronic Device accessories," hereinafter referred to as "device accessories," include any wired or wireless accessory or wearable technology that connects to a device and any other accessory commonly used in conjunction with a personal electronic device.

C. "School day" is defined as the period of time that a student is present on the school campus from their arrival (*i.e.*, tardy bell) until afternoon dismissal at the end of the instructional day. This policy may also apply to school buses, field trips, and athletic events. The applicability of this regulation to these activities will be determined by the Executive Director or designee if specific instances require addressing after the instructional day.

D. "Access" is defined as viewing, holding, wearing, or otherwise using a device for the purpose of communication, internet access, gaming, recording, or any other function commonly associated with devices. During the school day, devices should be powered off and stored as directed by the school (district). Exceptions granted for medical necessity, authorized for classroom use, or other authorized reasons should be in writing and are not considered violations of this definition.

E. "Authorized for Classroom Use" is defined as the use of a personal electronic device that is explicitly approved by the Executive Director or designee. The approval must include alignment with a standards-aligned educational objective that cannot be reasonably achieved using school/district-owned devices. Students must be provided with clear instructions on the appropriate use of devices and ensure that their use aligns with the approved educational objectives. The Executive Director or designee may revoke approval at any time if it is determined that their use does not meet the intended educational objectives or is causing disruptions.

# Greer Middle College Charter High School

## Adopted Board Policies

### II. Policy Implementation and Enforcement

A. During the school day, students are prohibited from accessing their personal electronic devices, unless authorized for classroom use. Students may not wear or access device accessories during the school day. Students must store their devices and device accessories in lockers, backpacks, or otherwise as directed by the school (district) during the school day. Schools (Districts) may forbid student possession of devices and device accessories on school property.

***GMC's policy is for students to place their cell phones or other personal electronic devices in a holding area when they enter the classroom. At the end of class, the students will pick up the device. If there is an instance where students need to use their phones for classwork and there are no school devices that can be used or do not have the capability to perform the task, the teacher may allow students to use phones for this specific purpose at one specific date/time.***

B. If explicitly required by a student's IEP, Medical Plan, or 504 plan, the student shall be allowed to access their personal electronic device for medically or educationally necessary purposes described and required for administration of the IEP, Medical Plan or 504 plan.

C. A student who is a member of a volunteer firefighting organization or emergency organization may be authorized to carry a device with written permission from the Executive Director, District Superintendent or designee.

D. If a student violates the preceding rules during the school day, the student will be subject to progressive consequences in the student code of conduct and disciplinary enforcement procedures, as outlined in the student handbook.

## **Enrollment and Lottery Policies**

### **Greer Middle College:**

#### **1. Enrollment**

Procedures

Eligibility

Students eligible to attend the school are those who:

Reside in South Carolina.

Complete the Greer Middle College Charter High School Application.

The admission policies and procedures of Greer Middle College Charter High School provide that, subject to space limitations, the charter school will admit all children who are eligible regardless of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of the program, class, grade level, or building, students will be accepted by lottery, as specified in state or federal guidelines.

Even though the policies and procedures do not limit or deny admission or show preference to any individual group, priority may be given to:

- a sibling of a pupil already enrolled
- children of charter school employees

provided enrollment does not exceed twenty percent of the enrollment of the charter school.

The application process will begin in October of each year and end in December. If a lottery is needed, the lottery will take place in December. The range of freshmen each year will be between 125 and 140 students. The school will continue operating at a range of 500-550 students moving forward.

#### **2. Application and Acceptance Process**

Information about the school will be disseminated in the following ways:

1. All eligible high school students and their parents will be contacted through print and social media concerning Greer Middle College Charter High School. Informational meetings will be held at middle schools, community informational meetings, civic organizations' meetings, churches, community centers, and at GMC.
2. Seek home school students through our student recruitment to include the Home School Associations and local private and religious schools.
3. Greenville Technical College tours will be conducted for students and parents interested in the Greer Middle College Charter High School program. Career development facilitators, and business representatives will be available to advise parents and students concerning opportunities at GMC.
4. Internet links connecting parents to additional information regarding the Greer Middle College Charter High School initiative will be found on the GMCCHS website at [www.greermiddlecollege.org](http://www.greermiddlecollege.org).
5. Promotional media campaigns will be conducted through social media, radio, and newspapers. Civic organizations and churches will also be involved in the dissemination of information.

6. Print media will include brochures, application packets, newsletters, church bulletins, informational letters, posters/flyers, bookmarks, etc.

7. Other methods will include:

Direct phone contact, CTE and other school student organizations, PowerPoint presentations, and testimonials from GMCCHS students/parents.

The dissemination of information will be a continuous process to ensure stable enrollment. A staff person at the middle college charter high school will be designated to communicate Greer Middle College Charter High School (GMC) activities to the community, work with the local CTE consortium, and promote GMC.

The admission process will include:

- o Recruitment and application
- o Acceptance
- o Lottery and waiting list, if oversubscribed.

1. New students must submit a completed application.
2. If the school is not oversubscribed by February 1, all eligible students who complete the application process will receive written notification of acceptance at the end of the acceptance period.
4. If oversubscribed, a public lottery will be conducted in accordance with the Charter School statute (see Lottery Process below).
5. After the lottery process is completed, students will receive written notification of acceptance for the upcoming school term. Students will also be notified if they are placed on a waiting list and of their position on the waiting list after the lottery is completed.
6. Students must affirmatively respond in writing to the offer of acceptance within 15 days of notification. Students on the waiting list will be accepted in the order resulting from the lottery if space becomes available.
7. If the Charter School denies admission to a student for reasons other than the results of a lottery, the student may appeal the denial to the GMC board of Directors.

### **3. Registration Process**

1. Beginning in the second semester of the freshman year, students will take the ACCUPLACER placement test to determine eligibility to enroll in dual credit courses at Greenville Technical College. Students must also have a 3.0 GPA to take college classes.

Dual Enrollment Student Eligibility – State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education

- o Each student admitted to take dual enrollment courses must meet the same requirements for an individual course as other college students and must have the recommendation of the high school principal, his or her designee, or the designee of the governing school association.
- o Dual enrollment should be limited to junior and senior students in a high school. Exceptions may be made for freshman or sophomore students at the request of the high school principal, his or her designee, or the designee of the governing school association and with documentation provided by the school and retained in the student's college file documenting exceptional ability to undertake college-level coursework.

2. Greer Middle College Charter High School will schedule an informational meeting of parents and students to discuss the programs available.
3. Students will be assigned to an advisory group where they will work with guidance and career counselors to explore career options and create an Individualized Graduation Plan (IGP).

#### **4. Lottery Process**

As a charter school, all students will be accepted regardless of disability, race, creed, color, gender, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. If the number of applications exceeds the capacity of the program during any enrollment period, students will be accepted by a lottery process for student selection that is described below.

1. All enrollment priorities of GMC Charter High School shall be published prior to conducting the Lottery. Enrollment preference is given to students enrolled in GMC Charter High School in the Lottery year. This enrollment preference for returning students excludes them from entering into the Lottery.
2. All applicants entitled to receive enrollment priority shall be identified prior to the Lottery.
3. Enrollment priority entitles an applicant to be offered an available seat ahead of applicants without enrollment priority.
4. Enrollment priorities shall be provided:
  - a. First to an applicant sibling of a student who is currently enrolled and attending GMC Charter High School at the time of the Lottery; or who, within the last six years, attended GMC Charter High School for at least one complete academic year; and then
  - b. to children of GMC Charter High School employees.
5. Multiple applicant siblings entering the Lottery for the first time shall enter the Lottery as a common entrant. If the common entrant is selected for school enrollment by the Lottery process, then all the siblings shall be enrolled.
6. The Lottery will be held in open meeting, may rely on computer numbering, and will be easily understood and followed by all observers.
7. Only applications received prior to the established deadline will be eligible for Lottery participation.
8. All offers of acceptance and registration will be made in the order of the lottery results and established waitlist. No offer will be made to any student not properly entitled to the next available seat.
9. All applicants offered acceptance will be required to respond affirmatively in writing within 15 calendar days. Those not responding (excluding declines) will be placed on the waitlist. All students will be provided in writing their status for acceptance and waitlist.