

**GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 19, 2014 @ 5:00 PM**

Board Members Present:

Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Sapna Boze, , Amy Joseph, Lisa Kirkland, Annie Klebahn, Susan Masto, Joyce McMinn, Sharon Olken, Will Parish, Jackie Quella, Adina Safer, Sue Schultes, Suzanne Schutte, Phil Susser, Valerie Toler, Jennifer Tulley, Aaron White, Briana Zelaya, Laura D'Amato, Julie Wise Allison Thoreson Bhusri, David Booth, Deundra C. Hundon, Felix Chinchilla Cynthia Billops, Laura Spivy

Board Members Excused:

Susan Masto, Suzanne Schutte, and Brianna Zelaya

Board Members Not Present:

Also present:

Chris Hero, Kathryn Hecht, Anna Heidinger

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Approval of Minutes from October 22, 2014

Jennifer Tully called the meeting to order at 5:06PM. She called for a motion to approve the minutes. They were approved without issue.

2. Public Forum

Jennifer then opened the floor for public forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

3. Middle School Report

Aaron welcomed the Board. He mentioned some of the milestones of the middle school: GMS graduated the first class, the charter revision that guaranteed entry for GMS into GHS, and the fact that GMS is in the same place for two years in a row.

He said that GMS is looking for ways to build include looking at the 6-8th grade journey holistically. They will look at how specialists and teachers are working together. They are doing a lot of work in teaching teams to continue to improve. They have implemented teacher leadership roles to add to sustainability and added a full time counselor for myriad reasons. Lastly, the leadership team, which has grown, is looking at progress on all goals across the schools.

Board members then reflected on Board Visiting Day on Friday, November 14th. Teachers reflected on the academic prowess of students coming from 8th grade into 9th grade. Aaron also discussed the formal process of handing students up to the GHS team in terms of documenting challenges.

The Board and Sharon thanked Aaron for all of his good work.

4. Audit update

Laura Spivy explained the process of the audit – what auditors look for, double check, etc. Gateway has eight years of clean audits. She thanked Chris and Chad. Phil Suser, too, complimented Chris and Chad saying the process is seamless and respectable. Laura mentioned that Auditors said the organization is also financially healthy.

Chris thanked Laura for chairing the audit committee. He explained that the both the actual audit and the financials were strong, which bodes well for the organization. Part of the significance of this audit is the successful full addition of the middle school since it was such a risk to start it.

Chris says the audit is the primary external document that donors and funders will view to evaluate the organization, so it bodes very well.

A motion was made to accept the audit and it passed without issue.

Sharon thanked Chris and the Board for making Gateway so secure.

5. Development report

Anna Heidinger started by acknowledging the hard work of Julie Wise in regards to the Gateway Auction. She also acknowledged outgoing development committee chair Sue Schultes. She mentioned that Luncheon was now \$100K higher than ever before.

She mentioned that Director's tour dates have been set. She asked the Board to let her know if anyone in their networks would like to know more about Gateway.

Anna said that the work of the Development Committee will work to reinvigorate three things:

1. Engaging donors?
2. Thanking donors
3. Year End Appeal

6. Executive Director Report

Sharon thanked Aaron and his staff, Chris for his work, and Anna for her very clear calls to action. She also reported that GMS will be up for rechartering in spring.

Beth Berliner then mentioned that December 18th is the holiday party and an invitation would follow.

7. Adjourn Meeting

At 6:59 PM, with no other business to conduct, Jennifer adjourned the meeting.

Signed: Allison Bhusri
Allison Bhusri, Board Secretary

Date: 4/22/15

