

Approved by the Board of Directors  
August 25, 2022

**Mission Statement:** *"We are a community of learners. We will do whatever it takes to learn. We are building a strong foundation by believing we can, working our plan, then feeling the power of success."*

**George Washington Academy**  
**Thursday, July 28th, 2022**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** George Washington Academy  
2277 South 3000 East  
St. George, Utah  
Library  
The meeting will also be available through Zoom. Anyone interested in participating via Zoom conferencing can email Shannon Greer at [sgreer@gwacademy.org](mailto:sgreer@gwacademy.org) for call-in information.

*There was NO training prior to the board meeting*

*The Board meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.*

**Board Welcome:** Kevin Peterson

**Roll Call:** Kevin Peterson

**Prayer:** Holly Meyers

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Blake Clark

Board Members Present: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, Blake Clark and Shauna Mahoney.

Board Members Absent: none

Others Present: Spencer Adams, Kari McCoy, Christine Giles, Kim Townes, LaNessa Stevens, and Debbie Kuavaka.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Holly Myers made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2022 board meeting. Amanda Mortenson made a second. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney voted in favor. Shannon Greer abstained.

**Public Opportunity to Address the Board:** None

**Set time for adjournment:** The time set for adjournment was 8:12 p.m.

**Teacher Representative Report:**

Christine Giles reported that teachers are preparing for back to school. The custodians are working hard to clean. She reported on a recent professional development conference on assessment and grading, which is a new goal and focus for the school year. The specials teachers will pilot a new proficiency based grading program this school year. A committee has been formed from teachers and leaders to reform the grading processes to create a more authentic and student owned approach to assessments. She reported that proficiency based grading is a partnership between students and the teacher. Shannon asked how this would be presented to parents. Christine reported that a presentation, videos, and materials would be made for parents to access. She reported that this a researched based practice and there are multiple supports available to teachers and parents.

Kari McCoy reported on Leader in Me. The school has new Leadership Boards where the students choose ways they want to lead the school. The school is working on becoming a “Lighthouse School” in the Leader in Me Community. She reported that the students will be able to participate in a competitive choir and a *Frozen* production.

**Administration Report:** Blake Clark, Executive Director, reported that all reports are complete. Holly Myers asked about the Acadiance data in the board update and what data is reflective of GWA. All of the data is reflective of GWA. Kevin Peterson noted that the below benchmark students are progressing well, however, he questioned whether it is at the cost of advanced students. Blake reported on the structure of patriot time and noted that the assessment for younger grades changes from assessment, unlike the older grades where the test stays the same. He reported that the teachers are participating in LETRS training which will help those students.

**Financial Report:** Spencer Adams, Business Administrator, reported the budget report is reflecting a lot of green. The school is waiting on the federal revenue for FY22. He believes the operating margin of 7.1% will be higher. There is nothing concerning at this point. Blake Clark pointed out that August typically has higher spent than revenue received due to back to school (teacher supplies, student supplies, etc.). Holly asked if the scale of enrollment could be changed. Shannon Greer asked if a chart could be generated to compare our percentages against other schools. All reports are finished.

**Committee Reports (3 min each):**

- **Policies Committee** – Blake Clark reported that the state just approved a library policy that will be a policy the school will have to adopt. The policy committee will work on creating it.
- **Finance Committee** – Nothing new to report.
- **Benefits Committee** – Nothing new to report.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Nothing new to report.
- **Outreach Committee** – Nothing new to report.

- **Technology Committee** - Nothing new to report.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – Nothing new to report.
- **PTO Committee** – Amanda Mortenson reported that instead of the Fall Carnival there will be a fun run. It will be at Crimson Middle School due to logistics (parking and space).
- **Board Development Committee** – Board retreat and meeting will be September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
- **Campus Management Committee** – Nothing new to report.

**Discussion and/or Action Items:**

- Expenditures over \$5,000
- **Updated/Revised Standard Independent Contractor Agreement:** Shannon Greer made a motion to approve the agreement as is. Holly Myers seconded. Casey Unrein questioned about the confidentiality section—is there any other confidential information (except the student) that would need to be included? Blake Clark said no. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor (Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney, and Shannon Greer).
- **Special Educator Contract Agreements for 2022-2023 School Year:** Holly Myers made a motion to approve the special educator contract agreement for the 2022-2023 school year as found in the board packet. Shauna Mahoney seconded. Amanda asked why a person is contracted from out of the community. Shannon Greer spoke that the skill set of the contracted person happened to live out of the community. Amanda asked who is requesting these evaluations for the students. Blake reported that parents or teachers can request evaluations. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor (Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney, and Shannon Greer).
- **Lexia LETRS Training:** Jaycee Rogers made a motion to approve the Lexia LETRS Training as found in the board packet. Holly Myers seconded. Shannon Greer pointed out that this is being retro-approved because the information was not available by the June board meeting. Casey Unrein asked about the reimbursement schedule would be for this training. There is no schedule yet, but it usually a quick turn-around. He also asked about teacher feedback for this training. Blake Clark reported that there is not a lot of feedback yet as they haven't started. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor (Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney, and Shannon Greer).
- **ELL Software:** Shannon Greer made a motion to approve the ELL software as found in the board packet. Amanda Mortenson seconded. Blake Clark reported that when purchasing this software, the company bundles it, thus having to purchase the larger package to accommodate all of our students. Jaycee Rogers asked about the percentage of ELL students from previous years and why there was a lower ELL count now. Blake Clark reported that the number of ELL students has decreased due to testing out, graduating from GWA, etc. Amanda Mortenson asked why this software was chosen specifically. Blake reported that students are already familiar with the Lexia platform, so this software was chosen. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor (Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney, and Shannon Greer).

- **Approve Board Meeting Schedule:** Amanda Mortenson made a motion to approve the board meeting schedule as outlined in the e-mail by Shannon Greer. Shannon Mahoney seconded. The September board meeting was changed to the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>. Amanda Mortenson amended her motion to approve the board meeting schedule with the change of September 22<sup>nd</sup> to September 29<sup>th</sup>. Shauna Mahoney seconded. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor (Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney, and Shannon Greer).
- **Nominate/Vote on Board Chair:** Shannon Greer was nominated as board chair. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Amanda Mortenson, Holly Myers, Casey Unrein, Kevin Peterson, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney. Shannon Greer abstained.

**Closed Meeting** – *pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-204, 205.*

**Reconvene** — The board reconvened at 9:03 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular Board Meeting will be held on August 25th at 7:30pm.

**Adjournment**