

Approved by the Board of Directors on February 23, 2023

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 X success.”*

George Washington Academy

Thursday, January 26, 2023

7:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

Location: George Washington Academy
2277 South 3000 East
St. George, Utah
Flex Room

The Board Training on LAND Trust was held at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.

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

Board Welcome: Shannon Greer, President

Roll Call: Shannon Greer, President

Prayer: Holly Meyers

Pledge of Allegiance: Christine Giles

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

Others Present: Spencer Adams, Steve Erickson, Chance Manzanaras, Jocelyn Larkin, Christine Giles, Kim Townes, and Debbie Kuavaka.

Approval of Minutes:

Kevin Peterson motioned to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2022 board meeting with the correction of changing two incorrect last names of board members. Amanda Mortenson seconded. The motion passed by Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, and Shauna Mahoney. Holly Myers abstained.

Public Opportunity to Address the Board: None

Set time for adjournment The time set for adjournment was 8:26 p.m.

Teacher Representative Report:

Jaxynn Smith reported that the kindergartners are working with their “fourth grade buddies” a lot. The third grade teachers discussed the use of cursive in their school work and letting students choose to use it.

Jocelyn Larkin reported that the fourth graders are planning on taking a field trip to Dixie Tech and hoping to visit Zion National Park. She reported that the level-up day was a huge success and many students enjoyed it.

Administration Report: Blake Clark, Executive Director, reported that all reports are complete. He reported on the Board Update and the student count of 1,003. He reported on the school WIGS (Wildly Important Goals). The goal was students will collectively increase their fluency by 3% by May. The goal has already been met. Because the WIG has been achieved, teachers created a new WIG for the rest of the year which is students will comprehend grade-level text or increase by 3% in comprehension. Holly Myers asked about the data in 5th and 6th grade which doesn’t show as much growth. Blake explained that majority of those readers are already on grade-level and are “maxing out” their ability to read “faster.”

Financial Report: Spencer Adams, Business Administrator, reported on the budget report as of December 31, 2022 (mid-way through the fiscal year). Overall we are doing well. Local revenue is 61% of forecast, State is 51%. Expenses are looking good. The finance committee made some small adjustments to the budget detail report (reflected in finance committee meeting minutes). He pointed out the balance sheet in the board packet. He also pointed out the final audit of the financial report from last year. Holly Myers asked about the cash management compliance section of the report. Spencer said that it is not a reflection of the whole year, just an instance. Blake Clark reported that the instance they pulled was from the summer when not all employees are working Monday through Friday. Cash that was coming in on a Thursday wasn’t being deposited until Monday, which was too long. Kevin Peterson pointed out line item 131, reflecting the summer professional development for teachers. Blake Clark pointed out line item 710, which has an increase to support the goals of the outreach committee.

Committee Reports:

- **Policies Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Finance Committee** – (Notes reflected in Financial Report above)
- **Benefits Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Outreach Committee** – Holly Myers reported that the student count is increasing. She reported on the new schools coming into the area, so by improving the logo and exterior signs (and adding a digital marquee by the street) will help the community to see what GWA is doing and will allow us to showcase who we are. Blake Clark reported on the

collaboration with the logo designer and how the logo will embody what GWA is. The committee is focusing on GWA's legacy and emphasize that through messaging and marketing.

- **Technology Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **PTO Committee** – Amanda Mortenson reported that the feedback from the teacher appreciation lunches has been positive.
- **Board Development Committee** – Shannon Greer reported on next month's training and the board will be looking for a new board member before April.
- **Campus Management Committee** – Nothing to report.

Discussion and/or Action Items:

- **Board Clerk Job Description:** Holly Myers made a motion to accept the proposal for the board clerk job description. Amanda Mortenson seconded. Holly asked about whether this person was a voting member of the board. Shannon Greer said no, they would be strictly a clerk. Holly Myers asked who would be able to apply for the job. Shauna Mahoney voiced concern about closed meetings and whether an employee of the school, who also was the board clerk, would create a conflict of interest. Holly suggested added the wording of, "Additional job duties as deemed necessary by the board." Holly Myers amended her to motion to table the discussion until the next meeting. Amanda Mortenson seconded.

Kevin Peterson made a motion to continue the board meeting at 8:30 p.m. Shauna Mahoney seconded. Amanda Mortenson seconded. The motion passed unanimously (All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, Shauna Mahoney and Holly Myers).

- **Discussion of Create New Policy for Health I 7th Grade:** Blake Clark pointed out that permission slips have to be signed for each unit taught in the curriculum. Amanda Mortenson asked if parents will have access to the curriculum. The answer was yes. Jaycee Rogers asked if the recommendation on the proposal was to create a policy. Shannon Greer clarified that the proposal was to create a policy. She recommended that this policy be reviewed through the policy committee before being reviewed by the board. Shannon Greer asked if anyone on the board would prefer that the policy be abstinence only. All board members agreed that the policy should be abstinence based.

Amanda Mortenson motioned to continue the board meeting. Casey Unrein seconded. The motion passed unanimously (All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, Shauna Mahoney and Holly Myers).

- **Policy 210:** Paid Time Off: Shauna Mahoney made a motion to approve policy 210: Paid Time Off as outlined in the board packet. Kevin Peterson seconded. Holly asked about the process of this policy, and whether benefits committee had reviewed it. Blake Clark

reported that the benefits committee has not reviewed it. Shauna Mahoney pointed out that using the word benefits in the policy implies that employees will be receiving more than they possibly are. Shannon Greer explained that the policy did not have to go through committees because the policy has been publicly noticed. Holly Myers suggested emailing the policy to the benefits committee for them to be aware. Casey unrein voiced concerned about the wording about pay-outs at the end of the year (days) to reflect the wording used throughout the policy (hours). He recommended removing the wording (1 full day is based on regularly scheduled workday). Shauna Mahoney amended her motion to accept the policy 210: Paid Time Off as outlined in the board packet, with Casey Unreins changes. Kevin Peterson seconded. Shauna Mahoney amended her motion to accept policy 210: Paid Time off, with the change of “days” to “hours” and indicating that this policy will be retro-active being dated for the 22-23 school year. The motion passed unanimously (All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, Shauna Mahoney and Holly Myers).

Expenditures over \$5,000

- **Special Education Curriculum Materials:** Kevin Peterson made a motion to approve the special education curriculum materials as found in the board packet in the amount of \$8,418.43. Holly Myers seconded.

Holly Myers asked about the count of the curriculum and if the materials had to be purchased in a certain quantity. The special education director said that the curriculum can be purchased in packs of 10 or 25. Holly asked if the materials were consumables. The answer is yes. The special education director said that the data showed that the curriculum is working. When consumables needed to be purchased again, the materials would be purchased with the special education funds. The motion passed unanimously (All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, Shauna Mahoney and Holly Myers).

Closed Meeting – *None*

Reconvene

Next Meeting: The next regular Board Meeting will be held on February 23, 2023 at 7:30pm.

Adjournment: Kevin Peterson made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Kevin Peterson, Amanda Mortenson, Casey Unrein, Jaycee Rogers, Shauna Mahoney and Holly Myers). The board adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by Jaycee Rogers, Board Secretary

