

*Approved by the Board of Directors on July 17, 2025*

**Mission Statement:** "ACADEMICS. LEADERSHIP. COMMUNITY."

## **George Washington Academy**

**Thursday, June 26, 2025**

**7:30 p.m.**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Location:** George Washington Academy  
2277 South 3000 East  
St. George, Utah  
Learning Lab

*Audit Committee Training 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

**Prayer:** TBD

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chance Manzanares

#### **GWA Year Goals:**

- Expanding student Leadership opportunities for ALL students
- Ensure ALL students are learning at High Levels
- Focus on Employee Mental Health with Better and Quicker Access

Board Members Present: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via zoom.

Board Members Not Present: Kevin Peterson and Brady Pearce.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Amanda made a motion to approve the Minutes from the May 15h, 2025 Board Meeting as outlined in the packet. Laura Snelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.

#### **Public Opportunity to Address the Board:**

N/A

#### **Set time for adjournment:**

Amanda set time for adjournment at 8:45.

### **Teacher Reports:**

Blake mentioned they just got back from a conference in Las Vegas. They have new ideas about how to expand leadership opportunities not only for students but for teachers as well. As soon as the team leads come together, they will be putting together new goals as teams and as a school. There were a few faculty members that weren't able to attend but there were at least 50 that did go.

### **Administration Report:**

Blake Clark gave the administrative report. The current enrollment is at 1,046. Max enrollment for K-5 is 140 and in 6th and 7th the max enrollment is 120. Blake talked about sending an email with a date and time of when potential students can come and visit, possibly a student-led tour for the intermediate level. The wait list has 155 kids on it. If we had the space there could be 2 more kindergartens, one more first, one more second and one more third. K-5 retention is 90%. Retention is about 75% for kids going from elementary to intermediate. All reports have been completed.

### **Financial Report:**

Spencer Adams gave the financial report. We are close to the end of the year and everything is looking great. There is only one month left. This report is as of the end of May. We are right on track. There are a few adjustments to the forecast which is typical of this time of year. They want to have a buffer just in case there are any unforeseen expenditures at the end of the year. The state doesn't want to see us go over so that's why there is the buffer. Great year, nothing came up that negatively affected the budget. Ratios are looking very good. We have all of the restricted funds requested so we are just waiting for those to all come back.

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

- **Policies Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Finance Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Audit Committee** - Nothing to report.
- **Benefits Committee** – Jenna Ayers will be the new chair.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Outreach Committee** – The 20 Year Anniversary Celebration will be October 18 from 3-6. Looking forward to the update about the building. The committee is coming up with ideas to leverage the expansion to include the community.
- **Technology Committee** - Nothing to report.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – First meeting will be early fall. Back to school night we will have opportunities to get parents to join board committees. Back to school night will be August 7th.
- **PTO Committee** – Delani is prepared to submit information for the financial audit. Spencer said that it can be sent to him. They still need a secretary. Meeting for the new PTO will be July 2.
- **Board Development Committee** – We will have a list of all our trainings for next year at the board retreat. Tonight completes all of our obligations for the audit. We will be doing onboarding for all the new board members, we don't have a date yet but Shannon will send an email when its scheduled.

- **Campus Management Committee** – Nothing to report.

**Discussion and/or Action Items:**

- Early Learning Plan - Blake said that this is not something that needs to be voted on but just needs to be on the agenda.
- Fraud Risk Assessment - not a vote. Shannon said that Casey did a great job going over this in the training.
- Amanda made a motion to approve the FY25 Final Budget as outlined in the board packet. Laura Snelson seconded the motion. Casey noted the percentages - we are 91% of the year done, expenses are at 88% so that is a 2-3% margin. 2-3% of \$10 million is \$200,000-\$300,000 so we are budgeting cautiously but can expect that net profit margin to jump significantly once everything is closed out. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.
- Amanda made a motion to approve the FY26 Original Budget as outlined in the board packet. Casey seconded the motion. Spencer said that there were some state revenue increases. WPU increased by 4%. Local replacement increased by 9%. They did away with the professional staff line. That got rolled into the flexible allocation, so there is a big jump in that line from last year, bigger than what we lost in that professional staff line. There were a few new line items added. Stipends for the support staff. Casey mentioned that this does not include an increase to the CAPex fund so it doesn't reflect any building costs - that will be supplemented by bonds. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.
- Amanda made a motion to approve Professional Geotechnical Services in the event that we need their services not to exceed the amount of \$8,400. Casey seconded the motion. These services may or may not be required as we begin the expansion process. It is possible that what has already been done will be sufficient in which case this will not be needed. However, in the case that it is, it will already be approved and not exceed the amount of \$8,400. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.
- Amanda made a motion to approve the Special Education Independent Contractor Agreement UPDATED as outlined in the packet. Laura Pressley seconded the motion. Blake said that Spencer had sent an email outlining the wording that needed to be in all outside contractor agreements in order to comply. Shannon asked if the contractors will now sign the updated version. Blake said that they would. He said that the auditors are kind enough to send out what they will audit next year. Spencer sent out a sheet highlighting all the changes that need to be made before July 1. Casey confirmed it would be for all outside contractors. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.
- Casey made a motion to approve the Carpet repair/replacement from Sunset flooring. Laura Pressley seconded the motion. Shannon asked if Steve preferred if we do one big lump or go room by room. Sunset Flooring gave a bid for one big lump sum. Carpets Plus itemized it room by room. Discussion was had about how much they both would be with

extra charges possibly coming in with carpet removal etc. Casey amended his motion to include the quotes from Sunset Flooring with a limit not to exceed \$15,000 subject to include work, removal and prep. Laura seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom.

### **Hughes Construction Update:**

Shannon said that they have been meeting each week with Hughes Construction. It had come up that the project may be starting later than what was anticipated. It could potentially save the school a couple million dollars which would go towards maybe a bigger auditorium, more space for the students. The reason why it might get pushed back is because of the timing. To do things in the proper order, not rush things and get the best bid, we would need to make the bid in January or February next year instead of now. Blake said he asked for a rendering so he could show it at back to school night. If we waited, the project would not be done until late spring, early summer of 2028. If we push it through now, then chances are we would spend two million dollars more. The committee has given them the go ahead for the footprint. Laura P. checked to see if we could move forward with groundbreaking and the groundwork. They are very attentive to the fact that they don't want to have a problem with the carpool line. They have been meeting for an hour every week but are now taking two weeks off and will resume every week for two hours after that break.

### **Appointment of New Board Members:**

Shannon brought up that we are down two board members, Debora and Austin. Rachel will be the new PTO representative. Shannon interviewed and sent out her thoughts about Sharon and Sharna. Shannon made a motion to appoint Sharon Moss to take Debora's place on the board. Amanda seconded the motion. Casey asked why Sharon over Sharna. Everyone spoke highly of both candidates but thought that Sharon has worked in and with the administration and served on the PTO for two years so they felt she had more experience. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom. Shannon asked if Amanda wanted to stay on the board although she is moving to a different state. Amanda said that she would stay until she could get replaced. She didn't want to leave anyone in a bind. She does see the difficulty of joining meetings remotely and would not want to hinder the progress especially of the expansion by her being so far away. She knows Sharna and highly recommends her. She has a business mindset and would be a great asset to the board. Casey made a motion to accept Amanda Mortenson's resignation and appoint Sharna Rowe as the new board member. Laura S seconded the motion. Blake doesn't know Sharna and was worried that new board members might have an agenda. He wants to make sure that anyone who comes to the board has the school and its interests top of mind. Laura said she is very altruistic. Amanda said that she loves this school and she would do a great job. All present voted in favor: Shannon Greer, Amanda Mortenson, Laura Pressley, Casey Unrein, and Laura Snelson via Zoom. Amanda said she could stay on the committee so knowledge and experience isn't lost. She also recommended that Laura P join the Expansion committee.

**Closed Meeting – None**

**Reconvene** — Take all appropriate action in relation to closed session items.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular Board Meeting will be held on July 17, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. The Board retreat will be pushed back until a day in August, to be determined.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Written by Shelbi Kelly