

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, September 25, 2014
7:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

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

The Board work session convened at 7:00 p.m.

Work Session: Anna Bohannon trained the Board on the Open Meetings Act Training.

The Board meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. following the work session.

Board Members Present: Shannon Greer, President; Kody Young, Vice-President; Patrick Carroll, CFO; Matt Hafen, Secretary; Brandon Russell; and Phil Loomis.

Board Members Absent: Adam Lofgran.

Others Present: Anya Yeager, Executive Director; Rachelle Crawford; Jeri Moro; Emily Poulson; Travis Poulson; Thayne Smith; Brittany Staheli; and Daniel Staheli.

Board President Welcome: Shannon Greer, President

Roll Call: Shannon Greer, President

Prayer: Kody Young

Pledge of Allegiance: Brandon Russell

Approval of Minutes: Phil Loomis motioned to approve the Minutes from the August 28, 2014 Board meeting as presented in the Board Packet. Kody Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Patrick Carroll motioned to approve the Minutes from the September 12, 2014 Board meeting as presented in the Board Packet. Kody Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Opportunity to Address the Board: Travis Poulson requested information about what the safety protocols are in the case of a lockout, what methods are used to notify guardians, and what trainings are given to faculty.

Phil Loomis set the time for adjournment at 9:15 p.m.

Teacher Representative Report: Rachelle Crawford reported that the teachers loved having SEPs at midterm. She reported that carpool is moving much smoother and she has heard good feedback about that.

Administration Report:

- Anya Yeager, Executive Director, reported that enrollment is currently 1,025.
- At this point in the year, employees have had 38.5 overtime hours since the beginning of the year. This is an increase of approximately 17 hours since the last meeting. Attendance is at 96% and 98% of students have been on time.
- Any reported that they just completed the Fall DIBELs assessment.
- Southern Utah University is bringing in about 33 student teachers next week to student teach at GWA.
- Mrs. Yeager reported that the 8th grade ambassadors program is going very well.
- Mrs. Yeager reported that Administration has completed all job descriptions for employees at the school. The job descriptions will be used for employee evaluations.
- Status of State Reports Due in September:
 - Mrs. Yeager reported that the Student Membership Audit for prior year (SY 2012-2013) is complete.
 - Mrs. Yeager reported that the Extended Year for Special Educator (EYSE) Stipends Report is complete.
 - Mrs. Yeager reported that the Extended School Year (ESY) for Severely Disable Report is complete.
 - Mrs. Yeager reported that the Special Education Dispute Resolution is complete.

Financial Report: Thayne Smith reported on the Financial Summary as of August 31, 2014, and the Financial Detail Report as of August 31, 2014, which he reported are on track with what we anticipated.

Committee Reports:

- **Policies** – Anya Yeager, Chair, reported that the committee will meet on October 7 to review the FERPA policy.
- **Compensation**- Nothing to report.
- **Finance** – Patrick Carroll, Chair, reported that we the committee will discuss the bonds later on the agenda.
- **Investment** – Nothing to report.
- **Continuation** – Nothing to report.
- **Curriculum** – Shannon Greer reported that the writing committee has developed a writing continuum for GWA. The committee discussed a plan for replacing textbooks and evaluation of the GWA curriculum. Next month, the Board will review the GWA effectiveness goals.
- **Technology** - Anya Yeager reported that the technology committee is going well. Russ has been busy with tech requests. The microphones used in the classrooms are starting to reach the end of their life cycle, as well as the projectors.
- **LAND Trust** – Shannon Greer reported that they met and they are looking for parents to be on the committee.

- **PTO Committee** – Phil Loomis, Chair, reported that the PTO met this month and there was no participation other than the PTO Board. They are spending their time preparing for the Fall Carnival.
- **Board Development** – Nothing to report.
- **Board Recruitment** – Nothing to report.
- **Safety Committee** – Anya Yeager reported on the lockout situation that occurred this month. She reported that the school followed the instructions from local law enforcement. Administration has been working on improving on the response procedures and restocking emergency supplies for a lockout situation. Officer Pitcher reported that GWA is doing very well in this area compared to other schools in the area.

Additional Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Kody Young motioned to approve the UAPCS Invoice in the amount of \$4,612.50. Brandon Russell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Shannon Greer presented an amendment to the Paid Time Off Policy. Patrick Carroll motioned to approve the amendment as provided in the Board Packet. Kody Young seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Kody Young presented revisions to Substitute Requirements & Compensation. Patrick Carroll motioned to approve the policy as provided in the Board Packet, with the change of “class” to “classroom.” Phil Loomis seconded the motion. Shannon Greer stated that she would prefer to see the word “event” instead of “same illness. Patrick amended the motion accordingly, and Phil seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Patrick Carroll reported that our current blended rate is about 7.2% on our bonds, which is considerably more than other bonds. The challenge for GWA is that our bonds are not callable for several years without penalties. We have been making plans to refinance the bonds when possible. Patrick reported that we may have an opportunity to refinance the 2008 series of bonds. Kody Young presented the financial considerations for refinancing the bonds with a lower interest rate. Patrick reported that we still need to have GWA re-rated by S&P so we can meet the requirements for the moral obligation program, and we need to determine what sunk costs there will be if we hire a financial advisor to pursue the option, and end up not going through with it. Patrick Carroll motioned to move forward with a request for bids from financial advisors for the purpose of refinancing the bonds with a due date on or before October 31, 2:00 p.m. MST. Brandon Russell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

No closed session was held.

Next Meeting: The next regular Board meeting will be held on October 23, 2014.

Phil Loomis motioned to adjourn. Patrick Carroll seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by the Board Secretary, Matt Hafen

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON OCTOBER 23, 2014