Approved by the Board of Directors on October 22nd, 2026.

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

George Washington Academy
Thursday September 24th, 2026
7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes

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

Open and Public Meeting Act Board Training was held at 7:00pm prior to the Board meeting business.

Shannon Greer made a motion to continue the OPMA Board training at 7:30pm. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board meeting convened at 7:50pm.

Board Welcome: Shannon Greer, President
Roll Call: Shannon Greer
Prayer: None
Pledge of Allegiance: Casey Unrein

Board Members Present: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Board Members not Present: Laura Pressley.

Others Present: Blake Clark, Steve Erickson, Chance Manzanares, Jaycee Rogers, Debra Kauvaka, Lydia Mooney, Emily Winona, Ashley Ririe and Sadie Carter. Spencer Adams via zoom.

A quorum was established.

GWA Year Goals:
Academics- By May 2027, we will increase grade- level reading fluency from 76% to 84%, ensuring more students demonstrate grade-level reading proficiency.
Discussion: October 9th there will be bulletin boards per grade created in hallways to track progress to hold teachers and students accountable.

Approval of Minutes:
David Stilman made a motion to approve the Minutes from the August 27th, 2026 Board Meeting as outlined in the Board Packet.
Ericka Ivie seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz, and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Public Opportunity to Address the Board:
None

Set time for adjournment:
Brady Pearce set time for adjournment for 8:35pm.

Strategic Planning: Laura Snelson gave the report.
Laura gave an overview of the Strategic Plan cascade for the Board Members. She asked the Board members to familiarize themselves with the 3 Core Elements and their supporting pillars: Academic Excellence, Student Support and Capacity & Sustainability. This system has now been integrated into the monthly Board update. Once the full Strategic Plan document has been completed, it will be stored on the school website. It is currently being worked on by the administration team. A copy of the Strategic Plan cascade that was presented during the meeting will be emailed to Mr. Clark and Board Members by Laura Snelson. It was asked that the Board members and administration team complete the Board Governance Evaluation survey, the link will be re-sent by Shannon on the evening of the board meeting.

Teacher Reports: Emily Winona and Lydia Mooney gave the report.
Wellness specialists reported that the Wellness Center is much needed with over 700 visits this year. The social workers reported that the mental health screeners are starting. The state has afforded the funds to make this possible. This is a 4th-7th grade opt in program with parent permission needed.
The Hope Squad members taught classmates about reporting issues to safe adults. They wrote their own scripts and organized the presentation which was given in classrooms, showing amazing leadership skills.
The 5th graders have been eager to lead. They have asked to run the Soar Card Store. 2nd grade is celebrating grade level academic success. Many students started the year at or above grade level in both math and reading. This speaks to the dedication of the parents and teachers combined efforts.

Administration Report: Blake Clark gave the report.
Blake Clark provided an administrative update, reporting current enrollment of 1,046 students, projected to reach 1,049 the following week, with a goal of 1,050 by October 1st. Recent enrollment includes homeschool families, families new to the area, and transfers from nearby independent schools. Attendance has improved to 94%.
Academic data is now being reviewed against both Utah state and Utah charter school averages. Reading proficiency data showed students at grade level expectations as follows: K 69%, 1st 69%, 2nd 80%, 3rd 86%, 4th 79%, 5th 71%, and 6th 91%. Individualized reading plans are being developed for students below grade level, with teachers, administration, and parents involved. Seventh grade data will be included in a future board update.
Math proficiency was reported at K 83%, 1st 65%, 2nd 74%, and 3rd 59%. GWA will continue utilizing its current math assessment system to support data informed instruction.
Behavior data was reviewed, showing teacher managed behaviors decreasing from 72 to 45 compared with the same period last year; however, suspensions have increased, with five occurring during the current week. Administration is reviewing additional strategies and training to support staff with higher level behaviors. The previously discussed behavioral initiative, the new Soar Cards, is progressing well.
Blake also highlighted ongoing professional development training aligned with the school's strategic priorities and teacher licensure requirements. He noted that the strategic priority framework has increased

intentionality and organization across the school. GWA will also participate in the statewide Read-a-Thon Friday September 25th where the higher grades will be paired with the younger students for partner reading. Students are encouraged to dress as their favorite book character.

Meeting Time:
Brady Pearce made a motion to continue the Board Meeting at 8:35pm.
Casey Unrein seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz, and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Financial Report: Spencer Adams gave the report.
Spencer Adams presented the financial report through the end of August and reported that the school remains in a strong overall financial position. Several budget line items are trending above budget, primarily due to expected beginning-of-year expenditures for classroom supplies, technology, and curriculum; these items will continue to be monitored.
Expenses currently exceed revenue due primarily to construction and expansion project costs funded through reserves and bond accounts rather than regular operating expenses. Additional detail has been added to the report to provide greater clarity regarding these expenses.
Financial ratios remain healthy, and no concerns were reported regarding the school's overall financial position. The financials will continue to be reviewed monthly, with particular attention to the October 1 enrollment count.

Committee Reports (3 min each):

- **Policies Committee** – Policy training will be taking place once a month. It was asked to have a committee member attend each month.
- **Finance Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Audit Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Benefits Committee** – The committee will be meeting in October to present medical benefits.
- **Curriculum Committee** – The committee defined its terms and purpose during their previous meeting. There was a consensus across all grades that there is less support for writing, so the committee will be putting their focus on that area. They are also considering a new language arts program for 6th and 7th grade.
- **Outreach Committee** – An update to the website is a priority for the committee.
- **Technology Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – Audit went well. There was an update that they are currently working on filling the spots for the committee.
- **PTO Committee** – October 22nd assembly with Tom Ballard who is the creator of "The Heart" to help bring the discussion of kindness and anti-bullying to the students. This will hopefully help with the behavior challenges being experienced within the school. There has been a very encouraging start of the year regarding parent participation. Over 20 parents attended the first PTO meeting. The focus is now on event planning for the Fall Festival. The committee has met with a tax accountant to address the previous PTO entity. They have established a clear path forward, with a hope to update the bylaws, solidify the EIN and be up and going again as their own entity by January 2027.
- **Board Development Committee** – Training coming up next month. No new Board members are being added at this time.
- **Campus Management Committee** – Nothing to report.

Discussion and/or Action Items:
Brady Pearce made a motion to approve the Hughes Flood Repair Invoice in the amount of $11,745.00.
Ericka Ivie seconded the motion.
The proposal included the 2 totals from the invoice of $3,095.00 and $8,650. This invoice is for the repair of the damage done by the Black Hill construction crew in the front of the school. The responsible company will provide a check to cover all repairs. No payment will be made towards the repairs until the school receives the insurance money.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Brady Pearce made a motion to approve the Revival Restoration & Construction Invoice in the amount of $12,314.70.
David Stillman seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Brady Pearce made a motion to approve the AGEC Invoice in the amount of $5,767.50.
David Stillman seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Ericka Ivie made a motion to approve Madsen's Printhouse Invoice in the amount of $6,588.10.
Casey Unrein seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

David Stillman made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 TSSA Plan as presented in the Board Packet.
Laura Snelson seconded the motion.
This framework will be published and posted on the school website.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Ericka Ivie made a motion to approve the Update Policy 280: Criminal Background Check & Reporting of Arrests as presented in the Board Packet, with the expectation that the admin team will fix the headers to reflect 280 as the correct policy numbers.
David Stillman seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously. Those who voted in favor: Shannon Greer, David Stillman, Casey Unrein, Laura Snelson, Brady Pearce and Ericka Ivie. Miguel Munoz and Sharna Rowe via zoom.

Hughes Construction Update: Shannon Greer gave the report.
The construction is moving very quickly. The framing of where the footings will be placed has been completed. They will now start pouring the footings.

Reporting on Sponsorships: Sadie Carter gave the report.
The total raised in sponsorships for 26/27 was $39,000 with $1,750 in gift cards for the PTO. This brought the total raised to $40,750. $46,500 was raised last year, the $5,750 difference this year was due partially to losing the Patriot Level of sponsoring. 40 sponsoring businesses this year versus 41 from last year. 16 canceled this year due to students no longer attending GWA or hard financial summers. 14 new sponsoring businesses joined this year. Plaques and banners have been updated, we are just awaiting the plaques completion and will be able to hang on the sponsor wall once ready. 14 booths are confirmed to have a booth during Fall Festival with 20 confirmed to provide promotional flyers for the attendee bags. Raffle prizes have been gathered to be auctioned off during the event to raise additional funds for the PTO.

Closed Meeting –
None

Next Meeting: The next regular Board Meeting will be held October 22nd at 7:00pm.

Adjournment: Shannon Greer made a motion to adjourn at 9:12pm.