

**GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, November 20, 2013 @ 5:00 PM**

**Board Members Present:**

Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Allison Bhusri, Cynthia Billops, Sapna Boze, Felix Chinchilla, Laura D'Amato, Mark Felton, Deundra C. Hundon, David Jackson, Amy Joseph, Susan Masto, Joyce McMinn, Erin Niehaus, Sharon Olken, Will Parish, Jackie Quella, Adina Safer, Sue Schultes, Phil Susser, Laura Spivy, Valerie Toler, Jennifer Tulley, Julie Wise, Briana Zelaya

**Board Members Excused:**

Katherine Welch

**Also present:**

Chris Hero, Tina McGovern

**1. Dinner, Board Member Activity**

The Board broke into small groups for a get-to-know-you session with Middle School teachers and faculty

**2. Call to Order, Welcome, and Approval of Minutes from October 23rd, 2013**

Jennifer Tully called the meeting to order at 5:45PM. Minutes were still being reviewed and not available for approval at this time.

**3. Public Forum**

Jennifer then opened the floor for public forum. No further discussions or motions were introduced.

**4. Executive Director Report (INFO)**

***A) Middle school report (Aaron Watson)***

Aaron reported that the GMS staff has been focusing on culture building, process of learning, and restorative practices. The school's diversity in terms of needs, learning styles, socio-economic, etc., have made it a perfect place to practice proactive and reactive examples. He also announced that GMS just received funding for a part time mental health counselor.

Board Visiting day at GMS offered special insight to methods and curricula. All present were impressed. Students and teachers were engaged and demonstrating a deep mutual respect.

Sharon thanked Aaron for his leadership and the creation of a collaborative school.

***B) GHS Enrollment Process and Charter Renewal***

GPS Leadership met and then the executive committee met to reflect on the early enrollment process. Everyone agreed it was not a total success for various reasons. The district recently sent a memorandum on complying with district rules and scheduling. Charter schools are still in discussion about how to respond.

Because the GPS goal is to make a maximum positive impact for kids at Gateway, kids in public schools in San Francisco and beyond, everyone agreed to take a multi year approach on re-evaluating GPS' approach to enrollment.

Sharon reported that the intent is to submit the charter renewal to SFUSD meeting on 1/24. They will have 60 days to go through their process - to approve or deny. The earlier GPS submits, the better; should they not approve, GPS will need time to appeal to the state. Thus, the Board has to

approve charter in Jan 15 meeting. She said she would facilitate conversation before that meeting to ensure its passing.

Jennifer thanked Sharon.

**5. Development Update**

Tina McGovern thanked Julie Wise for her work on the auction. Tina reminded everyone that the goal is to raise \$1.5 million, but that we have already raised \$600,000. She distributed year-end campaign letters. She also said that Valerie and Kathryn worked hard on year-end. The Board thanked Tina.

**6. Audit Update**

Chris Hero said the auditors looked at GPS record keeping, attendance and financials. They found no errors or changes, so it was a clean audit. He also said GPS had strong financial results – finished with surplus of \$120K – partially due to better than expected attendance. GPS finished under budget on expenses by 1%.

Laura Spivy then honored Chris and acknowledged how incredible and rare it is to have such clean audits for 6-7 years. Board thanked and applauded.

Motion was made to approve audit and was seconded. The motion passed without exception.

**7. Adjourn Meeting**

Jennifer reminded the Board that there would be no December Board Meeting but a Holiday Party on Thursday, December 18th. At 7:04 PM, with no other business to conduct, Jennifer adjourned the meeting.

Signed: Allison Bhusri  
Allison Bhusri, Board Secretary

Date: 1/15/14