

# Gate City Charter School for the Arts

Board of Trustees Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date:

*“The mission of the GCCSA is to use an arts integrated curriculum ... to produce graduates who excel in both academics and the arts and have the knowledge, creativity and inquisitive nature that foster a life-long love of learning.”*

Meeting Date: February 15, 2022

Time: 7:04 PM

Location: Gate City Charter School for the Arts, 7 Henry Clay Rd, Merrimack, NH with remote option

## Voting Board Members in Attendance:

Danielle Charest (Chair)

Sarah Thibeault (Secretary)

Rebecca Boutin-Remote

Neil Mahoney (Parent Rep)

Grace Cavallo-Remote

## Absent Board Members:

## Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Jennifer Blanchette-remote

## Attending Public:

Joe Capriotti-remote

Amanda Mckenna-remote

Kristen Capriotti-remote

Mojo Freeman-remote

Joshua Kershaw-remote

Paige Duval-remote

Lynn Rae-remote

Catherine Ellison-remote

Eric Charest

## Public Comments/Public Matters

Joe Capriotti-Asked for the covid policy to be dissolved and for masks to become optional-or asking for the director and BoT members to step down.

Catherine Ellison-Mask mandate is important to her high-risk child. Her children will be returning to school at GCCSA for the first time in a year in a half but might not if the mask mandate is dissolved.

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Amanda McKenna-In favor of masking because of her high-risk family member at home.

Rebecca Boutin-Her’s children have been remote learning and would not be able to attend in person if there was no mask mandate, her child is very high risk. She also believes it’s a good idea to keep community members safe as well.

## Approval of Minutes from November 2021

**MOTION** (Grace Cavallo/Neil Mahoney) Motion to approve the November 2021 Meeting Minutes was accepted unanimously.

## Approval of Minutes from January 2022

**MOTION** (Grace Cavallo/Neil Mahoney) Motion to approve the January 2022 Meeting Minutes was accepted unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

PTO- Sarah Thibeault- The PTO has a lot of great events coming up including the Talent Show in April, Teacher Appreciation in May, and Field Day at the end of the school year.

Curriculum Committee- Jennifer Blanchette-See Directors Report

H/R Policy Committee- -No Meeting

PR and Community Relations committee- Sarah Thibeault- The new website is up and just needs some more pictures but looks great. March 9, will be an info session in person as well as virtually. We will be doing artist of the month calendars once again and will be looking to fill advertising spots. February student work will be on display at CTPA in Hudson. March student work will be on display at the Merrimack Library as well as Nashua City Hall. April we will have student artwork on display at Big Kahuna in Merrimack. RaiseCraze will kick off 3/14 and continue till 3/28. We will be taking part in the Breathe NH-Fun pass Books in April. The art auction/Spring concert will be happening on 5/27 we will be looking for volunteers folding tables and new artwork.

Grants Committee- No Meeting

Facilities Committee- Eric Charest- See Directors report

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**MOTION** (Sarah Thibeault/Grace Cavallo) Motion to accept the committee meeting reports was accepted unanimously.

## Finance Committee Meeting

See directors report.

**MOTION** (Sarah Thibeault/Neil Mahoney) Motion to accept the finance committee meeting reports was accepted unanimously.

## Old Business

Covid Policy-Propose a quarantine change from 10 days to 7 days.

### **Covid-Positive Test Results:**

Those receiving positive PCR and antigen test results should:

1. Quarantine for 7 days.
  - a. Covid-positive yet **asymptomatic** individuals seeking to return after 5-day isolation may do so only after a negative result on an antigen test. **Only asymptomatic and negative testing students will be allowed to return after 5 days.**
2. Isolate from household members where possible, including separate bathrooms.

**MOTION** (Sarah Thibeault/Neil Mahoney) Motion to accept the change to positive testing quarantine guidelines was accepted unanimously.

Masking guidelines-Discussion about the upcoming changing recommendations to optional masking. It was decided that the current policy would stand and would be revisited at the March BoT meeting. However, if in the next 4 weeks transmission is low and recommendations are made masks could become optional. Mrs. Bates will be available to help all students with emotional issues that may come up once masks become optional. Ms. Blanchette will send out an email to the community and offer office hours to discuss and ask questions.

## New Business

### Directors Report

Professional Development

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- PD Documentation Day/State Updates
- State Math Training for teachers by grade level

#### Safety Inspections

- Merrimack Safety Department Inspection (Food)

#### Finance

- 2020-2021 DOE 25 submitted/accepted
- 2019 audit complete/certified
- 2019 Annual Report completed
- 2019 audit/annual report submitted to Charitable Trust/Attorney General
- Anthony Rae was hired as a part-time school accountant.
- 2020 Audit underway
- IRS Tax Guidance

#### Curriculum

- Summer Program 2022
  - Title I
  - Prenda
  - Camps
- Math initiatives
- Remote Snow Day preparations/permissions

#### State Reports

- Class Submission/AOY
- ESS Reports Health Education/Principal Reports

#### Federal Grants

- Title II Monitoring/Auditing Completed
- Whole-School Federal Grant Audit scheduled for 5-17
- All grants reported on schedule

#### Enrollment

- Intent to Return Forms: 98 family responses (2 families not returning)
- March 9, 2022, Open House
- Lottery for Kindergarten March 21st
- Mailings/Advertisements

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## Assessment

### I Ready

- Schoolwide testing underway
- Strong literacy reports

### ELL/ACCESS

- Beginning this month

## Covid-19

- Current cases: 2

## Website Update

- <https://gccsanh.org/>

## Staffing Update

- Beginning Staff Evaluations/Next-Year Conversations
- 4th and 5th Math/Science still needed
- Long-term Substitute advertised
- Joy Ingram and Nicholas Giasullo

**MOTION** (Sarah Thibeault/Neil Mahoney) **Motion** to enter Nonpublic session RSA 91-A:3, II (a) Unanimously accepted.

**MOTION** (Neil Mahoney/Sarah Thibeault) **Motion** to leave nonpublic session Unanimously accepted.

**MOTION** (Grace Cavallo/Sarah Thibeault) **Motion** to adjourn Unanimously accepted.

Next public meeting Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 7 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM