

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 21, 2023

Time: 7:05 PM

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

Voting Board Members in Attendance:

Danielle Charest (Chair)

Sarah Thibeault (Secretary)

Rebecca Boutin

Neil Mahoney (Parent Rep)

Grace Cavallo

Sarah Marchand

Rebecca Boutin

Absent Board Members:

Manny Paolucci

Non-Voting Members in Attendance:

Jennifer Blanchette

Attending Public:

Public Comments/Public Matters

Approval of Minutes from the January 2023 Meeting

MOTION (Grace Cavallo/Neil Mahoney) Motion to approve January 2023 meeting minutes to March Meeting was accepted unanimously.

Committee Reports

PTO- Sarah Thibeault- Discussion of events as well as what we will do about meetings with low attendance

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Curriculum Committee- Jennifer Blanchette-See Directors Report

H/R Policy Committee- -No Meeting

PR and Community Relations committee- Sarah Thibeault- See Director’s report.

Grants Committee- see directors report.

Facilities Committee- Eric Charest- Comcast has a new project manager working on the transition of phone systems

Building Committee-Danielle Charest- Next step would be looking at finances.

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

Finance Committee Meeting

See director report

Old Business

Sarah Marchand will be sending out calendar invites to find a date to start new BoT member training.

New Business

We will be reviewing the process we used last year for our director review.

Directors Report

Facilities

- Phones/Internet Comcast: Service scheduled.
- Restorative Program completing small projects and repairs.
- Classroom cleaning kits for students
- Volunteer painting project music room

Finance

- Finance protocols and roles revised/discussed.
- Budget expected for review at the March Board meeting.

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- Finance Committee: Finance Report Review, Board Treasurer role development, Budget changes
- W2 corrections in process
- Audit materials provided.
- Upcoming federal grant audit preparation

Community Events/Activities:

- Student Government: Bake sale and Bathroom updates.
- March Mammal Madness begins after the break.
- Raise Craze: current \$2,236
- Video lab production Field Trip Grade 8, Thursday, Feb 21st
- Parent Learning Night March 13th with Babysitting
- Middle School Dance, March 24th
- Odyssey of the Mind March 25th
- Celebration of Learning March 23rd
- Drama Program: Set construction to begin/ Drama camp proposal/ April 1st venue

Staffing:

- Fully staffed
- Rolling substitute teacher application

Training:

- Confidentiality training (Ethics and Conduct)
- Certification Crew
- EA/Teacher PD March 17th (Position Role Jeopardy/Drama/Professional Skits)
- EA Training Mar 22, 2023 Tools and Tips

Admin:

- Charter School Updates/Meeting:
 - Bills under review, expected to be signed by the governor
 - Increase per student aid
 - Increase free and reduced lunch aid
- SAS Training: Applying results
- Retention training
- Reporting: Title Grant activities/effectiveness analysis
- Department of Education: SEL training

Curriculum:

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- Reading/Math Initiatives
 - Math Stars set to begin following February break
 - Reading Buddies underway
 - Stop, Drop, and Read underway
- I-Ready is nearly complete
- Remediation programs under review
- High School Prep/Battle of Books

Grants:

- Title I grant submitted
- Title II grant submitted
- Title IV grant submitted
- Esser III submitted

Grants In the process as of 2/2023

Safe Grants

Safe Grant: Update Locks

Safe Grant: Key Swipes

Safe Grant: Walkie Talkies

Awarded: Funding due 6-30-2023

[American Educator Classroom Grant](#)

K-5 classroom funding

Awaiting notification by May 2023

[Mockingbird Foundation](#)

Music award

Awaiting notification if we pass to the next round by March 2023 to apply by April 2023

Final funding by June 2023

[McCarthy Dressman Foundation](#)

Teacher Development Grant

Hoping for funding to support Responsive Classroom training

Awaiting notification between 7/15/23-8/15/2023

Elkay Water Filling Station

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One Water Filling Station was awarded; received via email
Applied via email 2/7/2023 via Wellness Teacher: Nick Riddell
Requires follow-up data once per year until June 1, 2026
Awaiting notification - date unknown

Moneygram Grant

Application: 2/7/2023 via email inquiry

Due: rolling, notification unknown

If a project is approved to move forward after review of the Letter of Intent, the organization will be asked to provide a detailed project proposal grants to organizations that support essential PreK–12 education via supplies, infrastructure, programs incl classrooms, tablets, digital libraries, and mobile labs. Priority to innovative curricula

Future Applications In process

Voya Foundation Grant

Unsung Heroes Awards Program

Due Apr 28, 2023

Notification by Aug 2023

Grantees by Dec 2023

Multiple awards from \$1k to \$10k

Open description of awardees: All awards must be used to further the projects, as described in the submitted application, within the school or school system

JW Couch Foundation

Mental Health/Wellness Grant

Due: 3/17/2023

Review: 3/31/23, will be notified if further information needed
general operating support, fund-specific programs

Endowment for Health: Opportunity Grant

Due: Rolling

Advance health equity for people who lack a fair opportunity to optimize their health potential.

Research

Additional 25 grants researched. Inquiries were sent and determined ineligible.

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MOTION (Grace Cavallo /Neil Mahoney) **Motion** to adjourn Unanimously accepted.

The next public meeting is Tuesday, March 21 at 7 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM