

GATEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
5:00 – 7:00 PM

Board Members Present:

Therese Arsenault, Beth Berliner, Cynthia Billops, David Booth, Sapna Boze, Laura D’Amato Contreras, Sharon Gillenwater, Sam Kary, Susan Kase, Lisa Kirkland, Annie Klebahn, Susan Masto, Joyce McMinn, Sharon Olken, Will Parish, Jackie Quella, Adina Safer, Sue Schultes, Suzanne Schutte, Laura Spivy, Phil Susser, Valerie Toler, Aaron White, Julie Wise

Board Members Excused: Allison Thoreson Bhusri, Jennifer Tulley

Board Members not Present: Deundra Hundon

Also present:

Chris Hero, Anna Heidinger, Megan Orciari, Marianne Fives, Danielle Ciccarelli

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Approval of Minutes from May 20, 2015

Sapna called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. She called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May, 2015 meeting. They were approved without issue.

2. Public Forum

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

3. Welcome Back and Introductions

Beth introduced and welcomed Sam Kary, a Gateway Middle School humanities teacher and a new member of the board. She and the board congratulated Aaron White on the birth of his daughter, Evelyn.

Beth made an announcement about the newly formed Hospitality Committee, chaired by Julie Wise. The Hospitality Committee will be responsible for providing food and hospitality at Board events.

Anna introduced Marianne Fives, the Development Manager and Anna’s right arm. Marianne does an amazing job and has wonderful database acumen. Anna also introduced Meg Orciari, who moved from Connecticut to be our Director of Communications. Meg is in charge of our websites and all school communications. Anna thanked her for the wonderful job she is doing.

Beth passed the floor to Sharon. Sharon welcomed the Board back after the summer hiatus, and welcomed Sam Kary. Sharon distributed a sheet of “Dear Gateway” letters from the GMS and GHS class of 2015. It has become a Board tradition to start the year by hearing from the students who just graduated. Every year, GHS and GMS ask graduating students to write a letter to the school. Sharon asked various Board members to read the letters aloud. Board members then introduced themselves one by one and talked about what impressed them about the letters.