

**GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 23, 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 McMin, 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:

Suzanne Schutte, Katherine Welch, Felix Chinchilla

Also present:

Chris Hero

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Approval of Minutes from Sept 18, 2013

Jennifer Tully called the meeting to order at 5:10PM. She called for a motion to approve the minutes. They were approved without issue.

2. Public Forum

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

3. Executive Director Report (INFO)

Jennifer Tully turned to the floor over to Sharon.

- a. *Discussion and vote on Student Stipulated Expulsion*
Sharon Olken briefed the Board on an expulsion hearing that resulted in recommendation of a stipulated expulsion and answered questions from trustees. The board voted unanimously to approve the stipulated expulsion order.
- b. *Data Snapshot*
Sharon walked the Board through printed data and stats as an overview of the big picture standings as to who GPS kids are, where they come from, college acceptance rates, the admissions process, etc. One thing to note: four-year college is becoming more cost prohibitive for GPS grads.
- c. *Admissions*
Latino and African American rates are up while Asian ticks slowly. 5% of students come from outside SF. Sunset, Richmond, Mission, and Excelsior continue to be big numbers for GPS.

Sharon reported that there is movement at the Board of Ed to have GPS admissions function in the ways they do there. Rachel Norton also came to campus for a discussion.

Sharon discussed the early application results. Almost all SF middle schools are represented. 1/3 of GMS kids who applied got in. An additional 12 who had siblings made the cut. GPS will let people know that there IS a lottery, there WILL be spots and they will be filled throughout the spring.

4. Chair Updates

- a. **Audit**
Phil says everything is going well.
- b. **Facilities**

b. Facilities

Jennifer says they meet on an ad hoc basis. Mentioned Justin Berthiaume's permagarden project. He wants it to be a part of the curriculum and after school programs and is going out for grants.

c. Faculty affairs

Laura D'Amato said they are looking at qualitative research and how the staff can continue to improve.

d. Finance

Laura Spivy said they look at the budget every month. They also look at long-term sustainability, development and strategic initiatives group. They are also planning for leadership change with Erin Niehaus' departure at the end of the year and would like an investment advisor.

e. Trustees - Jackie Quella said they are looking for a development chair and people with investment and technology industry connections. Mark Felton, Katherine Welch and Erin will roll off at end of year.

f. Strategic initiatives – Suzanne Schutte said they hope to do a roundtable Nov 1 with teachers to capture GPS practices and figure out the best way to share them. Chris said his group is looking at engaging public, what already works for other organizations, using the web to match volunteers with needs, etc. They plan on going back to teachers to start with them and see what they need – info gathering and assessing and confirming what we know.

5. Development Update (INFO)

Sue Schultes reported on behalf of the Development Committee. Over 400 people attended the Luncheon. Of those 400, 40 were current or former board members and 14 took tables. GPS made approximately \$250K net, \$43K of which was from Give by Cell.

Next up is the Auction on 11/16. Julie Wise, the auction chair, encouraged everyone to come. Beth made a plug for the event as well. Also coming is the Year End appeal. The committee is pushing the FOG campaign in a much more targeted manner, part of which are the Directors tours. Sharon also made a plug for Sudha's treasures.

6. Finance Update (INFO)

The operating budget shows a \$112K surplus for October. There was an unexpected \$300K from state funding (common core, state budget and district funding for mental health services at GMS and librarians). Chris Hero said that investments are doing well.

7. Board Survey Results (INFO)

Beth reported on the anonymous Board survey. The Board feels connected and respected, the meetings feel manageable, people appreciate the co chair structure, and also had positive feedback on FOG. They would like to see more diversity and clarity on their role as trustee. As for Sharon, they felt she commands great respect and is great leader who manages big picture and details. They would like more focus on teacher development, fundraising, data measurement and want to know how its philosophy compares to other schools.

8. Intranet Workshop (ACTIVITY)

Kathryn started to take people through instructions on how to access the Intranet but the wifi shut off at 7PM.

9. Adjourn Meeting

Jennifer reminded the Board that the next meeting is at GMS. 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