

**Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, September 17, 2024  
Via Videoconference**

**MINUTES**

**Participants:**

Glen Howard, Chair	Lisa Mallory
Scott Bess	Catherine Meloy
Dawn Bowen	Sharena Munford
Evelyn Lee	April Young

The following staff members were also present: Chelsea Kirk, Colleen Paletta, Elizabeth Rienzo, Jeffrey Rostand, Bennice Thayer, and Josh Wallish. Ms. Rienzo recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. Howard called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

Mr. Howard welcomed new Student Board Members Dawn Bowen and Sharena Munford to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Rostand welcomed and introduced Bennice Thayer, Director of GEC and Special Projects.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Howard asked for any proposed corrections or revisions to the June 11, 2024, Board meeting minutes. There being none, upon motion duly made and seconded, the **Board unanimously approved the minutes by roll call vote.**

**Mission Moment**

Dr. Kirk presented the Mission Moment, which included staff, alumni, and student spotlights.

**Financial Report**

Mr. Rostand presented the fiscal year-end June 2024 unaudited financials, highlighting several items of particular importance. Discussion followed, with Mr. Rostand responding to questions.

Mr. Rostand then presented the July 2024 financials, highlighting items of particular importance. Discussion followed, with Mr. Rostand responding to questions.

## **Introduction to Strategic Planning**

Ms. Meloy explained that the Middle States Commission requires schools to identify one organizational goal and to develop an improvement plan based on a gap identified via self-study. While GEC updates its operating plans annually, she said that it does not have a long-term strategic plan.

Ms. Meloy further explained that (i) GEC will begin its 10th year of operation next year and complete a 10-year Charter Review with DC PCSB and (ii) five years later, GEC will be up for a "charter renewal," a high-stakes review year during which GEC expects to enter into another 15-year charter agreement with DC PCSB. To prepare for this effort, she said, following an RFP, GEC selected HYVE to facilitate a strategic planning process to develop a five-year plan for SY 25-26 through SY 29-30.

Extensive discussion followed, and Ms. Meloy responded to questions.

## **Operations Update**

Ms. Paletta and Dr. Kirk provided an update on school operations, focusing on the following:

- YTD Goals
- Enrollment
- 2023-2024 Community Complaint Report Summary
- Middle States Accreditation
- GGW's Proposed Establishment of an Excel Center in Prince George's County

Discussion followed, and Ms. Paletta and Dr. Kirk responded to questions.

## **Governance**

Ms. Meloy reported that a prospective Board Member is waiting for approval from their employer to serve on the GEC Board of Directors. If/when that approval is received, Board Members will be asked to vote via email.

## **Public Comment**

No one from the public attended the meeting.

Mr. Howard adjourned the meeting at 10:32 am.

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Scott Bess  
Acting Secretary