



# State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia

## Minutes

### SCSF Executive Committee Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday August 15, 2023 at 12:00 PM

#### Location

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88223521001>

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#### Committee Members Present

A. Welcher (remote), C. Sears (remote), D. Head (remote), F. Konteh (remote), J. Louis (remote), M. Dudgeon (remote), M. Neely (remote), Y. Mack (remote)

#### Committee Members Absent

None

#### Guests Present

A. Chen (remote), S. Sweeney (remote)

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

#### B. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Welcher called a meeting of the Executive Committee of State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia to order on Tuesday Aug 15, 2023 at 12:02 PM.

#### C. Approve Minutes

C. Sears made a motion to approve the minutes from SCSF Monthly Executive Committee Meeting on 07-18-23.

M. Dudgeon seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Y. Mack Absent

M. Dudgeon Aye

D. Head Abstain

F. Konteh Aye

J. Louis Aye

C. Sears Aye

A. Welcher Aye

**D. Comments from 7 Pillars Academy**

Christina Guillen, 7 Pillars School Leader, provided update on planned growth and uses for the GEER II grant funding. The majority of the funding was used for technology for upper school kids and retaining talent. 7 Pillars Academy is locally authorized by Clayton County.

Waitlist of over 500 students, original cap was 350 - additional funds will be used to increase capacity, as the School adds a grade every year.

**II. Governance**

**A. Welcome New Board Member**

We are excited to welcome Donovan Head, the new Executive Director for the SCSC, to the SCSF board and Executive Committee! His start date on the board was August 1, 2023, when he was sworn in as the new Executive Director.

**B. Consideration of Revised Federal Grant Procurement Policy**

M. Dudgeon made a motion to update policy on procurement utilizing federal grant funds.

Y. Mack seconded the motion.

The SCSF staff recommend an updated policy on procurement utilizing federal grant funds.

- New section on sole source contracts
- Additional information in the conflict of interest section
- Updated "President" to "President & CEO"

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**III. Financial Report**

**A. Presentation of July 2023 Financial Reports**

J. Louis presented the. July 2023 Financial Reports. This month is the first month with payroll/personnel line item - split funded between CSP, GEER II and General Funds.

#### **IV. Contracts & Grant Awards**

##### **A. Revoke Authorization for Contract for CSP Technical Assistance Provider**

C. Sears made a motion to revoke the Executive Committee's previous approval to enter into a sole source contract with the following nonprofit entity - Georgia Charter Schools Association.

M. Dudgeon seconded the motion.

SCSF staff request revoking the Executive Committee's previous approval to enter into a sole source contract with the following nonprofit entity:

- Georgia Charter Schools Association - \$160,000

Staff recommend seeking competitive bids for services for Phase II of the Replication and Expansion Cohort program since GCSA did not submit a scope of services/proposal and is not in compliance with the existing SCSF contract under GEER II.

GCSA helped with and I) Replication assistance via Incubator II) Facility & Finance Resources (Facility Resource Center) work.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

##### **Roll Call**

J. Louis	Aye
F. Konteh	Aye
M. Dudgeon	Aye
A. Welcher	Aye
C. Sears	Aye
D. Head	Abstain
Y. Mack	Aye

##### **B. Update on GEER II Subgrants**

SCSF staff is reviewing the progress of all subgrantees. Recommendations will be made for any subgrant award modifications at the September meeting.

- All but one subgrantee have made at least one request for grant funds. DELTA STEAM Academy has expressed their intent to expend grant funds on time.
- DuBois Integrity Academy has relinquished their Planning Grant due to lack of capacity to carry out grant activities at this time.
- All SCSF team members are assisting with grant fund requests and providing technical assistance to subgrantees.

##### **C. Approval of Reallocation of Subgrant Funds**

M. Dudgeon made a motion to reallocate subgrant funds from the relinquishment of DuBois Integrity Academy's Planning Grant and other underspent GEER II budget categories - 7 Pillars Academy.

C. Sears seconded the motion.

The Georgia Strategic Charter School Growth Initiative partners (SCSF, SCSC, GCSA) recommend reallocating subgrant funds from the relinquishment of DuBois Integrity Academy's Planning Grant and other underspent GEER II budget categories as follows:

- Amend the subgrant award for 7 Pillars Career Academy from \$35,000 to \$100,000.

This subgrant is intended to support the substantial expansion of the school, as approved by Clayton County, the school's authorizer. The school has indicated their significant need and ability to expend funds by the end of September. The additional grant funds would fully fund their grant application request of \$100,000.

All three members of GEER II administration have approved

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

Y. Mack	Aye
A. Welcher	Aye
D. Head	Aye
J. Louis	Aye
C. Sears	Aye
F. Konteh	Aye
M. Dudgeon	Aye

## **V. Programs & Initiatives**

### **A. President's Report**

#### **Operations**

- Continuing IT migration, implementation of new grant portal.
- Establishing new office protocols and expectations.
- All SCSC equipment returned and licenses relinquished.
- Requested and now working with new banking team at Truist to address banking challenges.

#### **Federal Grants**

- Finalizing contracts with two CSP TA providers and executing partner contracts with GaDOE and SCSC.
- Carefully monitoring GEER II expenditures and preparing for budget amendment request and possible additional/reallocated subgrants. Grant fund

requests are requiring full attention of all staff member.

- Planning two charter school info sessions in Athens with local resident/business leader. To include newly-improvement Movement School and BES fellow developing a petition for the area. GeorgiaCAN to assist.
- Planning charter school info sessions in other locations with GeorgiaCAN - virtual, Augusta, other possible locations.
- Ads for FindaGaCharter.org running on public radio and in publications across the state.

### **Other Programs**

- Book vending machines being delivered; ribbon cuttings to be scheduled in August. \*Still working on this with schools.
- Re-started weekly newsletters to schools.
- Created annual calendar of activities.

## **VI. Closing Items**

### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
F. Konteh

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### **Documents used during the meeting**

- Fed Grant Procurement Aug 2023.pdf
- 2023-07-31 - Financial Statements.pdf
- SCSF Calendar 2023-24.pdf