



Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport

GOBPT May Board Meeting

Published on May 7, 2025 at 10:36 AM EDT

Amended on May 22, 2025 at 4:27 PM EDT

Date and Time

Monday May 12, 2025 at 5:30 PM EDT

Location

375 Howard Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			5:30 PM
A. Record Attendance & Begin Recording Meeting		Bob Carlson	2 m
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Bob Carlson	1 m
C. Approve Last Month's Meeting Minutes	Approve Minutes	Bob Carlson	1 m
Approve minutes for GOBPT Board Meeting on April 9, 2025			
II. Finance Committee			5:34 PM
A. Vendor Approvals	Vote	Corey Sneed	3 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
B. Finance Committee Updates	FYI	Benjamin Chan	30 m
III. Governance Committee			6:07 PM
A. Chief Operating Officer's Report	FYI	Latoya Hubbard	10 m
B. Chief Executive Officer's Report	FYI	John Scalice	10 m
IV. Vote to Enter into Executive Session			6:27 PM
A. Vote to Enter into Executive Session	Vote	Bob Carlson	1 m
V. Closing Items			6:28 PM
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Bob Carlson	1 m

Attention: Times and Locations are subject to change.

Coversheet

Approve Last Month's Meeting Minutes

Section:	I. Opening Items
Item:	C. Approve Last Month's Meeting Minutes
Purpose:	Approve Minutes
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Minutes for GOBPT Board Meeting on April 9, 2025



Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport

Minutes

GOBPT Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday April 9, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Location

375 Howard Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Directors Present

Bea Bagley (remote), Bob Carlson, Corey Sneed (remote), David Zieff, Matthew Nwosu (remote), Robert Traber

Directors Absent

Daniel Luciano, Eva Vega, Tenssie Ramsay

Guests Present

Benjamin Chan, Farah Martin, John Scalice, Latoya Hubbard

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance & Begin Recording Meeting

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Bob Carlson called a meeting of the board of directors of Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport to order on Wednesday Apr 9, 2025 at 5:37 PM.

C.

Approve Last Month's Meeting Minutes

Bea Bagley made a motion to approve the minutes from GOBPT March Board Meeting on 03-12-25.

Robert Traber seconded the motion.

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

II. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Updates

CFO, B. Chan, went over dashboard.

- As of end of March we were in total cash position of \$504,796. The per pupil came in as well.
- We are current on our bills.
- Fundraising: Near and Far Aid gave the school \$10,000, David Zieff helped with the other amount of \$7,000.

D. Zieff asked where we will be in about 3 months. B. Chan, CFO, reports we will be ahead of the game by about 200,000 because we were budding to the old per pupil rate.

We are also switching over from Quickbooks to SAGE Intacct.

Erate- The last year of our 5 year grant. Erate is for internet funding. The service is up for renewal under CAT 1. The best bid was our current vendor. Erate will pay 85% of that. CAT 2, has three areas. One is to renew licenses for switches and access points. The lowest bid was from Total Comm and there is also Firewall and backup.

C. Sneed reports we have decided to continue using ADP as a benefit provider.

B. Vendor Approvals

David Zieff made a motion to approve Total Comm as a new vendor.

Bea Bagley seconded the motion.

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

III. Governance Committee

A. Chief Operating Officer's Report

COO, Latoya Hubbard, went over COO Report.

Student Enrollment:

As of today, we have received a total of 291 applications across all grades compared to only 46 applications in April 2024.

Certification:

95% of our returning staff is certified

62% of our new staff is certified

The gap you see there is staff that is currently pending licenses and we are waiting for those to be approved. COO went over application process.

Intent to Return Survey Results:

In March, we distributed our annual Intent to Return Survey to all staff. We're pleased to share that 95% of our team indicated their intention to return to Great Oaks for the 2025–2026 school year! This strong rate of retention is a testament to the strength of our school community and the commitment of our educators and staff.

Teacher Recruitment:

To strengthen our pipeline of certified teacher candidates, we participated in over six Educator Career Fairs at local universities this spring. These events gave us the opportunity to connect with students completing certification programs across various content areas. As a result, we've collected a number of strong resumes and already have several interviews scheduled for the upcoming school year.

March Gladness:

Every week during the month of March we do something for staff for morale. This year we did bowling outing, coffee cart, Taco Truck and gift cards.

B. Chief Executive Officer's Report

CEO, John Scalice, went over CEO report.

Over the last two weeks we had the opportunity to give our Spring interim assessment. This gives us about 6 weeks for our intervention block. This is a strong data point for what takes place during our intervention blocks.

We noticed a stagnation of 6th grade. Our curriculum team and coaches are looking into this. We are at 81% of our testing so we expect our final assessments to increase by a couple of points but this is where we are right now.

Using the data, Grade 6 will increase intervention based instruction and increase time devoted to reading areas. For 7th and 8th grade, tradition data based shift for instruction to occur leading up to testing.

ELA notes:

- Individual Growth (students meeting growth targets) is at 47% School Wide
- A 2-3% increase in overall Proficiency and a 5-7% increase in Student Growth

- 44.6% of students have improved their Overall Placement (grown at least one level)

Math Assessment:

- Went from 2% proficiency in the Fall to 9% in the Spring assessment in 6th grade
- For 7th grade we see that proficiency went from 1% to 11%
- Finally, for 8th grade we see proficiency went from 9% to 19%.

We saw significant improvement in all grades!

Grades 6-8 Action Steps:

- Using the data, all grades will continue classroom interventions through Mid-School-Math during math periods.
- Intervention block will continue to focus on skills based acquisition in the 4 weeks leading up to the State Assessment.

Math notes:

- Individual Growth (students meeting growth targets) is at 40% School Wide
- 45% of students have improved their Overall Placement (grown at least one level)
- A 2-3% increase in overall Proficiency and a 6-8% increase in Student Growth

IV. Other Business

A. Gala coming up on April 25, 2025.

B. Bagley reports we have one vendor who is doing most of the work for us at Abbey Tent Rental. They are coordinating with Lassees Catering as well to help us with food and refreshments for the evening.

They are able to install all items and remove everything. Lassees and Abbey tent will coordinate with Farah Martin to go over logistics.

Board member, Robert Traber, discussed a significant bill which affects us all. Senate bill will significantly increase the formula per pupil. Increase the formula in MLL, Sped and poverty areas. In Bridgeport it looks like the formula will increase by 57 million dollars. Board Chair, B. Carlson, suggested all board members read more about the bill.

V. 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 6:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Carlson

Attention: Times and Locations are subject to change.

Coversheet

Finance Committee Updates

Section:	II. Finance Committee
Item:	B. Finance Committee Updates
Purpose:	FYI
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	2025-04 GO-BPT Dashboard.pdf

Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport
Financial Dashboard
5/12/2025 Meeting

Cash

	4/30/2025	3/31/2025	2/28/2025
Deposits	2,265,288		
Ending Cash Balance - Chase Operating Account	1,511,346	272,055	718,437
Cash Burn/Month	1,025,997	446,382	726,918
Cash Balance to Burn Rate (months)	1.47	0.61	0.99
Cash Balance - Chase Food Account	109,474	64,412	4,261
Cash Balance - Chase Reserve Account	286,125	168,329	288,327
Total Cash Position:	1,906,945	504,796	1,011,025
Key:	Greater than 2 months in reserve Between 1 and 2 months in reserve Less than 1 month in reserve		

Balance Sheet

	4/30/2025	3/31/2025	2/28/2025
Current Ratio (current assets to current liabilities)	2.63	2.63	1.31
Debt to Assets Ratio	-	-	-

Fundraising

	FY 25 Target	Actual
Capital/Building		
Operating Support	30,000	17,000

Summary of Material Expense Variances

	Updated Forecast	Actual	Delta	Comments:
Enrollment	661	661		+ is favorable
Description				
State/SpEd Funding	8,253,131	8,219,141	(33,990)	New per pupil adj. & Comm Network
Title Funding	492,407	492,707	300	
SIG & FY25 Mental Health	136,138	131,043	(5,095)	
USDA School Lunch Program	257,094	283,803	26,709	Missing April claim
FY23 Mental Health & FY24 HD Tutoring/Other	322,878	329,222	6,344	21st Century clarification
	9,461,648	9,455,916	(5,732)	
Personnel - Salaries	5,214,446	5,120,561	(93,885)	Summer payroll accrued
Personnel - Payroll Taxes	360,636	290,657	(69,979)	
Personnel - Benefits	566,714	551,185	(15,529)	
Professional/Contracted	333,333	571,081	237,748	Payroll fees, CMO fees
School Ops	689,846	753,312	63,466	PStaff dev & Student incentives
Facilities	2,152,750	2,000,182	(152,568)	Reduced supplies, extra hours
Tutor/Other	262,179	247,957	(14,222)	
Sum of All Known Material Variances	9,579,904	9,534,935	(44,969)	

Coversheet

Chief Operating Officer's Report

Section:	III. Governance Committee
Item:	A. Chief Operating Officer's Report
Purpose:	FYI
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	HFC State Approval SY 25-26.pdf

HFC Statement

The annual HFC Statement (Addendum to ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs) is valid for one school year (July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026). It addresses: whether the district will or will not follow the CNS for all foods offered for sale to students on school premises at all times and from all sources and if the district certifies for the healthy food option, whether the district will or will not allow exemptions for foods that do not meet the CNS, providing that the sales comply with the three exemption criteria of the state HFC statute (refer to "Food Exemptions" above).

Each board of education or school governing authority for all Connecticut public school districts that participate in the NSLP must submit the annual HFC Statement to the CSDE by July 1, 2025, or the district is ineligible for participation during the upcoming school year

Request approval from the Board to Vote on the following:

Section 2 - Certification Statement

Must be completed by all Connecticut public school districts that participate in the NSLP.

On behalf of the Board of Education or Governing Authority and pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, I hereby certify that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under our jurisdiction, and not exempted from the CNS published by the CSDE, (select appropriate button)

☒ Will
☐ Will not


comply with the CNS during the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Such certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and fundraising activities on school premises, whether or not school sponsored.

☒ I certify that the above selection reflects the HFC decision of the Board of Education or Governing Authority, as indicated in the attached meeting minutes. *Note: By checking this box, the authorized representative is **signing** the HFC Statement.*

Section 3 - Exemption Statement

To be completed only by districts/schools choosing the healthy food option, i.e., those districts/schools that checked "will" in Section 2.

Pursuant to Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes, I hereby acknowledge that the Board of Education or Governing Authority, (select appropriate button)

-  ☒ Will exclude from certification food items that do not meet the CNS, provided that (1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.
- ☐ Will not exclude from certification food items that do not meet the CNS.

- a. Select **"Will exclude..."** if the board of education or school governing authority voted **to permit** the sale to students of any food items that do not meet the CNS, provided that (1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

1. Required healthy food option vote for all BOEs The BOE must vote "yes" or "no" for implementing the healthy food option of C.G.S. Section 10-215f. The motion and board-approved meeting minutes must include the exact language below:
 - a. Motion language for healthy food option: Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.
2. If the BOE votes "yes" for implementing the healthy food option, the board-approved meeting minutes and motion must reflect a "yes" or "no" vote on the exact language below. Motion language for combined food and beverage exemptions:
 - a. The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with Page 3 of 3 | Connecticut State Department of Education an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a

regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.