

APPROVED



Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport

Minutes

GOBPT March Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday March 13, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Location

375 Howard Ave
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Directors Present

Bea Bagley (remote), Bob Carlson, Corey Sneed (remote), Daniel Luciano (remote), David Zieff

Directors Absent

Eva Vega, Matthew Nwosu, Selena Morgan, Tenssie Ramsay

Guests Present

Benjamin Chan, Farah Martin, John Scalice

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance & Begin Recording Meeting (if remote participants are present)

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 Mar 13, 2024 at 5:36 PM.

C. Approve February meeting minutes

Corey Sneed made a motion to approve the minutes from GOBPT February Board Meeting on 02-21-24.

Daniel Luciano seconded the motion.

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

II. Governance Committee

A. Chief Operating Officer's Report

COO report includes **Recruitment Efforts**.

- Direct Mailing to Families
- Direct Calls to Families
- Community Partner Visits
- Campus Tours- newly enrolled families and prospective families as well!
- Social Media Marketing
- Radio Ads
- Yard Signs
- Refer a friend campaign- we typically offer a voucher for free uniform.

Application Map:

- 50% of our applications received come from the area surrounding the school.
- Our big recruitment efforts are focused on 6th and 7th grade!

Our Lottery date is April 26th, 2024.

Our Open House is May 23, 2024 from 5:30pm-7:30pm at the school.

- This year will be our first year with a full senior class of over 60 students! This will require some changes in building composition and staffing models. This expands the size of the High School significantly.
- Great Oaks students were also featured in the Yale School of Medicine newsletter. Our teachers (Dr. Lockwood and Ms. Maloney) organized a trip to Yale to expose students to the medical field.

B. Chief Executive Officer's Report

J. Scalice discussed CEO report.

CEO discussed the 3 year renewal.

- Student achievement and growth of State Scores for General Education and High Needs populations in ELA

- Student growth slightly under State Scores for General Education and High Needs populations
- Significant improvements in Student Suspensions and Teacher Certification
- School's community Involvement!

The renewal included Corrective Actions Steps. This includes Chronic Absenteeism, Academic Progress for ELA and Math strategies and Certification. This speaks to our recruitment efforts.

Bridgeport District Impact:

The recent news of Bridgeport Public Schools expecting to close 6 schools will likely lead to the following:

Student Enrollment:

- Increased student enrollment for grades 6, 7, and 8
- Increased student retention throughout middle school into high school
- Increased direct contact to families for awareness of Great Oaks opportunities

Staff:

- Despite calls for no teacher layoffs, there has already been an increase of potential certified teacher candidates applying to openings for the 2024-2025 school year
- Increased exposure through new postings for consistency and permanency with new three year term and potential Commissioner's Network acceptance

Recruitment for 2024-2025

- Early promotion of anticipated vacancies and job fair participation
- New marketing material
- Teacher referral incentive

Initial Budget Update:

- We are seeing an increase of about 100,000 after transitioning away from the foundation
- Staff allocation rose about 300,000 which includes staff raises and additional staff. This does not include positions that are linked to a grant. This is only per pupil.
- Staffing allocation was 76.75% of Per Pupil allocation in 2023-2024 leaving 1.79 million towards operating expenses.
- Staffing allocation is estimated to be 74.25% of Per Pupil, not including awarded grant salaries already established leaving 2.45 million towards operating expenses.

III. Finance Committee

A. Finance Committee Updates

B. Chan, CFO, went over dashboard.

B. Chan states we have to close out some grants/ funds from the state that are pending.

D. Zieff states that we have to work on funding. C. Sneed discussed other opportunities that might be available to get more funding. C. Sneed states the focus needs to be in energy management and conservation.

B. Vendor Approvals

Bea Bagley made a motion to approve Kaufman Dolowich LLP as a vendor seeking expenses up to 15,000 to cover the retainer and the deductible.

David Zieff seconded the motion.

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

IV. Other Business

A. New Business

No new business.

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 6:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Carlson