APPROVED

Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport

Minutes

GOBPT February Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday February 18, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location
375 Howard Ave. Bridgeport, CT or virtual

Directors Present
Bea Bagley (remote), Bob Carlson (remote), Daniel Luciano (remote), David Zieff, Marie Casper (remote), Matthew Nwosu (remote)

Directors Absent
Robert Traber, Tenssie Ramsay

Guests Present
Benjamin Chan, Farah Martin, John Scalice

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 Feb 18, 2026 at 5:31 PM.

C. Approve December's Board Meeting Minutes

Daniel Luciano made a motion to approve the minutes from GOBPT December Board Meeting on 12-15-25.
Marie Casper seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance Committee

A. Vendor Approvals

Knowlton and Rosetta Stone were approved in the Finance Committee.

B. Finance Committee Updates

B. Chan went over CFO report.

1.3M dollars is the ending position and has to last us until March. Financial position remains sufficient as we head into our 3rd month of per pupil funding.
We monitor cash flow carefully every week.

All revenue and expenses are falling in line.
We are using less food, we are receiving less because of this.

Fundraising: FY 26 we have 94,000

Professional Contract Services- the accounting from last year was higher and they claimed we used more hours. This year, we should be fine. The audit is complete and everything went smoothly so we should not be billed any extra hours.

Phone expenses drove up the Facility expenses.

D. Zieff discussed with the board about the issue with the elevator. The railings seem to be broken. B. Carlson states we should look up if this is an insurance claim. B. Chan will look into it.

III. Governance Committee

A. Chief Executive Officer's Report

L. Hubbard could not join us today as we had an Open House happening tonight.

J. Scalice went over CEO Report.

CSDE Meeting: **Overview of the CSDE Accountability and Support Meeting: SPECIAL THANKS TO BOB, KAREN, KAY-ANN, CHRIS, DENISE, and LATOYA for presenting.**

Relative to Other Years

CSDE Framing: The growth over time and a realistic presentation of the population of Great Oaks was at the center of the CSDE presentation regarding our school. This is a significant departure from previous years where only data was presented, typically without context or framing. J. Scalice, CEO, wants to thank the CSDE for changing their format.

State Board Engagement: The State Board, as in prior years, was very engaged in the school presentation. This year, however, the diversity of presenters relating to their specialty areas created a discussion that resonated with higher clarity to the Board resulting in only one or two minor clarification questions.

Highlights: Great Oaks was commended on the work done related to student progress, attendance improvement, and certification achievement.

These areas are all directly addressed in our Corrective Action Plan with CSDE

Next Steps: Great Oaks will begin the renewal process this summer (2026) where all data is reviewed, site visits are conducted, and a public hearing will take place.

Brief Data Snapshot: A brief comparative of Great Oaks Middle and High School growth from the January Mid-Year assessment.

High School-
ELA- *Overall High School proficiency rose from*
Fall - 11% to Winter - 20%

High School performance on Grade Level Vocabulary rose from
Fall - 7% to Winter - 15%

High School students 3 or more years behind decreased from
Fall - 65% to Winter - 59%

Math- *Overall High School proficiency rose from*
Fall - 10% to Winter 16%

High School performance on Grade Level Numbers and Operations (core understanding for MS math) rose from
Fall - 57% to Winter - 61%

Middle school students 3 or more years behind decreased from
Fall - 76% to Winter - 70%

Middle School-
ELA- *Overall Middle School proficiency rose from*
Fall - 13% to Winter - 25%

Middle School performance on Grade Level Vocabulary rose from
Fall - 7% to Winter - 19%

Middle school students 3 or more years behind decreased from
Fall - 62% to Winter - 48%

Math- *Overall Middle School proficiency rose from*
Fall - 4% to Winter 13%

Middle School performance on Grade Level Numbers and Operations (core understanding for MS math) rose from
Fall - 3% to Winter - 11%

Middle school students 3 or more years behind decreased from
Fall - 65% to Winter - 51%

B. Carlson reports he attended this meeting and is happy and thankful to the entire team for presenting and showing the team how well they represented the school.

Over the summer J. Scalice states we will begin doing work towards our charter renewal.

IV. New Business

A. New Business

B. Carlson wanted to go over the Education Cost Saving Model with the board of directors. B. Chan spoke on this subject and states this is in full implementation across public school districts. This balances out urban schools based on enrollment.

B. Chan reports the state looks at our 661 students enrolled, then takes 25% of our MLL students and they take 30% of our free and reduced lunch count so they add in 150 students. Because we are over 60% of the line, we are at 75.95%; we are getting 15% a weighted enrollment of 861. Then, they take 56.7% of that and they say ok well this is what your per pupil count should be, base level is 11,525 plus 1,983. Total we are getting 8,929,449 as a charter school. Meanwhile, all public schools are getting 100%, this means we are short 44% which translates to about 1m below public schools.
B. Carlson states there is disadvantage that the state is imposing on us and other charters.

J. Scalice discussed expansion updates- After ongoing discussions with our landlords and looking at our timeline; B. Carlson, D. Zieff and J. Scalice decided to postpone our expansion which will not take place in the 2026-2027 school year. This is something the school will continue to explore and continue to look into together. Looking at the timeline and everything that is still pending like financing, we want to postpone in order to give us some more time to plan accordingly.

V. Enter into Executive Session

A. Executive Session

Daniel Luciano made a motion to enter into Executive Session.
Bea Bagley seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Exit out of Executive Session

Daniel Luciano made a motion to come out of Executive Session.
Marie Casper seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

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 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Carlson

Attention: Times and Locations are subject to change.