



Gestalt Community Schools

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday December 15, 2016 at 8:30 AM

Location

see below

Directors Present

A. Evans Blackwell, C. Leon, H. Coleman, M. Levine, P. Ray, Y. Lewis

Directors Absent

K. Kruse, K. Walker Burt, T. Williams

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

A. Evans Blackwell

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned

M. Levine

Guests Present

A. Butler, B. Turner, D. Sisnett, K. Parish, M. McFarland, T. Walker

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B.

Call the Meeting to Order

C. Leon called a meeting of the board of directors of Gestalt Community Schools to order on Thursday Dec 15, 2016 at 8:38 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

P. Ray made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 10-27-16 Board Meeting on 10-27-16.

M. Levine seconded the motion.

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

A. Evans Blackwell arrived.

II. Executive

A. ASD Transition Update

Yetta Lewis shared and spoke on email from Robert S. White II (Bobby), Chief of External Affairs , Achievement School District regarding ASD weekly update the week of December 4, 2016 in regards to Humes and Klondike Schools.

Michael McFarland spoke on staff morale in regards to the operation change of Humes and Klondike.

III. Academic Excellence

A. Recruitment Plan Summary

Mae Yearwood-Bennett presented and discussed her 2017/2018 school year scholar recruitment plan overview with a focus on the following:

Top Priorities:

- Enrollment benchmarks & accountability.
- Consistent family outreach.
- Increased customer service.

2017/2018 Enrollment & Recruitment Plan Improvements:

- New uniform vendor with lower prices and high quality apparel.
- Minimum of biweekly family outreach of both potential and current families.
- Weekly enrollment benchmarks set & monthly check-ins between school leaders, Director of Enrollment and CFO.

Recruitment Plan Details:

community events for potential & current families.

biweekly e-newsletters.

activity books branded by GCS for the elementary schools.

targeted mailers.

targeted Facebook ads.

Unified Gestalt brand that ties PCA to NSA ex. yard sign blitz for enrolled scholars, biweekly e-newsletters, mailers, flyers, etc.

Mae Yearwood-Bennett also presented and discussed the 2017/2018 school year network enrollment targets for each school. Holly Coleman suggested developing a plan to see re-enrollment vs. new enrollment to keep track. Mark Levine suggested incentives being given for enrolling early. Ex., 30 days to enroll, guaranteed a spot.

B. Mid-Year Academic Growth Data

Bobbie Turner discussed the Winter 2016 NWEA map. A presentation with an overview of all schools percentage of Scholars quartiles based on performance from Fall to Winter with growth comparisons by subject and grade was presented.

The board discussed the ideal GCS teacher and the role each should perform.

Yetta Lewis discussed PCAHS has 100% participation in TN Ready. PCAHS had 18.3 on ACT with 21 as a composite target. SCS high school comparison data will be provided.

Yetta Lewis and Bobbie Turner discussed the fast facts of GCS.

M. Levine left.

IV. Finance

A. Financial Report

Kim Parish shared GCS financial updates with a focus on enrollment, cash, fundraising, and net surplus. Second quarter and audit results will be given at next Board Meeting in April.

Kim Parish gave a brief summary of data enrollment. Nexus currently have enrollment challenges. Klondike enrollment is down. All PCA schools are meeting their enrollment targets.

Mae Yearwood-Bennett shared some of the struggles with Nexus enrollment. Nexus parents have been sharing information with others. Nexus had 100% participation in climate survey. 91/99 parents stated their scholars will return to Nexus.

Kim Parish stated GCS cash on hand is currently at 45 days. Cash on hand will be 75 days by end of 2016/2017 school year.

Kim Parish stated GCS is on target for fundraising goals and net surplus.

Yetta Lewis discussed the withdrawal budget. Currently working with funders to have retention bonuses by May 2017.

Kim Parish discussed Nexus. Stated GCS is speaking with the church about adding modulars to the green space behind the church to house additional scholars as grades are added. Also considering two other locations in the area in the hopes of housing the new Elementary on the same campus as the Middle School, having both schools on one campus.

Kim Parish discussed space for the CMO. Currently speaking with landlord at Thousand Oaks to expand space to house all of the CMO staff. Yetta Lewis discussed possible space on the first floor of current building at Thousand Oaks.

Kim Parish discussed fundraising. Do not want to fundraise for Operations. Would like for each school to support themselves and have fundraisers for additional programs only.

Yetta Lewis announced Power Center Academy High won football state championship in a partnership with Lausanne. Working on a plan with Shelby County Schools to continue sport activities.

V. Facility

A. The PCA Expansion Project

Kim Parish discussed the PCA Schools Expansion Project. Currently working on the project with Derwin Sisnett. Looking to expand the High School and bring all 3 schools together in the same area. Anticipate a closing date of February 31, 2017. Project will become public once permits are pulled. Seller could go public or GCS can send out a statement on project.

C. Leon made a motion to move forward with facility strategy of Power Center Academy High School.

A. Evans Blackwell seconded the motion.

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

VI. Closing Items

A.

Adjourn Meeting

C. Leon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

P. Ray seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

T. Walker