

APPROVED



## Stargate School

### Minutes

#### Governance Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Wednesday June 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM

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##### **Directors Present**

B. Paul, L. Challa, L. Griffin, L. Paquette, M. Faulkner, S. Howorko

##### **Directors Absent**

K. Lindgren, L. Hosfelt

##### **Guests Present**

M. Anderson, R. Greene

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#### **I. Opening Items**

##### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

L. Paquette called a meeting of the board of directors of Stargate School to order on Wednesday Jun 11, 2025 at 6:07 PM.

##### **B. Roll Call**

##### **C. Reading of Stargate Mission**

##### **D. Recognitions and Appreciations**

Meryl recognized the Starrett, Wetness, and Badertscher families for generously caring for her child during board meetings over the last three years, she is deeply grateful for the support that allowed her to serve.

Lumakar recognized the finance committee for all of their work on the items this month. He thanked outgoing Board members for their dedication to Stargate and to Lynne Whitney for all of her work on the school's financial matters.

Lindsey thanked teachers, Mrs. Ross, Ms. Hanna and Mr. Montoya, positive and engaging. Staff that is working over the summer for construction. She also thanked the outgoing Board Members, time spent on meetings over the years, school events, advising, etc.

Samantha thanked the outgoing Board members, Officer Couture for all of his work at Stargate, including Safe2Tell and Red Bag. Lynne Whitney for all of her work for Stargate.

Lisa Griffen thanked Tien Tong and Yien Ling for their work on election committee.

Lindsey Simms for all the work she has done for the community.

Bibi thanked Lynne Whitney for all of her work and Sheila for being her learning partner.

Lisa G and Robin for working on community engagement tasks.

#### **E. Board News and Events**

Lisa Griffin attended Stargate's Graduation on behalf of the Governance Board.

### **II. Approve Consent Agenda Items**

#### **A. Approve Consent Agenda**

L. Paquette made a motion to Approve consent agenda as presented.

S. Howorko seconded the motion.

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

#### **B. Minutes for Governance Board Meeting held May 14, 2025**

### **III. School Operations**

#### **A. Bond Financing Update**

Finance Committee and Stargate Foundation met and supported the bond financing option through the moral obligation program, one viable Bank option, but rates were higher and would require us to move full banking relationship. Moody's rating was re-affirmed, which says that the School can take \$20MM + more in debt. Amended and restated documents to add the new Bond to the existing 2018 bond, no structural changes.

#### **B. Finance Report**

Sheila went through the Supplemental Appropriations Resolution that we will approve.

2025/2026 Budget - Lynne Whitney went through and discussed the fund transfers. There

have been no changes since we review last month, in the format to send to district, finance committee approved at their meeting in June. Sheila went through the Appropriation Resolution that will be approved. Discussion on sticking with Hinkle & Co for the 2025-2026 school year, however, look to RFP the following year to ensure we are getting the best. Bank authorizing representatives, should be Board Treasurer and Finance Manager.

#### **C. Executive Director of Academics Report**

Dr. Greene presented her monthly report (attached. Discussed changes to admissions policy including moving from a ranked wait list to a wait pool, discussed the definition of gifted compared to exceptional students as defined in C.R.S 22-20-202(11). Discussed updating Independent to successfully serving one year rather than full term. Discussed Early Access and Stargate's support of Adams 12 adopting an addendum.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

##### **A. Public Comment**

One member of the community spoke about challenge of people not knowing what Stargate, how can we work to better promote ourselves, and our students are so amazing and he shared a list of our achievements.

##### **B. Public Comment Response**

Board members agree sharing success of students at beginning of meeting, rather than Board events. And Robin shared how she could do better at promoting and talking about it throughout school year.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

##### **A. Written Committee Reports**

##### **B. Election Committee Report**

See attached committee report. Discussed bylaw and pros and cons of putting back on ballot for the fall election.

#### **VI. Action Items**

##### **A. Bond Construction Financing**

S. Howorko made a motion to Approve the Bond Construction Financing as proposed.

L. Paquette seconded the motion.

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

##### **B.**

### **Final Budget**

S. Howorko made a motion to Approve the FY25-26 Budget as presented.

L. Challa seconded the motion.

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

### **C. Budget Appropriation Resolution**

S. Howorko made a motion to Motion to approve the FY25-26 Budget Appropriation Resolution as presented.

B. Paul seconded the motion.

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

### **D. Supplemental Appropriation Resolution**

S. Howorko made a motion to approve the FY24-25 Supplemental Appropriation Resolution as presented.

L. Griffin seconded the motion.

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

### **E. Approval of External Audit Firm**

S. Howorko made a motion to engage Hinkle and Co as our auditors for FY25-26.

M. Faulkner seconded the motion.

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

### **F. Assignment of Bank Authorizing Representative and Official Custodian**

S. Howorko made a motion to appoint Dr. Greene to determine who should be Authorizing Representative and Official Custodian.

L. Paquette seconded the motion.

Discussed Finance Manager and Treasurer, will add Treasurer at our next Board meeting based on roles.

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

### **G. FAC Request**

S. Howorko made a motion to approve the two FAC requests as presented.

L. Griffin seconded the motion.

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

### **H. Admissions Policy**

S. Howorko made a motion to approve the admissions policy as discussed.

B. Paul seconded the motion.

change wording from exceptional to gifted students.

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

### **I.**

### **Executive Director Contract**

S. Howorko made a motion to appoint Samantha Howorko and Karla Lindgren for contract negotiations with Executive Director within limits discussed in Executive Session.  
L. Paquette seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **VII. Discussion Items**

### **A. Community Engagement Update**

### **B. Charter Contract Deliverables**

Bibi noted that the page numbers don't align with the contract, she will update.

### **C. Strategic Plan Tracking**

## **VIII. Future Planning**

### **A. Next Board Meeting Agenda and Board Packet**

Discussed next Board meeting, a potential meet and greet before with new members or a more formal retreat and onboarding.

### **B. Next Admin Sync Meeting**

Samantha and Karla will work with Robin on a date.

### **C. Upcoming Events**

## **IX. 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 8:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
S. Howorko