**Gray Collegiate Academy Charter School Board Meeting**

West Columbia, South Carolina March 25, 2019

~ Minutes ~

1. Call to Order

 Teresa Brazell called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Those present included the following:

Board Members: Teresa Brazell, Kendall McCarty, Libbi Sheridan, Laura Stevens, and Cedric Wright

Gray Collegiate Academy Staff: Dr. Brian Newsome

Pinnacle Staff: Todd Helms (via phone), Andy Patrick, Erik Miller (via phone)

Mike Miller of San Cap CPA (via phone)

1. Public Notice

 Posted

1. Public Input

Teresa Brazell reported that a parent has requested to make comments but was running late due to traffic. The board agreed to hear her comments when she arrived.

1. Mission

 Teresa Brazell read the GCA Mission:

*Gray Collegiate Academy will serve high school students in a safe, small, family-centered setting who seek the opportunity and challenge of rigorous curriculum, high academic standards, and outstanding athletics while earning up to two years of college credit while in high school.*

1. Adoption of Agenda

Teresa asked that the board amend the agenda to include a discussion on board member terms and to remove the agenda item to welcome a new board member. Cedric Wright made a motion to accept the agenda with the requested amendments. Laura Stevens seconded the motion and all voted in favor of accepting the agenda with the amendments.

1. Approval of the Minutes

Teresa asked that the minutes be amended to include the statement “No action taken during executive session”. Libbi Sheridan made a motion to accept the February minutes with the proposed amendment. Kendall McCarty seconded the motion and all voted in favor of accepting the minutes with the amendment as stated.

1. Board Member Discussion

Andy Patrick reminded the board of the by-laws for seating the GCA Board and discussed changes that will be proposed in April to the by-laws to align with other Pinnacle schools. Currently there are 3 appointed members (Laura Stevens, Teresa Brazell, and Pennie Peagler), and 4 elected members (Libbi Sheridan, Cedric Wright, Kendall McCarty, and Brett Marlow). Teresa announced Brett Marlowe resigned from the GCA Board.  She expressed appreciation for the several years of service he has rendered to GCA. His open position must be filled by election. Elections will be held in April for the three open positions. Andy reminded the board of the mandatory retreat planned for May 17 and 18 in Charleston.

No action needed.

1. Recognition

 Dr. Newsome welcomed the boys’ varsity basketball team and their head coach Dion Bethea and congratulated them on their very successful season. The team recently won the SC AA State Basketball Championship for the second year in a row. Coach Bethea expressed appreciation to Dr. Newsome for supporting the program and he and the team presented Dr. Newsome with a plaque. Teresa Brazell congratulated the team and coaches and presented them with a commemorative plaque on behalf of the GCA School Board.

1. Financial Report

 Mike Miller provided the financial report. No action needed.

1. Approval of updated policies

Dr. Newsome presented a set of internal policies for approval. Erskine has requested these be approved by April 1, 2019. Some are revisions of existing policies.  In almost all cases however, these policies reflect current processes and controls. The board was given copies of the policies to review prior to the board meeting. After discussion, Teresa Brazell suggested the word “verbal” be removed from page two, paragraph 3, sentence 2 of the Procurement Policy and Procedures document. Libbi made a motion to accept the set of policies with the omission of the word verbal as suggested. Cedric seconded the motion and all members voted to accept the policies as presented with the omission of the word verbal as suggested.

1. Principal’s Report

 Dr. Newsome presented the Principal’s report. No action needed.

1. Athletic Report

 Dr. Newsome presented the Athletic Director’s report on Coach Holmes behalf. No action needed.

1. Public Comments

Teresa read the rules for public comments:

*The official meeting of the board is by law a public meeting and the board values citizen input; however, in order to protect the integrity of the adopted agenda, public dialogue will be restricted to the 'public comments' section of the agenda or as directed by the board chairman.*

* *Each speaker has two minutes.*
* *Speakers may not ask questions of board members.*
* *Board members may not engage speakers in discussion.*
* *Disruptive behavior is not permitted.*
* *Personal attacks aimed at students or staff are not permitted.*
* *Scurrilous, obscene, or recklessly defamatory language aimed at any board member is not permitted.*

Keisha Anderson addressed the board with concerns. Teresa thanked Ms. Anderson for her input.

1. Executive Session

Libbi made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue. Kendall seconded the motion and all board members voted to enter executive session at 3:02 p.m. Kendall made a motion to exit executive session and Cedric seconded the motion. All board members voted to exit executive session at 3:23 p.m. No action was taken during executive session.

1. Adjournment

Cedric made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m. Laura seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The meeting stood adjourned at 3:25 p. m.

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