

Board Meeting Minutes
Global Community Charter School

June 24, 2020

6:19 p.m. – 9:49 p.m. (scheduled to convene at 6:00pm)

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees (BOT) for Global Community Charter School (GCCS) held on June 24, 2020 in the school building at 2350 Fifth Avenue.

JZ noted quorum (JZ, MJ, KM, IY, NP, and RM in attendance) and called the meeting to order at 6:19 PM

Roll Call

BOT by video conference: James Zika (JZ); Mary Jilek (MJ); Kate McGovern (KM); Rob Moser (RM); Ibrahim Yusuf (IY); Peter Kauffman (PK); Nick Pozek (NP)

GCCS Staff: Bill Holmes (BH)

GCCS Staff by video conference: Kristan Norgrove (KN)

Parent Representation: None

Public by video conference: Priyanka Gandhi, Chris Breen and Damaris Herron-Watkins

Public comment

JZ thanked Priyanka Gandhi and Chris Breen, potential BOT Members, for participating in the meeting. No other public comment.

Approval of Minutes

KM moved, and MJ seconded, a motion “to approve Minutes from the May 20 Regular BOT Meeting.” The motion was passed unanimously (JZ, MJ, KM, IY, NP, RM).

Introduction of Potential Board Member

JZ introduced Priyanka Gandhi and Chris Breen as potential BOT Members. The BOT and School Leadership had a chance to introduce themselves prior to the meeting being called to order.

Middle School Build-Out

BH introduced and discussed the slides attached to the Agenda. The discussion began around the First Floor Only expansion option.

Having technical issues, the BOT changed topics while BH reconnected to the video conference.

Summer Program Update

KN provided an update on the Summer Program. 200 GCCS students are currently signed up for the program. MJ asked that we revisit the learning we gain from the Summer Program concerning remote learning, to apply to our Fall programs.

Questions were raised by various BOT members about if the School is getting any guidance about what will be required in the Fall concerning COVID-19. KN and BH shared the information they have been getting from various sources. IY asked about a “rotational system”

of students in and out of the physical school building in the Fall. The BOT noted the need to add this to the Agenda for a future BOT meeting.

Middle School Build-Out - continued

BH continued to discuss the slides attached to the Agenda and the First Floor Only expansion. Challenges and culture implications of a First Floor only expansion, for example with our design elements, were discussed. Questions were raised and discussed as to when in the timeline would we “feel pain” in space allocation, understanding we would still endure cultural concerns.

BH continued the conversation into the Third Floor expansion. The BOT entered into a conversation about anticipated trends in NYC rent prices and full relocation. MJ raised concern with a number of the staffing implications presented. The BOT had a conversation about contingency plans if either construction project was delayed to potentially impact on our programs. MJ inquired about the involvement and communications we have had with the environmental consultants and our sub-slab vacuum system.

The conversation of the BOT moved to questions and concerns with financial and fundraising implications of each option and factors related to rental assistance trying to assess financial risks. Additional conversations ensued as to the pros and cons of the various proposals and are there options for having more time before we need to make a decision.

The BOT agreed that GCCS would move forward with the Third Floor expansion plan and authorizes BH to pursue a Zoning lawyer to initiate the short term activities towards this Third Floor expansion. The BOT also asked the School Leadership Team to consider cost savings contingency plans associated with the Third Floor expansion that can be discussed at a future BOT Meeting. The BOT will monitor this decision to move forward with a Third Floor expansion closely, along with the contingency plan prepared by School Leadership, to continually consider additional information that may become available that would impact this decision.

Board Membership Renewals

JZ thanked MJ and RM for their service to the BOT and introduced that their current terms are expiring on June 30, 2020.

KM moved, and JZ seconded, a motion “to extend Robert Moser’s service on the BOT for an additional three-year term, concluding June 30, 2023.” The motion was passed unanimously (JZ, MJ, KM, NP, RM).

NP moved, and RM seconded, a motion “to extend Mary Jilek’s service on the BOT for an additional three-year term, concluding June 30, 2023.” The motion was passed unanimously (JZ, MJ, KM, NP, RM).

SY 20-21 Budget & Org Chart

MJ indicated that the Proposed Budget and Organizational Chart attached to the Agenda was reviewed by the Finance Committee. BH provided an overview of the Proposed Budget and Organizational Chart for SY20-21, noting any key changes compared to the prior year. The BOT entered into a discussion. It was indicated that there may be a revision to the Organization Chart coming in a future BOT meeting.

Noting no further discussion, RM moved, and MJ seconded, a motion “to approve the School Year 2020-2021 Budget and Organizational Chart presented.” The motion was passed unanimously (JZ, MJ, KM, NP, RM).

Other School Business

The BOT offered sincere thanks to the School Leadership Team for their work and commitment to GCCS leading the school through the recent world events.

Adjournment

JZ adjourned the meeting at 9:49 PM.

All trustee meetings for the Global Community Charter School are open meetings subject to the NYS open meetings law. While we encourage public participation and provide a designated time for public comment, individuals are limited to two minutes total of public comment each, unless the Board asks for additional feedback. All trustees and members of the public must abide by Global Community Charter School norms around professionalism and civility in their comments, these norms can be found in our school handbook. Complaints against a specific employee or public comments that may reveal confidential information will, consistent with the open meetings law, be handled through our dispute resolution process or may be heard in executive session.