



APPROVED 08/17/2017

**Georgia Connections Academy (GACA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. ET**

Held at the following location and via teleconference:
Georgia Connections Academy
2763 Meadow Church Road, Suite 208
Duluth, GA 30097

I. Call to Order

Ms. Hug called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other. The school location and phone line were open for the public to attend.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present at Roll Call: Alisa Hug, Rich Thompson, Steve Julal and Charlotte Collins (in person);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: JoAnn Brown (in person);

Guests Present: Heather Robinson, School Principal and Jay W. Ragley, Connections staff (in person); Allison Reaves, Andrew Pasquinilli, Shawn Soltz, Laura Coleman and Megann Arthur, Connections staff (all via phone).

III. Mission Statement

Ms. Hug read the school's Mission Statement to begin the meeting.

IV. Public Hearing on the 2017-2018 Proposed Annual Budget

Mr. Julal announced the commencement of the budget public hearing on the proposed 2017-2018 Annual Budget. He noted the public hearing had been published as required by Georgia Law. He asked if there were any members of the public wishing to address the proposed 2017-2018 school year budget. Hearing none, Mr. Julal asked Mr. Soltz to review the proposed budget with the Board.

Mr. Soltz presented this item to the Board. He directed the Board's attention to the Budget materials provided in the Board package, which included Budget Notes, Revenue and Expense Statements, Staffing Models and other financial statements required by Georgia law and the Department of Education.

Board members discussed the proposed Annual Budget and thanked Mr. Soltz for his presentation. There being no questions and no members of the public in attendance, the Board closed the public hearing and resumed the regular session of the meeting.

[Ms. Brown joined the meeting at 5:07 p.m.]

V. Public Comment

There were no comments at this time.

VI. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Hug asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no changes noted, Mr. Thompson made the following motion and it was seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the June 15, 2017 Annual Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Oral Reports

a. School Leader's Report

i. Data Dashboard

Ms. Robinson reviewed the school data dashboard information and Monthly School Report (MSR), as included in the Board materials with the Board, highlighting the most up-to-date enrollment, monthly contacts with students, and performance trends.

ii. End of Year Activities Update

Ms. Robinson discussed the recent graduation ceremony, including numbers of graduates. She also discussed the school's end of year activities for staff and upcoming Leadership Retreat.

b. Financial Report

Mr. Soltz reviewed the financial report included in the Board Meeting materials. He highlighted key aspects in the school's revenue and expense reports, as well as the school's forecast for the school year.

VIII. Board Strategic Development

a. Board Strategic Plan Report

Ms. Hug reviewed the Strategic Plan progress update, as included in the meeting materials. The Board discussed progress thus far on specific items and goals within the school's Strategic Plan in detail with Ms. Robinson and Mr. Ragley, and adjusted benchmark deadlines and action items in accordance with school objectives.

IX. Consent Items

Ms. Hug asked the Board members whether there were any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. The Board requested Consent Item (c) Approval of LiveTutor Invoice(s) be tabled as no documentation was available for Board review prior to the meeting. There being no further changes noted, a motion was made by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the May 18, 2017 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report; and
- d. Approval of Board Meeting Schedule for the 2017-2018 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

X. Action Items

- a. Approval of Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoice for May

Mr. Julal reviewed in detail the CA invoice for the month of May as drawn from the financial report presented earlier in the meeting and contained in the Board materials. He asked the Board members whether they had any questions on the invoice or required any further explanation. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC invoice for the month of May, in the amount of \$1,087,734.76, as presented, are hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Approval of the 2017-2018 School Year Budget and Fee Schedule from Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC

Mr. Soltz noted the budget presentation and discussion held during the Public Hearing earlier in the meeting. He reminded the Board of the budget development processes completed to date that included the school leader, Board Treasurer and Connections staff. He further reviewed the accompanying fee schedule from Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC with the Board. Mr. Soltz advised the Board that the 2017-2018 Fee Schedule being presented summarizes the basis for all charges from Connections to the school under the Educational Products and Services Agreement (EPSA), and that the basis for all charges is drawn directly from the Budget. Board members discussed the budget, including related staffing, outreach and other specific expenses for the school, as well as the fee schedule and all services provided by Connections under the schedule. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 school year and all assumptions provided therein and the fee schedule for the 2017-2018 school year, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Directors

Ms. Arthur advised the Board that two Board members' terms were up for renewal at this meeting, Richard Thompson and Steve Julal. Following each of their confirmation that they wished to continue on the Board, discussion was held on the renewal of their terms. Ms. Hug reminded the Board of her upcoming relocation plans and desire to resign from the Board at the conclusion of the meeting. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Brown and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Richard Thompson and Steve Julal to the Georgia Connections Academy Board of Directors, as Class 2 Directors, for a term of three (3) years to the 2020 Annual Meeting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the resignation of Alisa Hug, effective at the conclusion of the Board Meeting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of Officers for the 2017-2018 School Year

Ms. Arthur presented this item to the Board. She reviewed with the Board each Officer position as set out in the Board-adopted Bylaws, and advised the Board that all positions would be for a term until the Annual Meeting 2018. Nominations were opened for each position. Following the closure of nominations, and there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Collins and seconded by Dr. Brown as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of:

Rich Thompson, Board President, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of:

JoAnne Brown, Vice President, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

Steve Julal, Board Treasurer, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Ms. Brown as follows:

Charlotte Collins, Board Secretary, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

XI. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

Mr. Ragley provided the Board with an update on legislative activities which may impact the school.

[Mr. Julal joined the meeting via phone at 5:48 p.m.]

b. School Leadership Team Update

Ms. Reaves presented to the Board on behalf of Connections' School Leadership Team.

i. 2017-2018 School Year Support Update and Introduction

Ms. Reaves the school support to be provided by Connections for the 2017-2018 school year, including the roles of the Partner School Leadership Team (PSLT) and Program Manager. She further introduced Mr. Pasquinilli to the Board, and reviewed Mr. Pasquinilli's PSLT role in supporting GACA for the 2017-2018 school year. The Board welcomed Mr. Pasquinilli and thanked Ms. Reaves for her dedication and support.

c. Results of the Parent Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Robinson reviewed the results of the Parent Satisfaction Survey, included in the Board materials, in detail with the Board. She noted that a third party independent vendor conducted the survey. A copy of the results of the survey was sent to the school Board's President directly from the third party vendor. Board members discussed the survey results with Ms. Robinson.

d. Board Recruitment Update

Ms. Hug reviewed the potential Board member resume and completed Board-approved recruitment questionnaire, as included in the Board meeting materials. Ms. Arthur provided the Board with an update on the vetting process completed to date.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-3 – to discuss the employment, compensation or periodic evaluation of an employee

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. upon a motion made by Mr. Julal, seconded by Dr. Brown and confirmed via a roll call vote of the Board pursuant to O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 to discuss the employment, compensation or periodic evaluation of an employee. Board members present were: Ms. Hug, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Julal, Ms. Collins and Dr. Brown. At the invitation of the Board, Ms. Reaves, Ms. Coleman and Ms. Arthur remained in the Executive Session. All others left the meeting at this time.

After the Board concluded their discussion, the Board resumed their open session upon a motion by Mr. Julal, seconded by Dr. Brown and confirmed via roll call vote at 6:33 p.m. No action was taken during Executive Session.

XIII. Approval of School Leader Compensation for the 2017-2018 School Year

Ms. Hug reminded the Board of the discussion regarding the School Leader compensation during the Executive Session, and requested Board approval. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the School Leader compensation for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$125,000 and the Appointment of Board President as Board Designee to Finalize Compensation with Connections' PSLT representative, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – August 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Ms. Hug noted that the Board was at the end of its agenda. There being no further business to discuss, the next meeting was confirmed for August 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. ET. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. following a motion made by Ms. Collins and seconded by Mr. Julal.