



APPROVED 4/18/2012

GEORGIA CONNECTIONS ACADEMY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 6:00 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 6:03 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 (in person), Greg Michell, Charlotte Collins and Joy Berry (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Steve Julal;

Guests Present: Heather Robinson, School Principal; Cheron Brylski, CE Consultant (in person); Derrick Dickey, GFPVE Representative; Peter Robertson, Barrie Drum, Shawn Soltz and Megann Arthur, Connections Education Staff (via phone).

III. Acceptance of Resignation of Board Member, Joy Berry

Ms. Hug referred the Board members to the letter of resignation from Dr. Joy Berry, as included in the Board materials. Board members acknowledged that they had received and reviewed the letter of resignation, and expressed their gratitude to Dr. Berry for her service to the school and the Board. There being no additional discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Michell and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the resignation of Board member, Joy Berry, to be effective at the close of this meeting, is hereby accepted.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Appointment of Board Member Candidate, Rich Thompson

Ms. Hug reviewed the resume of Board member candidate, Rich Thompson, as included in the Board materials. She reminded Board members of Mr. Thompson's completion of the Potential Board Member Questionnaire, as per Board policy, and his time reviewing his background and interest in the Board at the last meeting. Board members indicated their support of Mr. Thompson's candidacy for the Board. There being no additional discussion, Dr. Berry made the following motion and it was seconded by Mr. Michell as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Board Member, Rich Thompson, to be effective at the close of this meeting and for a term to the Annual Meeting 2012, is hereby accepted.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

VI. Audit Committee, Committee of the Entire Board

a. Approval of Audit Firm Engagement for the 2011-2012 School Year

Mr. Soltz reviewed the audit firm search and selection process with the Board. He discussed his communications with Board Treasurer, Mr. Julal, since the last Board meeting. Board members inquired about the timeline and any pertinent deadlines for the Board to engage an audit firm. Mr. Soltz advised the Board that it would meet all necessary timelines if an audit firm was considered at the next Board meeting.

The Board tabled this item.

VII. 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, and no further discussion, Dr. Berry made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the March 21, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Oral Reports

a. Principal's Report

Ms. Robinson provided the Board with an update on recent school activities. She reviewed the Monthly School Report with Board members, as well as student field trips and recent enrollment numbers.

- i. High School Expansion Update – Ms. Robinson provided the Board with an update on the school's preparations for expansion to high school next school year. She highlighted the facility and staffing changes being made to accommodate the additional students.
- ii. Enrollment Process Update – Ms. Robinson provided the Board with an update on changes to the enrollment process for the school. She advised the Board that some of the enrollment documents will now be available online for ease of the process for families.

b. Financial Report

Mr. Soltz reviewed the financial information included in the Board materials with the Board. He reviewed the balance sheet, and the school's revenue and expense statements with the Board. Mr. Soltz discussed state and federal funding with the Board.

IX. Consent Agenda

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. There being no items moved, Dr. Berry made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the January 18, 2012 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of 2012-2013 School Year Calendar;
- d. Approval of Student Outreach Plan for the 2012-2013 School Year;
- e. Approval of Curriculum for the 2012-2013 School Year;
- f. Approval of Revisions to 2012-2013 School Year State Specific School Handbook; and
- g. Approval of Revised Lottery Policy; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

X. Action Items

a. Approval of the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoices for January and February

In Mr. Julal's absence, Mr. Soltz reviewed in detail the CA invoices for the months of January and February 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 invoices or required any further explanation. The Board members discussed approving the invoices, pending confirmation of Board Treasurer support at the next meeting. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Mitchell as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoice for the month of January, in the amount of \$342,155.81, and Invoice for the month of February, in the amount of \$328,850.24, pending confirmation of support by the Board Treasurer at the next meeting, are hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of School Contract with Title I Consultant

Ms. Robinson reviewed the school's contract with a Title I consultant, as included in the Board materials. She further reviewed the consultant's background, as well as the work she will be doing for the school to assist them in their eligibility for Title I funding. Board members discussed the advantages of the school having a Title I consultant. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Berry and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the School Contract with Title I Consultant, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Information Items

a. Legislative Update

Ms. Drum provided the Board with an update on recent legislative activities that may impact the school.

b. Board Member Recruitment

Ms. Arthur discussed current Board composition with Board members.

[Mr. Dickey joined the meeting at 6:32 p.m.]

c. Georgia Families for Public Virtual Education Update

Ms. Hug introduced Mr. Dickey to the Board, and asked him to provide the Board with a presentation about Georgia Families for Public Virtual Education (GFPVE). Mr. Dickey advised the Board that the GFPVE was a parent-driven group comprised of those supporting virtual education in the state. He detailed the purpose, efforts and ongoing projects and goals of the group. Board members thanked Mr. Dickey for his time and presentation.

XII. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. A motion was made by Dr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Michell to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m.