



APPROVED 6/13/2012

GEORGIA CONNECTIONS ACADEMY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Wednesday, May 16, 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

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**I. Call to Order**

Ms. Hug called the meeting to order at 6:02 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 (in person), Steve Julal and Richard Thompson (via phone);  
Board Members Joined Later in Meeting: Charlotte Collins;

Guests Present: Heather Robinson, School Principal; Barbara Dreyer and Peter Robertson, Connections Education staff (in person); Barrie Drum, Shawn Soltz, Evie Uhfelder and Megann Arthur, Connections Education Staff (via phone).

**III. Public Comment**

There were no public comments at this time.

[Ms. Collins joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.]

**IV. Audit Committee, Committee of the Entire Board**

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

Mr. Julal outlined the audit firm selection process he completed with the Board. He highlighted the estimated expenses and scope of the upcoming audit, as listed in the audit firm engagement letter from Brooks, McGinnis & Company, LLC included in the Board materials. There being no additional discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Audit Firm Engagement of Brooks, McGinnis & Company, LLC for the 2011-2012 school year, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## V. 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, Mr. Thompson made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the May 16, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## VI. 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 the upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony.

- i. Enrollment Cap and Lottery Update – Ms. Robinson provided the Board with an update on recent correspondence from the Charter Schools Division of the State Board of Education (SBOE) regarding the school's enrollment cap for the 2012-2013 school year. She advised that the SBOE had issued an administrative clarification confirming the school's ability to enrollment up to 2,000 students.
- ii. State Testing Update – Ms. Robinson provided the Board with an update on recent state testing.

Ms. Dreyer addressed the Board at Ms. Hug's request. She discussed the visit she and Mr. Robertson had with school staff members, highlighting the upcoming program opportunities and activities. The Board discussed staff accomplishments for the school year with Ms. Dreyer, and expressed their satisfaction with the school's performance.

[Mr. Thompson left the meeting at 6:34 p.m.]

### 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. Mr. Julal added that he had also reviewed the financial statements and all appeared to be in order.

## VII. 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, Ms. Collins made the following motion and it was seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the April 18, 2012 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Board President as Board Designee to Approve Summer Staffing Decisions for the 2012-2013 School Year;
- d. Approval of Revisions to Employee Handbook; and
- e. Approval of Board Meeting Schedule Change; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### **VIII. Action Items**

a. Approval of the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoice for April

Mr. Julal reviewed in detail the CA invoice for the month of April 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 Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoice for the month of April, in the amount of \$341,256.56, as presented, is hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of 2012-2013 School Year Budget

Mr. Soltz presented to the Board on this item. He noted that Mr. Ochs had reviewed the preliminary budget with the school leader and Board representative. He reviewed in detail with the Board the 2012-2013 Budget Notes document and Budget Outline that were included with the Board package. The Board had discussion on specific line items in the budget, including the proposed merit increase for staff members. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Collins and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the budget for the 2012-2013 school year and all assumptions provided therein, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of 2012-2013 School Year Fee Schedule from Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC

Mr. Soltz reminded the Board that the 2012-2013 Fee Schedule being presented is similar to the one currently in place for the 2011-2012 school year, and summarizes the basis for all charges from CA to the school under the Educational Products and Services Agreement. Mr. Soltz further advised the Board that the basis for the charges is drawn directly from the Budget. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Collins and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the approval of Fee Schedule for the 2012-2013 school year, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **IX. Information Items**

### a. Legislative Update

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

### b. Results of Parent Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Robinson reviewed this item with the Board. She noted that a third party independent vendor, Leo J. Shapiro and Associates, conducted the survey. A copy of the results of the survey was sent to each school Board's President directly from the third party vendor. The Board reviewed the executive summary of the results in detail, a copy of which was included in the Board materials.

## **X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. A motion was made by Ms. Collins and seconded by Mr. Julal to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.