



**APPROVED 1/16/14**

**Georgia Connections Academy (GACA)  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Thursday, November 21, 2013 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 6:13 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), Charlotte Collins and JoAnn Brown (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Rich Thompson and Steve Julal;

Guests Present: Heather Robinson, School Principal; Rachel Bailey, Connections staff (in person at the school, which was open to the public); Jay W Ragley, Shawn Soltz and Heather Woodward, Connections staff (all via phone).

**III. Public Comment**

There were no public comments at this time.

**IV. Routine Business**

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Hug asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. The Board asked to remove Action Item (b) Approval of PayPal Account to Receive Funds for Field Trip and Executive Session – O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 - to discuss any records that are exempt from public inspection from the agenda. There being no further changes noted, Dr. Brown made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the November 21, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Connections Academy, as amended, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## V. Oral Reports

### a. Principal's Report

Ms. Robinson provided the Board with a detailed Principal's Report, reviewing the school dashboard/media clips and marketing, student intervention efforts, facilities grant, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 12<sup>th</sup> grade Promotion Policy and the Georgia Charter Schools Commission visit.

### a. Future Enrollment Growth

Ms. Robinson presented this item to the Board. She reviewed the school's current enrollment numbers, trends in enrollment, and staffing levels at the school based on enrollment. She further reviewed with the Board the growth rates by year for the school since its opening, and the proposed growth plan for the next school year. Ms. Robinson and Ms. Bailey provided some additional background to the proposed enrollment target for the 2014-2015 school year, and sought Board feedback on the school's proposed growth plan. Board members discussed the proposed enrollment growth, and expressed their support of the plan.

### b. School Leader Review Process

Ms. Bailey reviewed the yearly School Leader Review Process with the Board. Ms. Bailey reminded the Board that they will be receiving a survey to complete in preparation for the upcoming mid-year review. She advised that Ms. Robinson's mid-year review will be discussed during the January meeting and the final review will take place during the Board's Annual Meeting in June.

### c. 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.

## VI. Board Strategic Development

### a. Update on EMO Evaluation

No update was provided at this time as Mr. Julal was unable to attend the meeting.

## 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, a motion was made by Dr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the October 17, 2013 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;
- c. Approval of Joann Brown to Act as the Leader Key Credential Designee for the Implementation of the State Evaluation System; and
- d. Approval of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Policy; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

## VIII. Action Items

### a. Approval of Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC Invoice for October

Mr. Soltz reviewed in detail the CA invoice for the month of October 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 Dr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Collins as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of Georgia, LLC invoice for the month of October in the amount of \$1,075,811.76, as presented, is hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds and final review by the Board Treasurer.

The motion passed unanimously.

### b. Approval of PayPal Account to Receive Funds for Field Trips

This item was tabled earlier in the meeting.

## IX. Information Items

### a. State Relations Update

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

### b. Update on Facility

Ms. Robinson presented this item to the Board and noted that the space planning and additional facility space is progressing.

### c. State Charter School Commission – Mandatory Governance Training – December 9-10

Ms. Robinson reminded the Board of the upcoming mandatory governance training.

## X. Executive Session – O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 - to discuss any records that are exempt from public inspection

This item was tabled earlier in the meeting.

## XI. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date – January 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. via teleconference

The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. ET via teleconference. A motion was made by Dr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Collins to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.