



APPROVED 7/24/14

**Georgia Connections Academy (GACA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, June 19, 2014 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 6:05 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, Steve Julal and Rich Thompson (all via phone);

Board Members Absent: Charlotte Collins and JoAnn Brown;

Guests Present: Heather Robinson, School Principal (in person); Rachel Bailey, Shawn Soltz, Jay W. Ragley, Laura Karns 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 requested additional Consent Item (e) Approval of Revised and Restated Bylaws and Action Item (e) Approval of Out of State Employee Policy. There being no further changes noted, Mr. Thompson made the following motion and it was seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the June 19, 2014 Board 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 reviewed the Monthly School Report with Board members. She also reviewed recent school activities.

i. Dashboard/Media Clips and Marketing

Ms. Robinson reviewed the school dashboard/media clips and marketing information included in the Board materials with the Board.

ii. State Testing Updates

Ms. Robinson provided the Board with the most current update on state testing. She noted changes in next year's State Testing and will provide further updates to the Board at the next meeting.

iii. Update on End of Year Activities

Ms. Robinson discussed the recent high school graduation ceremony, including speakers and number of graduates with the Board. She also discussed the school's end of year activities for staff and 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.

i. Update on 990 Filing

Mr. Soltz updated the Board on the status of the 501c3 filing with the IRS.

VI. 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. There being no items moved, a motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the May 9, 2014 Meeting;
- b. Approval of Minutes from the May 16, 2014 Special Meeting;
- c. Approval of Staffing Report;
- d. Approval of Board Meeting Schedule for the 2014-2015 School Year; and
- e. Approval of Revised and Restated Bylaws; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Action Items

e. Approval of Out of State Employee Policy

Ms. Robinson presented the proposed Out of State Employee Policy to the Board. The Board discussed the policy's fiscal and personnel impact. The Board requested Board Counsel's review of the policy.

This item was tabled.

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 \$1,033,888.99, as presented, is hereby approved for payment upon the availability of funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of 2014-2015 School Year Budget

Mr. Soltz presented this item to the Board, noting that he had reviewed the preliminary budget with the representatives of school leadership. He reviewed the 2014-2015 Budget Notes document and proposed annual budget in detail, a copy of which was included in the Board materials. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the 2014-2015 school year Budget and all assumptions contained therein, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Directors

Ms. Woodward advised the Board two Board members terms were up for renewal at this meeting, Steve Julal and Rich Thompson. Following their confirmation that they wished to continue on the Board, discussion was held on the renewal of their terms. Ms. Hug reviewed the biographical information on Board member candidate, Greg Mishkin. The Board discussed his candidacy and expressed satisfaction with Mr. Mishkin's qualifications. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Hug and seconded by Mr. Thompson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Steve Julal and Rich Thompson to the Georgia Connections Academy Board of Directors, as Class 2 Directors, for a term of three (3) years to the 2017 Annual meeting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appointment of Board Member Greg Mishkin, as Class 1 Director, for a term of two (2) years through 2016 Annual meeting, as discussed, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of Officers for the 2014-2015 School Year

Ms. Woodward 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 2015. Nominations were opened for each position. Following the closure of nominations, and there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of:

Alisa Hug, Board President;
Rich Thompson, Vice Chair;
Steve Julal, Board Treasurer; and
Charlotte Collins, Board Secretary, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

VIII. Information Items

a. State Relations Update

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

b. 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.

c. National Charter School Conference Planning

Ms. Hug reviewed the upcoming National Charter School Conference (NCSC) plans with the Board.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal, to enter into Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. via a roll call vote of the Board pursuant to O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 to discuss any records that are exempt from public inspection. Board members present were: Ms. Hug, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Julal. At the invitation of the Board, Ms. Robinson, Ms. Graver, Ms. Karns and Ms. Woodward remained in the Executive Session.

After the Board concluded their discussion, the Board resumed their open session upon a motion by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson at 7:14 p.m. via roll call vote. No action was taken during Executive Session.

X. Consideration of Action Items Resulting from Executive Session

There was no action necessary.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal, to enter into Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. 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 and Mr. Julal. At the invitation of the Board, Ms. Graver, Ms. Karns and Ms. Woodward remained in the Executive Session.

After the Board concluded their discussion, the Board resumed their open session upon a motion by Mr. Julal and seconded by Mr. Thompson at 7:26 p.m. via roll call vote. No action was taken during Executive Session.

XII. Consideration of Action Items Resulting From Executive Session: Approval of School Principal Compensation for 2014-2015 School Year

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

RESOLVED, that the School Principal compensation for the 2014-2015 school year in the amount of \$93,275 with a 20% bonus potential, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date - July 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. ET via teleconference. A motion was made by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Julal to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.