

The Genesee Community Charter School
Board of Trustees & Education Governance Council Meeting

FLOUR CITY CAMPUS: FINAL Meeting Minutes
FEBRUARY 26, 2025 | 5:30pm

Cunningham House Studio, 657 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607

GCCS at Flour City Board Members: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Adam Koneman, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Board Members Present: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Board Members Absent: Adam Koneman

Board Vacancies: none

Educational Governance Council Members: Beth Mascitti-Miller, Christine Farrell

Present: Beth Mascitti-Miller, Christine Farrell

Absent:

Invited Guests:

- *GCCS Director of Operations:* **Maureen Milke**
- *GCCS Director of Curriculum & Instruction:* **Chris Dolgos**
- *General Counsel:* **Kirsten Barclay**
- **Brian Hathaway** (Summer Camp Director at RMSC; subbing for Eron Damercy)

Legal Counsel Present:

Legal Counsel Absent: **Kirsten Barclay**

NOTE: * indicates that person participated remotely via ZOOM; names in **BOLD** are not eligible to vote

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome, Welcome Guests, Call to Order, Roll Call (Greeting), Review Meeting Logistics, Agenda Review & Approval

- Welcome & Welcome Guests
- Call to Order: Colin Orr called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
- Roll Call & Greeting - A quorum is present.
- Review Meeting Logistics
- Agenda Review & Approval:

Motion 20250226.1

Upon motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Lindsay Tarnoff, RESOLVED, that the February 26, 2025 Agenda for the GCCS Flour City meeting of the Board of Trustees be approved.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: none

Motion 20250226.1 Passed: 7 to 0

2. Review & Approve Minutes

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the meetings in the last month.

Motion 20250226.2

Upon motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Allison Shultes, RESOLVED, that the Meeting Minutes from the January 30, 2025 GCCS Flour City Board of Trustees Meeting be approved.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: none

Motion 20250226.2 Passed: 7 to 0

OPEN FORUM

3. Future Agenda Topics/and or Public Comment

Colin opened the meeting up to public comment at 5:35pm. No public comments were made.

4. Executive Director Updates:

Beth shared updates on the following topics: *Attendance, Enrollment & Discipline Stats Updates; SUNY Visit Updates*

- *Attendance, Enrollment & Discipline Data Updates:*
 - *Enrollment:* Enrollment is stabilizing with January enrollment at 160 students.
 - *Attendance & Absenteeism:* Attendance stays consist ~91%; 36% chronic absenteeism (defined as 10% of total days)
 - *Suspensions:* none
 - *Applications:* 155 applications for ~36 seats; the team continues recruitment efforts through radio ads (WXXI, PBS Kids), holding open houses, Good Schools ROC mailer, will be attending Recruitment Fair on 3/1

- *SUNY Visit Updates:*
 - SUNY GCCS Flour City Campus: April 1-2, 2025
 - SUNY GCCS Flour City Campus: April 1, 2025 @ 5:30 pm
 - Beth will be working with each board member to review the Board of Trustees Training on SUNY Benchmarks (individually or in pairs) before the SUNY visit in April

6. Committee Updates

- a. **Finance Committee:** *Financial Review & Updates - Maria Oliver*

Both schools are staying on budget this year thanks to great efforts to reduce expenses by both School Leaders. The Finance Committee and Executive Director are monitoring accounts closely as January was a three pay period month and will inform the board if any actions (i.e. dipping into a line of credit or other accounts) is needed. The financial committee is also working on multiple drafts of the budget for next year with different scenarios that will come to the Board so we're prepared to explore options going into budgets next year.

- b. **Governance:** None

- c. **Personnel:** *Updates - Colin Orr*

The Personnel Committee had a meeting a couple weeks ago to walk the Executive Director (Beth) through the Evaluation Process and what that looks like at GCCS. Beth is working on her self evaluation and it will come to the Board at the March meeting. The Board will complete their evaluation after that. Updates were also shared about the next step in the ED search – there will be a site visit for the final candidate on Friday afternoon and will give a presentation to the Board and there will be an opportunity for Board Q&A as well.

- d. **Education:** *Updates - Betsy Serapilio*

The Committee looked at data that came in from a survey that was conducted for both families and staff to gather insights into needs/what the priorities for the budget should be next year, especially as it relates to staffing for classrooms (TA levels, etc.) based on instruction priorities. Admin is thinking carefully about where to best place teaching aides (considering class size, looping, academic/social needs for a cohort). There was also discussion on how to eventually

move away from shared staff across the two campuses as it's hard on the individual and can be complicated with regards to benefits.

The Committee also discussed i-Ready data for winter. Results were slightly lower for reading and math was lower for both campuses. Leaders and coaches want to work with teachers to better use AI features for assigning lessons to target needs and to be strategic with some of the ready made activities and plans. Also looked at growth rates for math and reading. 3rd grade cohort - some are now receiving services, others have been referred to CSE, some are new students to GCCS. Plan to offer Math and ELA clubs before/after school for additional targeted support before state exams.

- e. **Community Development & Engagement: Meeting Updates - Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi**
The CEC focused their last meeting on Recruiting efforts for 25-26 enrollment (GCCS Ambassador Families, Parents at info sessions!); the feasibility of a 25th anniversary year kick-off celebration discussion & the new ED and piggybacking this with the FA June Picnic; and debriefed the information shared with us in our conversation with Causewave earlier this year. The CEC shared the folder with recruitment materials (facebook, instagram, flier links) that the Board can use to promote GCCS.
- f. **Diversity & Racial Equity: Meeting Updates - Beth Mascitti-Miller**
Beth, Kendra & Kiersten met to bring the group back together and will hold a larger meeting in March (third Wednesday) to identify the short term goals for the Committee between March and the end of the year and identify long term goals for when the new Executive Director begins. The group wants to use data to help drive decisions, and will focus on SEL, trauma, culturally relevant practices, support for staff, etc. to be able to support the community and our work in this area.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

7.Executive Session was called at this meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion 20250226.3

Upon Motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Betsy Serapilio, RESOLVED to enter into Executive Session at 6:29pm.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: None

Motion 20250226.3 Passed: 7 to 0

Motion 20250226.4

Upon Motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Teresea Zappia - Sinicropi, RESOLVED to exit Executive Session at 6:45pm.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Voting in the negative:

Abstaining: None

Motion 20250226.4 Passed: 7 to 0

MEETING WRAP-UP

8. Review Actions & Agreements, Confirm Meeting Dates

Action Items/Reminders

- Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 | 5:30 - 7:30pm

Adjournment:

Motion 20250226.5

Upon Motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Betsy Serapilio, RESOLVED that this meeting of the GCCS Flour City Board of Trustees be adjourned at 6:53pm.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Betsy Serapilio

Voting in the negative:

Abstaining: None

Motion 20250226.5 Passed: 7 to 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Shultes
Secretary of GCCS at Flour City Board of Trustees