

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

FLOUR CITY CAMPUS: FINAL Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2024 | 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

Board Members Present: Kendra Cadogan*, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Adam Koneman, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi, Lindsay Tarnoff

Board Members Absent:

Board Vacancies: RMSC Representative (1)

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

Present: Beth Mascitti-Miller, Christine Farrell

Absent:

Invited Guests:

- *GCCS Director of Operations:* **Maureen Milke**
- *General Counsel:* **Kirsten Barclay**
- **Eron Damercy***
- **Ben Clarke**
- **Betsy Serapilio**

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 and Approval

- Welcome & Welcome Guests
- Call to Order: Colin Orr called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.
- Roll Call & Greeting - A quorum is present.
- Review Meeting Logistics
- Agenda Review & Approval:

Motion 20240925.1

Upon motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Adam Koneman, RESOLVED, that the September 25, 2024 Agenda for the GCCS Flour City meeting of the Board of Trustees be approved.

Voting in the affirmative: Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Adam Koneman, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: none

Motion 20240925.1 Passed: 6 to 0

2. Review & Approve Minutes

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

Motion 20240925.2

Upon motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Lindsay Tarnoff, RESOLVED, that the Meeting Minutes from the August 21, 2024 GCCS Flour City Board of Trustees Meeting be approved.

Voting in the affirmative: Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Colin Orr, Adam Koneman, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi
Voting in the negative: none
Abstaining: none
Motion 20240925.2 Passed: 6 to 0

OPEN FORUM

3. Future Agenda Topics/and or Public Comment

Colin opened the meeting up to public comment at 5:37pm. No public comments were made.
Future Agenda Topic: School Leadership Goal Setting

4. Executive Director Update: Facilities & Enrollment Updates, Campus Updates

Beth shared updates on the following topics:

- Facilities Updates:
 - New sign is up and looking great
 - Fire door work has been completed
- Data Updates:
 - *Enrollment:* Flour is at 155 enrolled students, a little high in each classroom but is on track with target enrollment numbers (and both in Students with Disabilities & ELL for a total of ~11%).
 - *Attendance & Absenteeism:* rates were shared for the Flour City Campus and currently attendance is at 92% with a chronic absenteeism rate of 20%.
 - *Suspensions:* none at this point in the year.
- Campus Updates:
 - Primary project - Coming to GCCS at RMSC and Flour City Campus
 - EL National Conference; Accepted for National Presentation
 - RMSC Partnering: 5th grade class to field test an exhibition for the Museum
 - 6th Grade Retreat: They're off!
 - Christine shared that Senator Samra Brouk visited the campus today! Two fourth graders toured around with Christine as she showed them the school. Highlight of the visit was 2nd and 4th grade classrooms sharing what they have been learning about–erosion, four corners protocol. Each classroom had a student ambassador to welcome her–her feedback was positive and that it was a really authentic, student centered visit.
 - ROC Crews: multi-grade crews with 8-9 students in each one with one adult. They met for the first time today and the first lesson was about responsibility and it was really magical to see it come to life. ROC Crews meet once a month.

6. Committee Updates - Colin Orr

a. Finance Committee - Maria Oliver

We have received the \$200K grant we have been waiting on for the last 2 years–this will be put back into paying off some of our outstanding loans. Flour's enrollment looks okay and no concerns about needing to complete a budget amendment. The Committee is keeping an eye on spending and on cash flow for both campuses.

b. Governance: No report.

c. Personnel: Focus Group Update; ED Search Update, Harper Hewes Contract - Colin Orr

The search committee met for the first time last week and it was a productive meeting–reviewing the job description, norms for their work and more.

Committee met a couple weeks ago and made their charter, established the calendar for the year, is still working on their Statement on Diversity and updating the organization chart for both schools. The Committee approved and discussed the next steps in the contract for the Talent

Consultant to help with the Executive Director Search and the committee has presented a proposal from Debra Harper with Harper Hewes. Colin had reached out to Debbie (as a family friend and knowing she does this kind of work) and she expressed interest in supporting our search with her work. She is a local consultant and has a more flexible fee structure that includes a baseline of hours, and any extra work that we determine the search needs will be charged hourly and billed bi-weekly.

Motion 20240925.3

Upon motion of Adam Koneman, and duly seconded by Maria Oliver, RESOLVED, to approve the contract with Harper Hewes as presented, to be amended and not to exceed \$5,000.

Voting in the affirmative: Kendra Cadogan*, Maria Oliver, Allison Shultes, Adam Koneman, Lindsay Tarnoff, Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: Colin Orr

Motion 20240925.3 Passed: 6 to 0

- d. **Education** - *Adam Koneman*
- e. **Community Development & Engagement:** First Meeting Update - *Teresa Zappia-Sinicropi*
- f. **Diversity & Racial Equity:** No report.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

7. None.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

8. Organizational Goals Draft from Executive Director

Beth shared the first draft of her document outlining her goals for the school year and how they align with the NYSED Benchmarks and proficiency/student performance on assessments. The document is a tool to explore and help organize what data we can collect and use to demonstrate success in key areas being looked at by both authorizers.

9. Merger Application

It has been recommended by General Counsel to submit another application for merger in order to keep it top of mind for authorizers and keep the option on the table for the Board and that not re-submitting sends the message that it takes it off the table.

Motion 20240925.5

Upon Motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Maria Oliver, presented the following resolution that:

WHEREAS, the Genesee Community Charter School – Flour City Board of Trustees has discussed and determined that a merger with Genesee Community Charter School is in the best programmatic, operational and fiscal interests of its students, families and the Rochester community; and

WHEREAS, the Genesee Community Charter School – Flour City Board of Trustees has discussed and determined that merging Genesee Community Charter School into this corporation, with the surviving education corporation named *Genesee Community Charter Schools* and authorized by the Trustees of the State University of New York ("SUNY"), is in the best interest of the school, its students, families and Rochester Community; and

WHEREAS, the Genesee Community Charter School Board of Trustees has reviewed and discussed the Merger Agreement/Plan of Merger.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Plan of Merger by three-quarters majority vote of attendees at this meeting; and

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes and directs Board Chair to execute the Plan of Merger, Certificate of Merger, Verification, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the merger; and authorizes and directs the Board Secretary to execute the Verification.

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

Voting in the negative: none

Abstaining: none

Motion 20240925.4 Passed: 7 to 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

10. Executive Session was not called at this meeting.

MEETING WRAP-UP

11. Review Actions & Agreements, Confirm Meeting Dates

Action Items/Reminders

- Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 | 5:30 - 7:30pm
- Board members will review the Goals Document presented by Beth for further discussion at the October Meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion 20240925.6

Upon Motion of Colin Orr, and duly seconded by Allison Shultes, **RESOLVED**, that this meeting of the GCCS Flour City Board of Trustees be adjourned at 7:05pm.

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

Voting in the negative: None

Abstaining: None

Motion 20240925.6 Passed: 7 to 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Shultes
Secretary of GCCS at Flour City Board of Trustees