

Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 10, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in-person and via teleconference on May 10, 2023, convened at 12:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

Board members present:

Ms. Kimberly Suber
Mr. Stewart Cooner
Mr. Dan Dobson
Ms. Deborah Blalock

Mr. Michael Moss
Mr. Reggie Thomas
Mr. Greg Vaughn
Mr. Blake Lindsey

Board members present via teleconference:

Ms. Marilyn Edwards Taylor

Board members excused:

Mr. Robert Collar
Ms. Cheryl Fralick

Staff Members present:

Mr. Pat Smith
Ms. Sonya White
Mr. Scott Poovey
Mr. Charles Abbott
Ms. Diane McNinch
Ms. Libby Key
Ms. Brenda Arant
Ms. Shumpert

Mr. Michael Evans
Ms. Joyce Dacula
Mr. Scott Gaines
Ms. Theresa Trowell
Ms. Lettice Glenn
Ms. Cynara Wattlely
Ms. Christine Avery

Guests in Attendance:

None.

The meeting was called to order at 12:43 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Blalock made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Moss seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Vaughn made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 8th, 2023 meeting and Mr. Lindsey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Smith reported on the following:

- Mr. Smith introduced Sgt. Shaun Robey, a former student and current cadet staff, recently selected for a new home by Helping a Hero Organization
- 94 GEDs to date
- Employee Appreciation Day was May 5th, a huge success; 10-12 Employee Service Certificates awarded
- Proviso 1.99 versus H3289 by Representative Collins
- H3728 South Carolina Transparency and Integrity in Education Act
- Mike Evans, Residential Director, completed his LeadSC Program April 21
- Theresa Trowell, Human Resources Manager will complete her Certified Public Manager's (CPM) Program on May 25
- Theresa Trowell and Pat Smith attended the Equal Employment Opportunity Forum Luncheon sponsored by the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission on April 26
- Letter from Matthew Goochs' family with \$500 gift to the foundation
- Our JROTC Color Guard presented the Colors at the South Carolina Pardon, Probation and Parole Board Conference on May 2
- On May 11 the Public Health Emergency Act will end; plans are to maintain single occupancy
- Board filing period for the year remains uncertain. In all likelihood, filing will be in the late summer or fall 2023 (Blalock, Collar, and Dobson).
- Per diem and mileage increases beginning January 1, 2023 \$50 a day per diem (from \$35) and mileage increased to 65.5 cents per mile

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Moss made a motion to approve personnel actions and Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No report.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Cooner referred discussion on the Budget Report to Ms. Libby Key who gave an YTD financial update on quarterly expenditures, noting we are track with spending. Mr. Dobson made a motion to approve the budget report. Ms. Blalock seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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She also discussed the results of the audit and that there were only two very minor findings. The final audit report will be emailed directly to each board member. Lastly, Ms. Key gave an update on the status of our FY' 24 budget request. No resolution to the conference committee discussions.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mr. Gaines gave an update on the new outdoor education program and provided a video on the honeybee project and garden. He discussed a new feature, Hammock Island, allowing a group of five cadets to relax and read. A reading library will be available with reading materials.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Mr. Charlie Abbott reported on the status of three projects:

- Cafeteria portico project is complete with the exception of building signage.
- Overhead power line project continues to be delayed due to transformers which remain unavailable at this time.
- Built-in freezer/cooler replacement has been approved and is in the hands of project architect.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Vaughn made a motion to go into executive session. Mr. Lindsey seconded the motion.

Following the executive session, the Board took action to continue efforts with the SC Arts Commission with a motion by Mr. Vaughn and a second by Mr. Moss. **The board adjourned following a motion by Mr. Vaughn and a second by Mr. Lindsey.**