

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 8, 2024

Revised 5/13/2024

---

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in-person and via teleconference on May 8, 2024 beginning at 12:00 pm in the Wil Lou Gray Board Room.

**Board members present:**

Mr. Stewart Cooner  
Mr. Dan Dobson  
Mr. Michael Moss  
Ms. Cheryl Fralick  
Ms. Doris Adams

Mr. Blake Lindsey  
Mr. Reginald Thomas

**Board members present via teleconference:**

Mrs. Deborah Blalock

**Board members excused:**

Ms. Marilyn Edwards Taylor  
Mr. Robert Collar  
Mr. Gregory Vaughn

**Staff Members present:**

Mr. Pat G. Smith  
Ms. Christine Avery  
Mr. Scott Poovey  
Ms. Theresa Trowell  
Ms. Libby Key  
Ms. Cynara Wattley  
Sgt. First Class Charles Woods

Cpt Michael Hamlin  
Mr. Michael Evans  
Mr. Scott Gaines  
Ms. Diane McNinch  
Ms. Lattice Glenn  
Ms. Brenda Arant  
Ms. Sonya White

---

The meeting called to order at 12:40 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Ms. Fralick made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Dobson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Fralick made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2024 meeting. Mr. Moss seconded the motion. Motion passed.

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 8, 2024

---

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Smith reported on the following:

- To date, 117 cadets have completed their GED with several more testing opportunities for others. This marks the fourteenth consecutive year of 100 or more GEDs during the school year.
- Wil Lou Gray currently has six Provisos for agency directives. During this budget year, House Bill 5203 recommended three for codification, leaving us with three provisos.
- The Department of Administration will conduct a Hire Above Minimum, Position Description and Approval Review on May 15.
- We have collaborated with the Department of Mental Health on an Adolescent Depression Screening DNP Project for Adolescent Depression.
- On Saturday May 18 we will participate in the Rotary Club's Adopt-A-Highway for Dreher Road.
- On May 10, we will enjoy our Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon to honor our dedicated and committed Wil Lou Gray staff catered by Shealy's BBQ.
- In late May, we will have an opportunity to appear on WCBD-TV Channel 2's "Living Local" to present the Opportunity School to the Charleston area.
- June 16-18 we will exhibit at the South Carolina School Administrator's Conference.
- Cadet Caden Manning from Columbia and recognized as our Rotary Club Student of the Month. He received his award yesterday at the Rotary Club Meeting.
- On April 19, our recreational staff coordinated an "old fashioned Spelling Bee" with Cadet Iyanna Mauney as the winner.
- Included in your Board material was a Facebook posting by the family of Cadet Andrew Shelton with a comment by Rep. Shannon Smith Erickson.
- Reminder the Board Retreat is scheduled for August 2 & 3.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Mr. Moss made a motion to accept the personnel actions. Mr. Dodson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

No report.

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 8, 2024

---

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Ms. Fralick reported on the Senate Finance Subcommittee presentation held earlier. She also referred budget questions to Ms. Key. There were no questions.

### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

#### **JROTC Overview**

SGM Woods and CPT Hamlin shared their rolls in the development of each cadet through the JROTC program and curriculum with the Cadets while they are here.

#### **Admissions**

Sonya White explained the admissions process from application to acceptance and that their goal is to retain as many as cadets as possible.

#### **“High School to Hire”**

Cynara Wattley shared her work of taking 9 cadets for an interview for jobs as soon as they leave WLGO with their GED. This is an opportunity for our local students (both present on campus and recently graduated) to interview with some of the most reputable companies in our area. Hopefully, this type of experience will assist in their continued growth by challenging them and engaging them in their interviewing skills (firm handshakes, eye contact when speaking, etc.).

### **BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

No report

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

No Report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No Report

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Retreat- All arrangements are in place. Board elections are in limbo.

### **Executive Session-Agency Head Evaluation**

Mr. Dobson made a motion for Executive Session. Ms. Blalock seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Moss made a motion to exit Executive Session. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Dodson made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Blalock seconded the motion. Motion passed.