



GRAND CONCOURSE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

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Minutes of the February 13, 2019 Meeting Of the Grand Concourse Academy Board of Trustees

Members in Attendance: Veronica DeJesus, Howard Banker, Jaye Fox, Arlene Hall, and Linda Manley

Staff in Attendance: Ira Victor and Martin MacDowell

Mr. Banker opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He asked the Board to review the minutes of the January meeting. Upon motion made by Ms. Manley and seconded by Ms. DeJesus the Board approved the minutes unanimously with corrections.

The Board discussed the ongoing challenges presented by Scanlan's failure to maintain the school building.

Mr. Banker reported that he and SBI met with Turner-Agassi. Progress is being made on the new building. There are some issues related to the need to remediate surrounding soil. While the construction contingency is being used Turner is confident that there is adequate funding in the budget. We are currently seeking bids from moving companies and storage. GCA will move out of the present building after the close of school of June 14th. We will be taking staff to visit the new building.

The Board will be seeking proposals from auditors to complete GCA's audited financial statements and Form 990.

The Board reviewed the financial statements. The Board also discussed utilization of the health benefit plan. Currently GCA has a high deductible plan but GCA funds the cost of the deductible through a health care savings plan. The Board asked staff to propose upgrades we can make to the plan to make it easier and less expense for staff. Mr. McDowell also discussed the steps management takes to explain the benefit package to staff.

Principal's Report: Tonight we hosted an open house for prospective new students. We sent out 1,000 postcards advertising the new school building and targeting the two zip codes surrounding the new building. We received 1,000 applications and all applications must be received by April 1st.

GCA will be closed on President's Day and the following Friday. We will be doing enrichment and test preparation during the week.

The 1st grade just celebrated 100 days.

Some of the students GCA accepted into the 6th Grade need extra support. We are able to offer enrichment to the students in the afterschool hours including band, pianos and Greek.

Attended a job fair to recruit new staff. Currently the instructional staff is strong. Recently completed staff evaluations. We are considering going to a private agency to support teacher recruitment.

In the new school we will have 4 kindergartens and 4 1st grades, 3 2-6 grades, and 2 7th and 8th grades.