

**Minutes for April 22, 2025 Meeting**  
**Board of Trustee of Grand Concourse Academy**

**Board members in attendance:** Arlene Hall, Damaris Moquete, Richard Conley and Howard Banker

**Absent:** Walder Turner

**GCA staff in attendance:** Ira Victor and Michael Simonetti

---

Chair Arlene Hall opened the meeting at 6:30PM and thanked everyone for attending.

**1) Minutes of February 26, 2025:** The prior meeting Minutes of February 26 were discussed and Arlene Hall moved to accept, and were approved by Board.

**2) Financials:**

- (i) Michael Simonetti presented the current financials to the Board. The school is running a positive cash flow. Through March, 2025, the school showed a positive cash flow of \$1.3 million. The school also has \$15.6 million in liquidity. The school received outstanding funds due from food company and also from Westchester County for students attending GCA.
- (ii) For next year's budget GCA is projecting 745 students with a 3% increase in income and 5% expense increase. We discussed the fact that hundreds of apartments are being built on the next block and the positive impact that will have on the school numbers. The Board agreed to consider further physical expansion to address the expected increase in demand.

**3) Instructional Support:**

- (i) Mr. Victor and Michael discussed the English as a New Language for Adults, Saturday Academy, Academic Intervention Services and Summer School. All programs are moving forward with a focus on improving delivery, while reducing administrative cost.
- (ii) Board on Track is in effect for a cost of \$18,000. This service will hopefully help the board be better informed and organized in carrying out its duties.
- (iii) The 420 a Tax Exemption continues to be pursued. The legal work is under way to enable us to apply.
- (iv) The Board approved a draft calendar for the next school year.
- (v) Mr. Victor spoke about creating a position for administrative needs as well as intergovernmental activity.

At 7:55pm Howard Banker moved to end the meeting and it was seconded by Richard Conley.

- (iii) Ira Victor and Michael Simonetti discussed a few topics:
  - i) Instructional sessions will be offered during mid-winter break.
  - ii) Saturday Academy is to be established where further instructional sessions will be offered to the students.
  - iii) Enrollment is at 705 students which is solid.
  
- (iv) Other Items discussed:
  - (i) Board on Track is being used on a trial basis.;
  - (ii)** Girl Scouts were discussed. GCA is open to accommodating the Scouts using the facility. Details to be worked out.
  - (iii)** Vertect High School partnership was discussed but there was no enthusiasm to pursue a relationship.
  
- (v) **4Facility Report:**
  - (i) Ira discussed the need to paint the wooden windows to seal them and protect them from moisture. The paint application will protect the windows for up to 20 years.
  - (vi) Summer Boost Program was discussed. It provides recreation and academic focus for the student and is a significant contribution to the GCA budget.

Arleen Hall moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm, seconded by Richard Conley and the Board adjourned.