

Minutes for June 17, 2025 Meeting
Board of Trustee of Grand Concourse Academy

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

Absent: Walder Thame and Howard Banker

GCA staff in attendance: Ira Victor and Michael Simonetti

Chair Arlene Hall opened the meeting at 6:15 PM and expressed thanks to everyone for attending.

1) Minutes of April 22, 2025: The prior meeting Minutes of April 22 were discussed, and Richard Conley moved to accept with minor revisions, which were approved by the Board.

2) Financials:

- (i) Michael Simonetti presented the current financials to the Board. The school continues to run a positive cash flow. Through May 2025, the school continued to show positive cash flow and strong liquidity.
- (ii) As discussed in our last meeting, next year's GCA's budget projects 745 students with a 3% increase in income and 5% expense increase. We again discussed the fact that hundreds of affordable apartments are being built on the next block and the positive impact that will have on the school numbers.
- (iii) Given strong liquidity and demand, the board engaged Lee Ciavarra, our architect of the current school, to present plans for an expansion on available land adjacent to the school. She presented at this meeting a preliminary design that was discussed. She was given approval to develop the design further for board consideration, approval noted below.

3) Introduction of Potential New Board Members: Wendy Blythe and Todd Incantalupo were introduced to the board as potential new members. We discussed the school and their background. They expressed enthusiasm to participate on GCA's board and were received positively by the Board. A decision will be made at the beginning of the next school year.

4) Items/Policies Discussed and Approved by the Board:

- (i) Safety Plan
- (ii) Absences and Lateness
- (iv) SY 2025-26 Budget (DRAFT)
- (v) Vote to approve the building expansion project

5) Executive Director's Report:

- (i) The Safety Plan was discussed and approved
- (ii) The National Alliance for Public Charter Schools (NACS), scheduled in July, was discussed. Several GCA staff were planning to attend.
- (iii) The Summer Boost program, July 2- August 6, 2025, is scheduled. The program and staffing are set.
- (iv) Graduation: Grade 8- Monday, June 23 & Kindergarten-Tuesday, June 24.
- (v) Legal Issues: Walker Memorial Baptist Church case. Mr. Victor discussed the current status. The case has not been dismissed, and we discussed whether we should settle. As we are confident, we have no responsibility; we have chosen not to settle at this time.

6) Executive Session:

- (i) Executive Director's Contract. The Board approved the terms of Mr. Victor's contract as presented by the Chair.

Richard Conley moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm, seconded by Damaris Moquete, and the Board adjourned.