

GREEN Charter School Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 10th, 2022 6:00 pm
Chair: Vince Atkinson
Location: GREEN Charter of Spartanburg & Virtual

Attendance Summary

Board Members	Present/Absent
Vincent Atkinson	Present
Imtiaz Haque	Present via Zoom
Mandy Townes	Present
Laurel Wiles	Present
Trishka Hornbeck	Present
Katherine Ponder	Present via Zoom
Keelah Truesdale	Absent

Executive Director

Tom Cronin	Present
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1. **Welcome/Opening Remarks** - Meeting started at 6:06 pm. Mr Atkinson welcomes everyone and thanks all stakeholders. He thanks everyone for attending the March session. Mr Atkinson Introduces the BoD Subcommittees:
 - Governance - Chaired by Vince Atkinson, Imtiaz Haque, Mandy Townes
 - Audit - Chaired by Katherine Ponder, Wakeelah Truesdale
 - Financial Oversight - Chaired by Mandy Townes, Laurel Wiles, Trishka Hornbeck
 - Personnel - Chaired by Imtiaz Haque, Vince Atkinson, Laurel Wiles

2. **Public Comments (limited to three minutes per speaker, 30 minutes in total)** - Mr Atkinson states that there are no public comments tonight, but that all comments must be made in public and not anonymously. The board can not accept anonymous comments. Mr Atkinson notes that if there are concerns to please try to work through them with the person closest to the problem first.

3. **Approval of March 10th Agenda** - Mr. Atkinson states that we need to approve the Agenda for tonight's (March 10th) meeting.
 - Motion to approve: Ms Townes
 - Second: Dr Haque
 - Vote: **6-0 (Passes)**

4. **Approval of minutes from February 17th Meeting** -
 - Motion to approve February Minutes: Ms Townes
 - Second: Mr Atiknson
 - Vote: **6-0 (Passes)**

5. **GREEN Charter Student Successes** - Mr Atkinson turns the meeting over to Mrs Hester.
 - Mrs Hester would like to recognize students at GREEN Charter of Spartanburg that participated in the Science Fair. Mrs Hester introduces multiple grade-level winners:
 - Alex - "Bready for Some Mold"
 - Mason - "Testing Batteries in Different Temperatures"
 - Daphne - "Bubble Trouble"
 - Simon - "Cool Cola"
 - Gemma - "Hydrogen Power from Water Electrolysis"

6. **Executive Director Update** - Ms Townes turns over the meeting to Tom Cronin.
 - a) Introduction of New Principals - Mr Cronin shares three new permanent principals. After a shared stakeholder process, the first announced is Melissa Hester, Principal of GREEN Charter School of Spartanburg. The second is Tanisha Ingram-Scott, Principal of GREEN Charter School of the Lowcountry. The final announcement is Malana Fitzgerald, Principal of GREEN Charter Lower Campus of Greenville.
 - b) Introduction of New Director of Growth & Compliance - Mr Cronin is very excited to introduce the final piece of the Executive Team, Catherine Watt. She also came through a stakeholder selection process.
 - d) Update on GREEN Upstate High School - Mr Cronin states that the building project is set up in three phases. There are two academic wings and the core. All are being worked on at the same time, but phase one is slightly ahead of the other. The Drywall is up and being studded out at this time. The sound concern from last month was tested with no problem, so we can move forward with that. The other question from last month was the adequacy of our firewall. We proposed a 2nd way to do that and although we don't have official approval, we've had very promising conversations. We are very excited about the progress we are making. Last piece to this is that the sign went up today outside of the campus. We provided a press release to the Hughes Corporation which will go out now that the sign is there. As far as budget, we just wrapped up the furniture purchase and are ahead of the supply chain. Between our Bond and P&I Grant

we had about a million dollars set aside and we should come under that. We are still looking at about a 7 million dollar project. All is looking like it is still on schedule for the middle of July.

- Ms Townes asks if we are any closer to being able to take a tour.
- Mr Cronin states we can have a tour at any time, we just need hard hats due to it being an on-going construction site.
- Ms Townes states that she knew we were waiting to see where framing goes
- Mr Cronin adds that the space is defined now. The rooms are tailored to our instructional model.
- Mr Cronin follows up by saying that we have about 140-150 kids in our high school now and we have over 300 signed up already and it's just March. We will probably budget towards 350.
- c) Foundation of Student Voice and Choice - Mr Cronin starts off by saying that last month, the board supported and approved the Strategic Plan and that we are visiting schools and will be discussing this with the staff. We will send this out to our parents and other stakeholders at the beginning of next week. A part that goes along with this speaks to the climate and culture we want in our school. A lot of the things in the Strategic Plan revolved around the Student Voice and Choice; the autonomy, mastery, and purpose we were looking for. An image was created to demonstrate the expression of all of our work. Our collective efforts should be moving towards our students having Voice and Choice. Our Director of Growth will help build a baseline of comprehensive policies and procedures and I and the executive team will give the site based leaders the flexibility to develop teacher autonomy. This image speaks to an effective chain of command and a way to appeal decisions. This aligns with the Strategic Plan and this is something both of our families and staff can hold us accountable to.

- 7. Executive Session** - Mr Atkinson notes that it is time for Executive Session and there are a couple of matters that need to be discussed. When we come out of Executive Session, we will approve any items as needed.
- Motion to go into Executive Session: Ms Townes
 - Second: Dr Haque

Into Executive Session 6:44 pm

Back Into Public Session 7:12 pm

- 8. Board Office Approval** - Mr Atkinson welcomes everyone out of Executive Session and states that there are a couple of items that need approval that were not from Executive Session. Three officers make up the Governance Committee, the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. When Mr Vora stepped away from the board, it left a vacancy.
- Motion to appoint Dr Imtiaz Haque as Vice Chair of the Board: Ms Townes
 - Second: Mr Atkinson

- Vote: **5-0 (Passes)**
- **Dr Haque states that he abstains from the vote**
- Motion to the board appoint Vince Atkinson the Chair of the Board: Ms Townes
- Second: Dr Haque
- Vote: **5-0 (Passes)**
- **Mr Atkinson states that he abstains from the vote**

9. Approval of items from Executive Session if any -

- Motion to approve expense reimbursements for line items related to relocation and dual habitation of the Executive Director, Mr Tom Cronin: Ms Townes
- Second: Mr Atkinson
- Vote: **6-0 (Passes)**

10. Adjournment - Mr Atkinson thanks everyone for their commitment and presence.

- Move to adjourn: Ms Townes

Meeting Adjourned 7:17 pm

Signed and Dated:

Vincent B. Atkinson
(Board Chairperson)

04/13/2022
(Date)

Mandy Reeves Townes
(Board Secretary)

04/13/2022
(Date)