

Green Tech High Charter School
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 16, 2024

Present: Dona Bulluck, (Board Chair), Tony T. Kelley, Barry D. Walston, (Virtual), Marie Allen-Campbell, Pamela Williams, (Virtual), Alex Varghese

GTH Staff: Jaymes White, Tanya Ford, Kelly Sweeney, Brian Rodriguez, Lydrell Randle

Guests: Vanessa Owens, Josett Williams, Olivan Owens, Javan Owens

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm, by the Board Chair, Dona Bulluck.

Public Comment:

Vanessa Owens requested a status update on the investigation regarding the complaint submitted. Ms. Owens also asked for a response from the board regarding her application to join the board and recommended that there be a parent advocate on the board.

Dona Bulluck informed Ms. Owens that the investigation was conducted by a third party and the board did not do an internal investigation. Ms. Bulluck further indicated that the findings submitted to the board were returned to the company for correction of typos. Once the board receives the document back it will be shared.

Josette Williams expressed that parents are seeking a response to the complaint and are asking who represents them on the board. Ms. Williams requested that timely and intermittent communications be provided and that the board members attend a PTO meeting to introduce themselves.

Motion

Marie Allen-Campbell moved that the Public Board Minutes of January 18, 2024, be approved with minor grammar corrections. Tony Kelley seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Tony Kelley moved that the Executive Board Minutes of January 18, 2024, be approved. Barry Waltson seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Dona Bullock informed everyone that Matthew Toporowski stepped down as Chair of the Board.

Tony Kelley moved that Dona Bulluck be elected as our new Board Chair. Pamela Williams seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Alex Varghese moved that Tony Kelley be elected as our new Vice Chair. Marie Allen-Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Tony Kelley moved that Marie Allen-Campbell be elected as our new Secretary. Pamela Williams seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Tony Kelley moved that the Board approve the payment of \$148,788 to BPAS per the amendment of the retirement plan of Green Tech Charter School. Marie Allen-Campbell seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Finance Report – submitted by Kelly Sweeney, presented and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file)

Kelly Sweeney asked if there were any questions for the Financials. There were none.

Kelly Sweeney informed the board that she researched an energy audit through the New York Energy Research & Development (NYSERDA). She is hopeful they will come and do an energy audit and identify grant opportunities. She will keep the board updated.

Principal's Report –submitted by Jaymes White, presented and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file)
Jaymes White informed the board of the pension freeze. Currently the pension is costing \$200,000 a year and about \$15,000 in fees. Mr. White has informed the staff of the freeze.

Mr. White advised the board that strategic planning with administration staff is underway, a survey went out to the community and two planning and writing sessions have been held. There were 14 parents that attended virtually.

Work on the budget is underway, planning a presentation for the board at the April 25th meeting.

Mr. White is looking into Social Work Interns from Sienna to help support Green Tech Students. A new 9th grade English teacher has been hired and she has been phenomenal thus far.

Green Tech's Basketball team is currently in the sectional playoffs.

Mr. White has met with Shaker High admin regarding an incident at a basketball game with Shaker students who were shouting racial obscenities at Green Tech students.

A letter has gone out to Green Tech parents regarding a cellphone ban. Starting in the 4th quarter, students will have to store their phones in their lockers during the school day.

Membership has been renewed for the National Honor Society. The Co-Advisors are Camille Faccio and Meghan Murphy.

Mr. White is participating in The Leaders of Color Program. Several of our Administrators will be going to Houston for training in the Reverse Suspension Program.

Associate Principal's Report: -submitted by Dr. Teresa Haig and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file).

Data Statistics Report: submitted by Hichem Berriche and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file).

Middle School Assistant Principal's Report: -submitted by Dr. Kimberly Davis and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file).

Director of Student Services Report: submitted by LaShawn Brown and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file).

Operations Report: - submitted by Brian Rodriguez, presented and reviewed by the Board (attachment on file).

- Brian Rodriguez informed the Board that the school passed their dinner audit. There were two minor items to be corrected.
- He also shared his progress regarding, "Workplace Violence Prevention Law."

New Business

None

Executive Session

Motion: At 6:08 pm Tony Kelley moved that the board enter Executive Session pursuant to Open Meetings Law §105 (1)(f) to discuss the *“the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.”* The motion was second by Pamela Williams. The motion was carried unanimously, and the board members entered Executive Session.

Alex Varghese, board member, will be relocating out of state and will have to step down from the board within the next couple of months. He does have a recommendation for a potential candidate.

Motion: Marie Allen-Campbell moved that the board exit the Executive Session and return to the public meeting. The motion was seconded by Tony Kelley. The motion was carried unanimously, and the board members returned to the public meeting at 8:48pm.

Motion: With no further business to discuss, Marie Allen-Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Tony Kelley. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Our Board Chair, Dona Bulluck adjourned the meeting at 8:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
By Tanya Ford-Otieno, Board Assistant