

Gray Collegiate Academy Charter School Board Meeting
West Columbia, South Carolina
March 26, 2018
~Minutes~

1. Call to Order:

Teresa Brazell called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Those present included the following:

- Board Members: Teresa Brazell, Pennie Peagler, Libbi Sheridan, Jason Fields and Kendall McCarty.
- Gray Collegiate Academy Staff: Dr. Brian Newsome and Coach Adam Holmes
- Pinnacle Staff: Mike D'Angelo, Traci Bryant-Riches, Andy Patrick and Todd Helms.
- Mike Miller of San Cap CPA joined via webex.

2. Public Notice:

Posted

3. Public Input:

No public comments presented.

4. Mission:

Mission statement read by Teresa Brazell:

Gray Collegiate Academy will serve high school students in a safe, small, family-centered, setting who seek the opportunity and challenge of a rigorous curriculum, high academic standards, outstanding athletics while earning up to two years of college credit while in high school.

5. Adoption of Agenda:

Libbi Sheridan moved to adopt the agenda as posted and Jason Fields 2nd the motion. All voted in favor to adopt the agenda as posted.

6. Approval of Minutes:

Jason Fields approved to accept the minutes and Libbi Sheridan 2nd the motion. All voted in favor to accept the minutes.

7. Recognitions:

The Boys Varsity Basketball was recognize as the 2018 SCHSL Boys 2A Basketball State Champions.

8. Executive Session – Personnel

Libbi Sheridan made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Pennie Peagler 2nd the motion. Executive Session was entered into at 2:05 pm and was adjourned at 2:08 pm

9. Financial Report:

Mike Miller presented the following report in regards to the February 2018 Financials:

- Revenue from the school's funding sources totaled \$389,000 for the month of February. This compares to budgeted revenue of \$342,000 or \$47,000 over budget. On a year-to-date basis, GCA is \$75,000 ahead of budget. This trend will continue for the remainder of the school year since GCA will continue to receive higher funding amounts (that began in January) through the end of the year.
- Expenses for February totaled \$326,000. This compares to total budgeted expenses of \$343,000 or \$17,000 under budget. There were no large or unusual expenses in the month which helped contribute to our under-budget condition.
- Year-to-date our expenses are over budget by approximately \$223,000. This large over-budget condition is largely attributable to the \$100,096 purchase of the modular classrooms, \$27,800 for the purchase of school buses, higher marketing costs due to the new TV ad campaign and higher than anticipated repair, replacement and maintenance costs on the building and equipment.
- The combination of higher revenue and under-budget expenses result in a substantial profit for the month of \$85,000. This is the second consecutive month GCA has had a large profit and helped push the year-to-date profit ahead of budget for the first time the entire school year. The year-to-date profit stood at \$59,000 compared to a budgeted profit of \$52,000. GCA should continue to be profitable throughout the remainder of the current school year.
- Operating cash balances increased by \$50,000 since last month due to the profitability of the school. The operating cash balance was \$639,000 as of March 19, 2018. This represents 67 days of cash on hand.

10. Principal's Report:

Dr. Newsome shared the following academic highlights from the GCA Senior Class:

- 2017 Class
 - 55 of 103 students will graduate with honors.
 - 27 students will graduate with high honors (4.0 or higher) – 26.2%
 - 28 will graduate with honors (3.5 – 3.99%) – 27.1%
 - 76 of 103 students will graduate with a 3.0 or better – 73.8%
 - We estimate to have 80 of 103 students finish with a 3.0 or higher: 77.7%
- 2018 Class
 - 61 out of 105 students will graduate with honors.
 - 35 will graduate with high honors (4.0 or higher) – 33.33%
 - 26 will graduate with honors (3.5 – 3.99) - 24.76%
 - 85 of 105 students will graduate with a 3.0 or better 0 80.90%

GCA hosted two parent forums over the past month. We currently have 75 registered as new students for next year. That is compared to 18 registered students this time last year. The forums have been full each session and the enrollment is expected to continue to increase.

Parent/Teacher conferences will take place this Wednesday from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm and Thursday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Spring Break will begin on Friday with Good Friday and go through Friday, April 6th.

11. Calendar Approval

Dr. Brian Newsome presented the 2018-2019 Calendar. Jason Fields made a motion to accept the 2018-2019 Calendar. Pennie Peagler 2nd the motion to accept the 2018-2019 Calendar. The 2018-2019 Calendar was approved unanimously.

12. Athletic Report:

Coach Adam Holmes made the following report:

- Basketball – Coach Holmes congratulated the boys basketball team on winning the Class 2A State Championship earlier this month. This is GCA's first state championship in the school's short history. Coach Holmes congratulated Coach Bethea, his staff and the players for all their hard work. Coach Holmes reported GCA having a great crowd at the Colonial Life Arena and reported one of the High School League members commended him on the crowd. The High School League member stated the crowd was one of the best and biggest over the two day period. Coach Holmes reported he and Coach Bethea had been "ring shopping" and looked forward to presenting the basketball team and coaches with their rings. Graphic Source is making a complimentary 8' X 12' Championship Banner to hang in the gym.
- Soccer – Coach Holmes reported the boys and girls soccer teams are having a great season. The boys' team is ranked #1 in the state in Class 2A and the girls are ranked #3. Both teams can wrap up the region championship this week with their matches over Saluda on Tuesday and Fox Creek on Thursday. Coach Holmes encouraged everyone to come out and watch the teams. Coach Holmes commended Coach Kevin and Emily Heise, along with their assistants, on doing an amazing job. The girls will be at home on Tuesday and the boys will be on the road. On Thursday, the boys will be at home and the girls will be on the road. Highlights this season includes the boys team winning the Capital City Cup at the beginning of the year. This is one of the biggest pre-season tournaments in the area. The girls finished 2 -1 in the Beltline Cup with their only loss coming to 5A Northwestern. Spencer Ayen was named Max Preps Soccer Player of the week for GCA's win over St. Joseph's last week. Spencer also recently committed to play soccer next fall at Presbyterian College. The soccer team had an exciting match this past weekend at Charleston Southern University against Oceanside. The boys lost 3-2 and the girls won an overtime thriller against Oceanside in penalty kicks.
- Softball – The girls' softball team can wrap up the region championship this week with the games over Saluda and Fox Creek. The game against Saluda is tomorrow at 6:00 pm at Reco

Field. Coach Holmes encouraged everyone to come out tomorrow and support the girls. The game Thursday is at Fox Creek. Some of the highlights from this season include the girls winning the Clinton Preseason Tournament at the beginning of the month. They beat their region rival, Saluda, to win the championship. Senior, Cameron Puckett, signed to play at Erskine College.

- Baseball – Coach Holmes reported the baseball team has a chance to win the region this week as well. They have a non-region match against Midland Valley tonight. They travel to Saluda on Tuesday and play at home Thursday against Fox Creek. Coach Holmes encouraged everyone to come out Thursday to support the team. If they beat Saluda and Fox Creek, they will capture the region championship. GCA lost in extra innings the first time they played Fox Creek, so Thursday should be a good game. Some of the highlights so far in baseball include the boys having a good showing in the Pelion Invitational. One of their victories came over Batesburg Leesville which one of the last four teams in the playoffs last year. Senior, John Morris, signed with Pfeiffer College. There will be one more spring signing at the end of the year.
- Signing Day – Coach Holmes reported GCA had four football players, one baseball player, and one volleyball player to sign with colleges. Chylon Thomas signed with Catawba College. Duncan Rivers, Cam Cox and John Sloan all signed with Presbyterian College. John Morris signed with Pfeiffer College and Rachel Branham signed with Columbia International. Coach Holmes stated they had a signing for these athletes at the school with media present and the gym was packed. We are excited for all these student-athletes and their families and wish them all the success next year.
- Coach Holmes reported the Athletic Banquet is scheduled for May 31st at Brookland Baptist Church. Athletes are free. Tickets for family and friends are \$5 each.
- Coach Holmes reported GCA was awarded the Sportsmanship Award this year at the Principle/Athletic Director meeting. This award is given in recognition to schools who do not have any player or coach ejections throughout the year. GCA has received this award 2 times in 4 years.
- Coach Holmes reported the GCA Athletic Booster Club would be hosting the 4th annual golf classic April 12th at Cobblestone Park Golf Club. Teams can register at <https://tinyurl.com/qcagolfclassic4>.

13. Erskine Charter Institute hearing in May for Middle School Amendment.

Dr. Brian Newsom reported he will present to the Erskine Board the opportunity to add a Middle School to the GCA Charter. It is set for April/May.

14. Any actions as a result of executive session:

No actions were taken as a result of executive session.

15. Adjournment:

Libbi Sheridan made a motion to adjourn. Kendall McCarty 2nd the motion. All members unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:38 pm.

