

Greenville Technical Charter High School
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
February 26, 2008, at 6:00 p.m.
Greenville Technical College
Administrative Board Room

Approved 3/18/2008

Submitted by Chris Stolarski on 2/27/08

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Dr. Bob Nash.

1. Roll call:

The following members of the Board were present: Dr. Bob Nash, Chris Stolarski, Jayne McClain, David Dolge, Ken Payne, Jay Whitacre, Issie Wright, Eric Adams, and Sandy Brigmon. Board members not in attendance were: Henry Parr, Dr. John Piccione, Jerry Sprouse, Michael Burdine, Wanda Clark, and Dr. Julius Earle. Also in attendance were: Fred Crawford, Ms. Linda Dalhgren, Bill Dixon, Shabnam Pourmand, Ellen Pourmand, David Gantt, and Carla Bradford.

2. Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Jayne McClain motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Ken Payne seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Approval of minutes:

The minutes from the Jan 22, 2008 board meeting were reviewed. Minor spelling and punctuation corrections were made. Sandy Brigmon motioned that the minutes be approved as corrected. Issie Wright seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Chairs report (attachment 1):

Letter to Honorable Harry "Chip" Limehouse is attached (attachment 2).

5. Finance Report:

Mr. Crawford reported from Skip Snow that there are no major changes in income or expenses for last month. The next report will be at the April board meeting keeping with the quarterly reporting requirement.

6. Principal's report (attachment 3):

Additional item:

GTCHS will be getting the complete bottom floor of Allied Health building. The renovations will cost approximately \$ 25,000. GTCHS will gain two more classrooms.

7. Old Business:

a. Greenville County School District (GCSD) Task Force:

The chairman called a meeting on 2/14 to discuss a funding proviso. When Pam Mills went to Columbia to present the proviso, Dr. Rex was present at the meeting. He wants

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to discuss the proviso internally and has set a meeting for this Thursday. Dr. Nash asked the task force if other issues could be discussed at the task force meetings. The task force agreed.

b. Addressing GCSB Board of Trustees:

Stuart McAllister, chairman of the Brashier Middle College (MC) board, and Dr. Nash see a great benefit for parents of Charter Schools to address the GCSB directly. A schedule has been set between the three schools; GTCHS, Langston Charter Middle School (LCMS), and Brashier MC. A Brashier parent will speak tonight. A LCMS parent will speak in March and a GTCH parent in April and July.

c. Board of Directors Elections:

A letter was sent out to all faculty and parents (attachment 4).

8. New Business:

a. GTCHS Endowment Board:

Ellen Pourmand – The Endowment board has met twice. Their next meeting is on April 23, 2008 at 12:15 pm in GT Executive Board Room. All the GTCHS board members are invited to attend.

Mrs. Dalhgren spoke on the behalf of the Endowment Board. The goal of the Endowment Board is to raise \$50,000 per year. As of today, \$23,700 has been raised, not including outstanding pledges.

There are three ways for board members to support the endowment:

- 1) Cash or pledge.
- 2) Through their contacts either contacted directly or by Ellen Pourmand.
- 3) Through their wills or insurance policies.

b. GTCHS Alumni Association:

Ms. Shabnam Pourmand spoke proposing the creation of a GTCHS Alumni Association (attachment 5). The first graduating class was in 2002 and those students have graduated from college and are in the work force. Ms. Pourmand proposed the board appoint a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer for an Alumni Association. Also, that the Alumni Association gather contact info and college info from all Alumni.

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David Gantt: Because of privacy concerns, the school should contact the alumni to see if they are willing to participate. In addition, he is not sure if the Alumni Association needs to be a separate entity or under the same corporation as GTCHS.

Dr. Nash asked that Ms. Pourmand come back to the board with recommendation for officers to be appointed to the Alumni Association. Sandy Brigmon also recommended that the senior class officers be considered as well.

c. Review Security Policies and Procedures:

See principal's report.

9. Executive Session:

Sandy Brigmon motioned that the board go into executive session for a personnel matter and legal matter. David Dolge seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The board went into executive session at 7:22 pm.

Eric Adams motioned that the board return from executive session. Ken Payne seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The executive session ended at 7:28 pm.

David Dolge motioned that the executive committee evaluate the principal using the standard state evaluation criteria for principals. Issie Wright seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

10. With no further business before the board, Ken Payne motioned to adjourn the meeting. David Dolge seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The board adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Attachments:

1. Chair's report.
2. Letter to the Honorable Harry "Chip" Limehouse.
3. Principal's report.
4. Board election letter.
5. GTCHS Alumni Association proposal.

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Attachment 1: Chair's Report.

**Chairman's Report to
GTCHS Board of Directors
February 26, 2008**

- 1. Attended the Palmetto Charter School Network meeting of representatives on Feb. 12th at GTCHS to discuss current issues and future plans for organizing existing Charter School into a network.**
- 2. Attended the Greenville County School District Task Force meeting on February 14th to discuss proviso and current status of timely funding of Charter Schools that are in a growth phase of development.**
- 3. Went to Surplus Property facilities in Columbia SC with Stuart McAlister, Chairman of Brashier Middle College Charter High School (BMCCHS) Board, and Ed Skip Snow, Business Manager to review and see equipment that may be available for Charter Schools to purchase.**
- 4. Advised BMCCHS Board members on the election process for electing new Board members.**
- 5. Wrote letter to Representative Harry "Chip" Limehouse, R-Charleston, regarding proposed legislation he will be submitting to the SC Legislature this session. (Copy attached)**

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Attachment 2: Letter to Honorable Harry “Chip” Limehouse

January 30, 2008

The Honorable Harry “Chip” Limehouse
Charleston County Representative
326C Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Representative Limehouse:

I want to commend you on your position that allows Charter Schools in South Carolina to use available school district-owned buildings or public-owned buildings without having to pay rent. I found the article stating your position and published in the Charleston Post and Courier encouraging and exciting for public education in SC. Your comment as reported by the paper was: “Last week, Rep. Chip Limehouse, R-Charleston, introduced a bill aimed at ensuring that charter schools around the state can use available school district-owned buildings without facing a rent bill.”

The time has come for legislatures to follow your leadership and provide the necessary resources to educate our children in South Carolina. The teachers in the classroom have felt for some time that many roadblocks are often used to prevent our public charter schools from delivering their academic programs to their students. Your example has demonstrated that education is important in our communities and the state.

If you know of anyway that I might help you with the successful adoption or approval of your bill by the house and senate, please let me know. I am willing to contact and solicit support from any individual you think might be helpful in this process. You may reach me at my home address; 630 College Street, Central, SC 29630 or by email at rnash1@bellsouth.net.

Again thank you for your work and support of Charter Schools in South Carolina. Best wishes for a successful legislative year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob Nash, Chairman
Greenville Tech Charter High School
Board of Directors

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Attachment 3: Principal's report.

Principal's Report February 26, 2008

- Lottery results and enrollment projections: 287 applications for ninth grade; Brashier with over 160 and Greer at 71; GTCHS interviews for placement and IGP's start this week.
- MCNC Leadership Conference/NCREST Data released for 2006-07: 306 students took college classes, cumulative college GPA was 3.22, pass rate 96%.
- Transitions to College Math Alignment: GTC and GTCHS instructors meet monthly; grant provides release time for college instructors to work with high school instructors.
- Teacher PD: Project Based Learning and interdisciplinary planning; will complete SMART board training in March; additional classrooms will need technology upgrades during AH renovations.
- Basketball: playoffs for both boys & girls; first All State player Tavarious Rashad Humbert, Greenville Tech; FCA All Star Team Caitlin Chambers.
- Site visitors: Indianapolis, Rock Hill with York Tech; two charter planning groups.
- SCASA evaluation and Palmetto's Finest Award March 3, 6:30 pm, Koger Center, Columbia.
- Senior Projects: invitation for judges for May 8 exhibitions.
- US Department of Education: Regional Summit on School Choice, March 11, Columbia Convention Center. Asked to represent GTCHS.
- Charter school legislation and funding: district task committee & networking charter school group working to ad proviso language to address funding.

- **Crisis Management Plan: School Safety- incident at GTC housing on Feb. 8th; request made to GTC Police Department for review of procedures to include better communication with HS; all GTCHS students given info cards and instructed to program numbers in phones. Crisis Management Team meeting this Friday at 2pm.**

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Attachment 4: Board election letter.

Greenville Technical Charter High School

506 S. Pleasantburg Drive

P.O. Box 5616

Greenville, SC 29606

Board of Directors

Dr. Robert Nash, Chairman
Emeritus Professor of Biology

Henry Parr Jr., Vice-Chairman
Wyche, Burgess, Freeman and
Parham PA

Chris Stolarski, Secretary
Kemet Corporation

Dr. John Piccione, Treasurer
Rocky Creek Dental

Eric Adams
MetLife

Mike Burdine
The Salvation Army

Sandy Brigmon
BMCCHS

Wanda Clark
Greenville Technical College

David Dolge
Educator

Dr. Julius Earle, Jr.
Greenville Hospital System

Jayne McClain
Greenville Technical College

Ken Payne
Michelin

Jerry Sprouse
Spinx Corporation

Jay Whitacre
Educator

Issie Wright
Educator

Fred Crawford
Principal

February 11, 2008

The statute governing charter schools provides parents/guardians and faculty/staff members with the unique opportunity to elect the Greenville Technical Charter High School Board of Directors. We are pleased to announce that the annual board elections will be held on Tuesday, **April 22, 2008** each family receives one vote per child currently enrolled in GTCHS.

All board members are expected to attend regular monthly board meetings and emergency meetings (when required), participate on assigned committees, attend school events whenever possible, and assist with fundraising. Regular board meetings typically last about two hours on the fourth Tuesday of each month; times and lengths for committee meetings and school events vary throughout the year.

Any interested candidate should complete the Filing Application for Election to the Board of Directors enclosed in this mailing. Additional copies of the application may be obtained online at www.gtchs.org or from Beth Seawell, Principal's Secretary. **The completed application must be returned to Beth Seawell no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 21, 2008, in order for a candidate's name to be printed on the ballot.** Forms may be faxed to Mrs. Seawell at (864) 250-8846. Write-in candidates are also allowed during voting.

The Board of Directors will hold an **informational meeting** for all potential candidates on **March 6, 2008**, to review board goals; to discuss expectations for the participation of board members at monthly meetings, school events, and committee participation; and to discuss any concerns of the candidates themselves. Candidates will have opportunities to ask questions both during the meeting and following the meeting.

Information from the application forms will be shared with parents, students, and faculty in various ways during the month of April. Sample ballots will be prepared and distributed to parents and faculty by **April 11, 2008**. All pertinent dates for the election are listed on the following page.

You are invited to attend the next regular board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 26, 2008**, in the Greenville Technical College Administrative Board Room to hear more about the upcoming elections and to observe a typical meeting as you consider placing your name in nomination for the election.

Thank you for your involvement in this extremely important process.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bob Nash, Chairman
GTCHS Board of Directors

Dr. Julius Earle, Chairman
The GTCHS Board Development and Governance Committee

Significant Dates for the 2008 GTCHS Board Member Election

February 11, 2008	Announcement of Election Letter Distribution
February 26, 2008	Report at Regular Board Meeting
March 6, 2008	Information Meeting AH Auditorium
March 21, 2008	Candidate Filing Deadline
April 11, 2008	Print Sample Ballot
April 10, 2008	Parents Meet Candidates, 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm in GTC Student Center
April 16 – 18, 2008	Cast Absentee Ballots: Polls open 10:00 am until 2:00 pm Allied Health Building
April 22, 2008	Board Elections: Polls open 7:45 am until 7:00 pm in Allied Health Building

For Office Use Only:

Date received

Time received

Secretary's Initials

Greenville Technical Charter High School

PO Box 5616, Mail Code 1201, Greenville, SC 29606-5616

**FILING APPLICATION
FOR ELECTION TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Submit this form to Beth Seawell, Principal's Secretary, by 3:00 pm March 21, 2008.
2. Provide a brief bio on the lines below for distribution to families and faculty/staff. All bios will be copied exactly as submitted. **LIMIT TO 250 WORDS.**
3. If possible, please submit an electronic copy to bseawell@gtchs.org.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone . (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Mobile) _____

E-mail Address _____ FAX No. _____

Filing as (please check one or more as appropriate):

Parent/Family Member _____ Faculty _____ Community/Business _____

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH (May include GTCHS & community activities.)

Signature _____ Date _____

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Attachment 5: GTCHS Alumni Association proposal.



Greenville Technical Charter High School
Alumni Association

- ◆ Graduates of GTCHS would be invited to join the association
- ◆ A letter will be sent to all graduates asking them for information such as their college graduation date, their major, graduate school plans and place of employment
- ◆ The Alumni Association would have a reception in June 2008, with invitations being sent out in May; a fee would be charged for each member to attend
- ◆ The GTCHS board of directors would appoint a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer for the first year with each officer being elected by the association starting in 2009
- ◆ The association would meet once a year
- ◆ The members would be asked to:
 1. Establish a relationship with their employer
 2. Serve on various GTCHS committees, such as fundraising, endowment and board of directors
 3. Serve as judges and mentors for senior project
- ◆ The association would communicate via e-mails, postal mailings and phone calls. A GTCHS Alumni Association Newsletter and an internet group would be established to keep the members informed.