

GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Meeting of the Governing Board

November 3, 2014 4:00 PM Library

Minutes

In Attendance:

Brian Bauer, Executive Director (non-voting)
Sonja Brown, Parent
Marty Eisen, Teacher
Norm Holloway, Teacher
Ken Horwitz, Retired Teacher

Joan Lewis, Administrator
Brian Mancini, Classified
Jim Salin, At Large Member (Chair)
Jesus Vaca, At Large Member
Thomas Han, Student Liaison (non-voting)

Absent: Leila Vickers, At Large Member

The meeting was called to order at 4:0 p.m. Marty Eisen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Updates/Reports to the Board

Student Council – Jenny Rodstein, ASB Vice President

Ms. Rodstein provided the following updates:

- ASB students will be volunteering at CSUN for the Special Needs Resource Fair on November 8
- The MEND drive will take place November 3-21
- ASB is working with Elisa Ragus to improve student awareness of the accreditation process and out self-study for our mid-year visit by WASC on November 13

Student Services – Pam Dunn, Chair

The committee approved the following goals for the 2014-15 year:

- Improving the physical environment of the school
- Fostering positive staff/student relations
- Improving the school culture and climate
- Raising school spirit
- Improving safety and attendance
- Establish a Student Wellness Policy

The draft Student Wellness Policy has been reviewed and distributed to all stakeholders and will be scheduled for a vote at the November 20 committee meeting.

Operations – Maggie Abbott, Chair

The committee is reviewing the following:

- 2016-17 academic calendar
- A proposal to add a walkway from the L building between the E and F buildings
- A special bell schedule to accommodate the Kaiser “What Goes Around” assembly in January, 2015

Curriculum and Instruction – Elisa Ragus, Chair

The committee has tabled the proposal to return the Geometry class back to its traditional place in the math sequence after Algebra 1 and before Algebra 2 after meeting with the middle school principals and counselors and determining that change will not be necessary until the 2016-17 academic year. The committee continues to discuss reducing the number of report cards that are mailed home to parents/guardians when the same information can be found electronically on the Home Access Center.

Chief Business Officer’s Report – Eugene Straub

- September 2014 Monthly Financial Report – The overall financial position of the school remains strong and we are tracking well against the approved budgets for both revenue and expenditures. While it is still early in the year and we are not yet proposing any changes to the budget, we are optimistic that the revised budget that will be prepared along with the First Interim financial report due to LAUSD on November 28 will go a long way toward

reducing or eliminating the deficit reflected in the Board Adopted Budget. This is due to positive movement in enrollment and enrollment-based (ADA) funding streams, along with additional funding approved with the final state budget act and net positive changes to the overall spending plan for the school. A revised budget will be presented at the December or February meeting.

- Proposed Budget for Common Core State Standards Implementation Funds – Last year, GHCHS received \$848,866 in Common Core State Standards Implementation funds. At its October 13, 2014 regular meeting the Governing Board received and heard a presentation of how the Common Core funding would be spent over the two-year period ending June 30, 2015:

- \$525,000 – Technology Based instruction and assessment
- \$298,866 – Common Core aligned instructional materials
- \$25,000 – Professional Development aligned to academic standards

Mr. Straub recommended that the Governing Board approve this spending plan.

Action Item #1 - Ken Horwitz made a motion to approve the Common Core spending plan. Joan Lewis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Sonja Brown	Yes	Ken Horwitz	Yes	Jim Salin	Yes
Marty Eisen	Yes	Joan Lewis	Yes	Jesus Vaca	Yes
Norm Holloway	Yes	Brian Mancini	Yes	Leila Vickers	Absent

Discussion/Action Item #2 –Dr. Barbara Ackermann, GHCHS Social Worker, presented a Suicide Prevention Policy for discussion and approval. Dr. Ackermann reported that the procedures codified in this policy have been in regular use for many years – we have just now put them down in writing to form an official policy. The policy was constructed by members of the school’s mental health team headed by Dr. Ackermann and Administrative Director Julia Howelman.

Discussion took place among Board members and some inquired whether the legal references imbedded in the document were a requirement. It was agreed to approve the policy as is, and if the legal references were not required to be listed on the document, then they would be removed prior to publishing the policy. An update to the Board will be provided at the next meeting.

Norm Holloway made a motion to approve the Suicide Prevention Policy. Marty Eisen seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Sonja Brown	Yes	Ken Horwitz	Yes	Jim Salin	Yes
Marty Eisen	Yes	Joan Lewis	Yes	Jesus Vaca	Yes
Norm Holloway	Yes	Brian Mancini	Yes	Leila Vickers	Absent

Discussion/Action Item #3 – Chair Salin reminded the Board members that they appointed a screening committee several years ago to advertise for applicants for the Retired Teacher and At Large/Community Board member positions, and then reviews all applicants and make a recommendation for appointment to the Governing Board. With the move to replace the employee members of the Governing Board with more At Large/Community members, Mr. Salin recommended increasing the number of members of the screening committee to include additional staff members thereby ensuring adequate representation from all stakeholders. He suggested that the screening committee be comprised of four certificated staff members, two classified staff members, one administrator, two parents and one student.

Sonja Brown made a motion to approve the Governing Board’s Screening Committee. Ken Horwitz seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Sonja Brown	Yes	Ken Horwitz	Yes	Jim Salin	Yes
Marty Eisen	Yes	Joan Lewis	Yes	Jesus Vaca	Yes
Norm Holloway	Yes	Brian Mancini	Yes	Leila Vickers	Absent

Discussion/Action Item #4 – **Changes in Board Composition By Replacing Employee Board Members with Non-Employee Board Members To Address IRS Concerns and Eliminate Conflict of Interest Issues Effective January 1, 2015.** Mr. Salin stated that the GHCHS Governing Board has always functioned to the benefit of the students and staff.

But in order to eliminate conflict of interest issues that arise for interested Board members such as staff salary and benefits issues, evaluation of the Executive Director, and others, the composition of the GHCHS Governing Board will be changed effective January 1, 2015 as follows:

- Four Employee Board members will be replaced with two to four Community/At Large Board members
- Board membership will be no less than seven and no greater than nine members
- The GHCHS Parent and Retired Teacher Seats Remain
- The Board’s Ad Hoc Screening Committee will continue to review applications and make its recommendation to the GHCHS Board for the open Board member positions

Marty Eisen made a motion to approve the change in Governing Board composition effective January 1, 2015.

Jesus Vaca seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Sonja Brown	Yes	Ken Horwitz	Yes	Jim Salin	Yes
Marty Eisen	Yes	Joan Lewis	Yes	Jesus Vaca	Yes
Norm Holloway	Yes	Brian Mancini	Yes	Leila Vickers	Absent

Discussion/Action Item #5 – Adoption of Revised Bylaws to Reflect Changes in Board Composition. Brian Bauer reported that before the revised bylaws are adopted there will be an opportunity for input from staff members and they will be presented for approval at the December Board meeting.

Executive Director’s Report – *Brian Bauer*

- Performance Metrics - Mr. Bauer reported that there is no update to the Performance Metrics dashboard at this time.
- Outreach and Development Update – Marilyn Koziatek has been hired as the Community Outreach Coordinator. She will be responsible for outreach to sustain the school’s mission and build local community and business participation in our academic programs and school projects. Mr. Bauer thanked Board member Sonja Brown for assisting in the development of a fundraising strategy which will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting.

Marty Eisen made a motion to approve the 10/13/2014 Board meeting minutes. Jesus Vaca seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Sonja Brown	Yes	Ken Horwitz	Yes	Jim Salin	Yes
Marty Eisen	Yes	Joan Lewis	Yes	Jesus Vaca	Yes
Norm Holloway	Yes	Brian Mancini	Yes	Leila Vickers	Absent

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.