

GEORGIA CYBER ACADEMY (GCA)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: February 19, 2020 | **TIME:** 6:10 PM – 7:30 PM

**LOCATION: ROBBINS ROSS ALLOY BELINFANTE LITTLEFIELD LLC, 500 14th Street, NW,
Atlanta, GA 30318**

CONFERENCE CALL DIAL-IN #: 1.515.606.5371 | **ACCESS CODE:** 675050#

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://georgiacyber.zoom.us/j/350734530>

Attendees: Kenneth Tennyson Asher (Board Chair), Ben Brumfield, Eric Cochling, Andrew Lewis, Juliann McBrayer

Absent:

Board Employees/Contractors: Angela Lassetter (HOS), Michael Kooi (Executive Director), Andre Hopewell (CFO), Alexa Ross (General Counsel)

Staff Attendees: Melissa Komolafe, Jennifer Mitchell, Janniche Christensen, Maria Blencowe, Anise Cromer-Reed, Anne Cannestra, Sherene Mueller, Rachel Robertson, Ashley Davidson, Kristen Blanda, Lucretia Nolan, Michelle Fuchs, Michelda Watson, Ayanna Anderson, Katherine Stewart, Karen Miller, Maria Waters, Susan Hammonds, Whitney Moody, Shannon Spath, Janet Wheeler, Ingrid Bailey, Courtney Hale, Wendy Prescher, Dan Hall, Gail Robertson, Elizabeth Pratt, Amy Brady, Jinya Nunnally, Janalyn Pruitt, Brianne Carter, Joan Wilson, Stacy Clendenen, Terri Kramer

Parents: Due to the large number of parents that dialed in to the meeting we are unable to document all names

Other: Charlie Harper, C Harper Media

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS:

	MOTION	SECOND	VOTE
Motion to approve January 2020 board meeting minutes as amended	Eric Cochling	Andrew Lewis	Unanimous approved.
Motion to move to executive session	Andrew Lewis	Eric Cochling	Unanimous approved.
Motion to adjourn Board meeting	Ben Brumfield	Andrew Lewis	Unanimous approved.

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- I. Call to order- Kenneth Tennyson Asher at 6:02pm
 - A. Welcome

- II. Review and approval of January 2020 meeting minutes
 - A. Amend- add Charlie Harper to attendee list
 - B. Motion to approve by Eric Cochling, seconded by Andrew Lewis, unanimously approved.

- III. Finance Committee Report- Andre Hopewell
 - A. Audit
 - i. Compliance- submission of restricted funds
 - ii. Kenneth- who manages audit?- Andre- Bambo- DE 46 submission yearly-GCA doing quarterly taxes
 - B. Executive Summary
 - i. Expenses updated to reflect reduction of management fee- down to \$86.3 million- due to enrollment decrease- hold harmless \$6-7 million- estimated \$6 million reduction
 - C. FY20 YTD actuals
 - i. Alexa question- How is there a \$2.3 million surplus with a deficit of \$5 million
 - a. Andre-beating projection on expenses and a lot being pushed out to 2nd semester
 - D. Balance sheets
 - i. PayPal- used for collecting fees, transcripts, etc.
 - ii. We passed CPF framework in both formats
 - iii. ACTION ITEM- Kenneth requests soft copy of new metrics finance report
 - iv. Andre- allotment sheets coming- late March-May- Angela has shared ORG chart with Andre- can be scaled down if needed- wait to replace learning curriculum- taking out some redundancies- wait to amend enrollment policy- will know most boundaries- will bring through governance
 - v. Kenneth- projection 11,500 for enrollment next school year- Angela- already have 400 interest forms- opening registration next month

- IV. AO Committee Oversight Review- Angela Lassetter
 - A. Counseling report
 - i. Angela- updating IA4
 - B. NWEA work-based learning, etc
 - C. Amina- P.9- work-based learning- working with fantastic team- growing skills and HS credit also course with modules- really excited about feedback- long term partnerships
 - i. Kenneth- how are attracting partnerships- Angela- reaching out to people- 71 partners in place- built from scratch- Charlie Harper working with Maria Blencowe to advertise
 - ii. Eric question- attract- will students be employed after graduation- Angela- other virtual schools don't offer increasing CTAE pathways- focused on students and preparing after grad- compare 12 months ago to now we have made significant gains in partnerships and opportunities
 - iii. Offer training for students- offer PSAT but only in Atlanta- being fiscally responsible how to offer them out of state- cost factor- will budget support
 - iv. Andrew question- why fewer males than females testing- Amina- females more mature- initial assessment- Eric- consistent beyond GCA

- V. Governance Committee Report- Eric Cochling
 - A. Covered 2 proposed policies- media and staff qualifications
 - i. Designating executive director and HOS as spokespersons- stating parameters where board has to be notified before making statements to media
 - B. Professional qualifications policy
 - i. Clarify- HOS can adjust- changes recommended then take vote next meeting

- C. Board governance training
 - i. All board members current
 - ii. Strategic planning session 7/16-7/17- Mike will send out- Peachtree City possible- trainer to come in to facilitate- will help get hours also
- VI. Head of School Report – Angela Lassetter
 - A. Governance Dashboard
 - i. Submissions on time
 - B. Enrollment down about 1,000
 - i. Eric- January new enrollments- how many applied and got in- Angela- lower than expected...some have not completed paperwork- can't start without such paperwork- enrollment was not advertised as much as we would have liked
 - ii. ACTION ITEM: Kenneth question- which grade bands withdraw most- Angela- will find out
 - iii. Kenneth- what can we do- Angela- HS typically doesn't drop out- parents have to be more involved
 - iv. Kenneth- Are parents aware of commitment- Angela- Maria Blencowe working on videos to help parents
 - v. Charlie- give real time diagnostic feedback- benefits families- Angela- more likely to do 2-minute video
 - vi. Eric- do we provide a checklist for parents- Angela- will soon- enrollment at 8K- next year should hit 10.5- 11.5- interest level is high right now
 - C. Renewal recommendation received from state for another 3 years
 - i. Commission voted February 26th- thank you board for attending the Commission meeting
 - D. Most staff attend ESSA conference- a lot of positive feedback
 - i. DLAC coming - may replace INACOL
 - ii. National charter conference- Angela recommends board members attend
 - iii. Kenneth- what is agenda and take away- Angela- each conference has objectives- same for board members- time to come together- to hear from other schools- tradeshow and sources
 - iv. Andrew- benefit of NCSC- broad references- huge conference
 - v. Andrew- consider Excel in Ed- Angela- very expensive- Andrew- 1 dozen house senate members- Angela- may consider in future
 - vi. NACSA- 10/12-15- Nashville- will add DOE conferences
 - E. Academics- tab 4
 - i. Angela- don't get discouraged about 70% failing
 - ii. Kenneth- would like to see data- Angela- working on how to reformat- more data in RTI tab- only full academic year students count- those in Jan won't count- removed everyone not full academic year
 - iii. Eric question- 11th or 12 grade students coming in 2 – 3 grades behind- what can we achieve- Angela- must 1st find out why- many are SPED-
 - iv. Alexa- how do you do child find in virtual environment- Angela- start with MTSS/I-ready
 - v. Angela- struggling in math, writing and comprehension skills
 - vi. Alexa- child find- IDEA- do we keep student to 21 years old- Angela- yes, if they attend- that's where work-based learning program comes in- may help to engage them
- VII. Next Board of Directors Meeting
 - A. March 18th, 2020
 - i. No hearings- if problems cancel

VIII. Public comments

A. Kenneth reads public comment policy

B. Concerned about calendar recently published- impact to families

i. Mike- please give name and connection to school- GCA ES teacher- Tammy Sessler

ii. Tammy-suggested we use same calendar as brick and mortar and do a staff survey

iii. Kenneth- thank you Tammy for sharing concerns- will definitely consider

IX. Executive Session

A. Motion to move to executive session to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement , claims administrative proceedings or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the school district or an officer of employee or in which the officer of employee may be directly involved, Motion by Andrew Lewis, seconded by Eric Cochling, unanimously approved.

X. ADJOURN

A. Motion to adjourn by Ben Brumfield, seconded by Andrew Lewis, unanimously approved.