

GRANADA HILLS CHARTER

Regular Governing Board Meeting
Monday, May 13, 2024 - 4:00 PM
Granada Hills Charter High School Library
10535 Zelzah Ave, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Minutes

In Attendance:

Brian Bauer, CEO/Superintendent (non-voting)
Jody Dunlap, At Large Member (Chair)
Luis Cervantes, At Large Member
Lorene Dixon, At Large Member

Maribel Ramirez, At Large Member
Joan Lewis, At Large Member
Richard Nolan, At Large Member

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Jody Dunlap and roll call was taken by David Bensinger. Jody Dunlap led the Pledge of Allegiance. The board heard public comment from a parent regarding the graduation ceremony policies and instructions communicated to students and families.

Student Recognition - Spring Sports

Brian Bauer, Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent introduced the High School Girls' Basketball, Soccer, and Swim teams for their performance at California State and Regional competitions. The Girls' Basketball team won the Southern California regional championships and lost the state competition by six points. The Girls' Soccer team defeated Apple Valley to win the Southern California regional championship.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2024-2027 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Jenny DaCosta, Chief Academic Officer, presented the LCAP Annual Update. The 2024-2025 LCAP is the first LCAP that was created since the pandemic, as the 2021-2024 LCAP was created when in-person learning had returned to campuses. The 2024-2025 LCAP is also the first LCAP that represents the entire TK-12 instructional program with all grade levels offering exceptional teaching and learning. Lastly, the 2024-2025 LCAP is drafted when the California School Dashboard has most of its indicators fully available and operational (the College/Career Indicator will be fully available next school year).

The creation of the 2024-2025 LCAP was a collaborative effort of students, families, teachers, and staff from both campuses, including the Equity and Excellence in Education visit from the National Center for Urban School Transformation in September and October of 2023. Feedback from this visit can be found in the Engaging Educational Partners section of the 2024-2025 LCAP.

The 2024-2025 LCAP features three goals:

1) Pupil Achievement - consistent with Granada Hills Charter's mission and vision to academic excellence, Pupil Achievement remains the School's top priority. The metrics the School will use to measure this goal are: English/Language Arts Indicator (CAASPP); Mathematics Indicator (CAASPP); English Learner Progress Indicator; College/Career Indicator; and, Implementation of Academic Standards (local indicator).

2) Academic Engagement - recognizing the continued need for out-of-classroom support for all students, but especially those who do not have access to quality healthcare, Granada Hills Charter will continue to seek out resources and support for removing barriers to learning for all students. The metrics the School will use to measure this goal are: Chronic Absenteeism Indicator; Graduation Rate Indicator; UC/CSU Requirements (local indicator).

3) School Culture and Safety - maintaining a safe teaching and learning environment continues to be Granada Hills Charter’s top priority. In addition to safety, and through feedback from all educational partners, the School will continue to identify more opportunities to create a positive environment where everyone experiences joy and fulfillment. The School will use the Suspension Rate Indicator; School Climate Survey for TK-8 students and parents, and for high school students and parents to measure progress towards this goal.

Chief Financial Officer’s Update (Tammy Stanton)

Action Item #1 - Approval of Year-to-Date Financial Reports and Revised 2023-2024 Budget

Ms. Stanton presented the Year-to-Date Financial report as of April 30, 2024 which summarizes the revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balance, a balance sheet account summary, and an updated cash flow report/projection for 2023-2024. The Cash Flow projection includes actuals through April 30, 2024, with bank reconciled cash balances. Ms. Stanton reported that the year-to-date net income increase is \$8.1M and consolidated cash on hand in 149 days. The financial report also included:

- Period Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
- Balance Sheet (consolidated by all funds)
- Cash Flow Projection
- Consolidated income statement
- COVID Relief Funding

Luis Cervantes made a motion to approve. Richard Nolan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Action Item #2 - Approval of Updates to GHC Fiscal Policy

Ms. Stanton presented the recommended updates to the GHC Fiscal Policies and Procedures, including:

- Updated language to reflect the use of a digital timekeeping system and current processes to streamline and document employee timekeeping.
- Updated language to reflect the outcome when an employee works unauthorized overtime.
- Updated the Federal Micropurchase Method issued by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and posted via the California School Nutrition Programs Management Bulletin, January 2024.

Ms Stanton shared the 2023-2024 Audit Engagement and Single Audit Letter with the Board, noting that this engagement letter reflects year-two of the three-year audit engagement approved by the GHC governing board on January 30, 2023.

Lorene Dixon made a motion to approve. Maribel Ramirez seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Action Item #3 - Approval of Contracts/Purchases in Excess of \$150,000

Ms. Stanton presented the recommendation to approve the following contracts in excess of \$150,000:

1) Accelerate Education - 2023-2024 Additional Licenses & 2024-2025 Licenses. Accelerate Education has been the curriculum provider for the iGranada Independent Study program since 2011. Accelerate Education offers a substantial amount of UC/CSU approved AP courses and various content courses. The proposal for the upcoming 2024-25 school year is for 200 seats, which is based on projected enrollment and for 75 seats for online credit recovery.

2) YMCA - 2024 Summer Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) and 2024-2025 school year ELO-P. The agreement for the YMCA Extended Day After School ELO-P services for the summer 2024 offerings and academic year 2024-25 covers a maximum enrollment of 200 students. The YMCA will invoice for the total number of enrolled students.

3) Revolution Foods - High School Student Meals. As a result of ongoing Zelzah campus kitchen repairs, the GHC Food Services program is augmenting the student meals menu with offerings purchased from Revolution Foods.

Lorene Dixon made a motion to approve. Richard Nolan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent’s Report *(Brian Bauer, Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent)*
Local and State Updates

Mr. Bauer thanked the individuals involved in the advocacy efforts in opposition to LAUSD’s plan to place limits on charter schools’ right to space on District campuses. Three other conversion schools received modified single occupancy agreements (SOA) with elements that are not favorable to the charter schools. Mr. Bauer also shared that the passing of SB114 extended GHC’s charter petition expiration to June 2027.

The School has not received the final oversight report from the LAUSD Charter Oversight visit in April, and has received a few requests for additional information. Mr. Bauer informed the Board that GHC earned a six-year accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Earning a six year accreditation is exceptional and is evidence of the School’s strong performance and the WASC committee’s confidence in the School’s ability to carry out the goals described in the WASC action plan.

Mr. Bauer shared the TK-8 and 9-12 instructional program calendars, identifying the campus specific events including Back to School Night, Open House, the final exam dates, and parent-teacher conference dates. The Board will consider these calendars for approval at the next Board meeting in June.

Ms. Stanton shared the Proposition 28, Arts and Music K-12 Funding Initiative, plan with the Board, including information about expected funding, oversight, and other requirements. Eighty percent of the funds received by GHC must be spent on additional, new staff members associated with expanding arts and music programs. Ms. DaCosta explained the School’s staffing plan and described the challenges with finding highly qualified individuals for arts and music education. Surveys completed by TK-8 families indicated the desire for more visual arts in the lower elementary grades.

Action Item #4 – Review and Approve Notice to LAUSD Charter Operated Programs

Mr. Bauer presented the notice to the LAUSD Charter Operated Program that Granada Hills Charter intends to explore options for SELPA membership and may exit the LAUSD SELPA effective July 1, 2025.

Luis Cervantes made a motion to approve. Maribel Ramirez seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Action Item #5 – Confirmation of New Board Member to serve on the GHC Governing Board for the remainder of a Two-Year Term effective May 13, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2024.

Board Chair Jody Dunlap informed the Board that Supriya Chakravarty has resigned from the Governing Board. Ms. Dunlap thanked Ms. Chakravarty for her many years of service to GHC, both as a Board member and as a parent and introduced Sandra Bingham as the recommendation to complete the remainder of MS. Chakravarty’s term through December 31, 2024.

Lorene Dixon made a motion to approve. Luis Cervantes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Action Item #6 – Approval of March 11, 2024 Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Richard Nolan made a motion to approve. Luis Cervantes seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with the following votes:

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Richard Nolan	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes
Luis Cervantes	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 5:18 p.m. to discuss:

- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
 - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b): two cases

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))
 - Name of case: Iris Arnold, et al v. Brian Bauer, et al, Case No. 22STCV01783
 - Name of case: S.Q., et al v. Granada Hills Charter, Case No. 23STCV12226

- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
 - Title: Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting returned to open session at 6:30 p.m.

In closed session, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation for the non-reelection of a certificated academic counselor effective June 30, 2024. No additional action was taken by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Approved by the GHC Governing Board June 24, 2024

David Bensinger

Board Secretary