



GOODWIN UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Meeting of the Board of Directors

May 14, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Goodwin University

One Riverside Drive, East Hartford, CT 06118

6th Floor – UKS Boardroom

Zoom Link: [Access Zoom Meeting Here](#)

Meeting ID: 952 5512 3496 | Passcode: 320152

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Draft GUES Board Minutes of November 13, 2024.
4. Business Requiring Action
 - a. GUES Resolution 25-01 – Corporate Resolution to Approve the 2025-26 Goodwin University Magnet School System Budget
 - i. Presentation and approval of the 2025-26 Goodwin University Magnet School System Budget: Attachment A - School Year 2025-26 Proposed Spending
5. Adjournment



GOODWIN UNIVERSITY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Meeting of the Board of Directors

November 13, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Se-Min Sohn.

Members present: Andy DiFatta, Frank Amodio, Greg Butler, James DeMorro, Jackie Jacoby, Julio Maturana, John Walters, Larry Goldberg, Lee Housley, Lionel Lessard, Lisa Wisniewski, Mary Ann Hanley, Molly Loudon, Mark Scheinberg, Marty Shea, Ron Buccilli, Richard Shechtman, Se-Min Sohn, Wilfredo Nieves, Kevin Armata

Members absent: Alvin Thompson, Ed Casares, Ethan Foxman, Jeffrey Hoffman, Judy Resnick, Michelle Bush, Merilee DeJohn, Ron Angelo, Ray Madorin, Donna Galluzzo, Martin D'Eramo, Megan Mehr

Staff present: Alyse Marion, Bryant Harrell, Dan Noonan, Eddie Meyer, Jean White, Michael Pardales, Missy Quinlan, Todd Andrews, Sal Menzo, Bobby DeCrescenzo, Mark McGovern, Danielle Wilken, Lexi Kaider

Guests: Catrina Elder, Tom Romagnoli (Downes Construction Company), Michael Scott (TSKP Studio)

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Consent Agenda

Minutes of September 18, 2024 were reviewed by the Board as a group. Jackie Jacoby motioned to approve. Frank Amodio seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Superintendent Update

Sal Menzo reminded the group that the first recruitment event for the new technical high school is the night of November 13 at the Annex. Over the course of the evening all schools will have interested families visiting. The next recruitment event will be December 5, and the lottery will open in the middle of December.

5. Business Requiring Action

a. GUES Resolution 24-10 – Appointing a New Member to the School Building Committee

Jackie Jacoby motioned to approve Resolution 24-10, which appoints Andy DiFatta to the School Building Committee. Wilfredo Nieves seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. GUES Resolution 24-11 – Approving Final Plans, Project Manuals and Professional Cost Estimate for the Phase 2 Construction Bid Package for the Magnet Technical High School

Richard Shechtman motioned to approve Resolution 24-11. Andy DiFatta seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Romagnoli shared that Phase 1 is prepared for kick-off, having received building committee approval to mobilize and begin construction.

Michael Scott delivered a presentation to outline and share examples of submittals on the new technical high school, which included two volumes of drawings and 250 sheets of details, schedules, plans, elevations, and highly delineated specifications of various scopes of work, altogether culminating to over 1,400 pages – the largest set of documents put out on the building yet. In other positive news, the project has not changed much in scope since the last GUES Board meeting on September 18, 2024.

Tom Romagnoli explained that there are four different phases of the budget. The budget for Phase 1 has been approved, and that for Phase 2, the construction component, is the largest at \$81 million. For reference, Phase 3 and Phase 4 include technology, furniture, fixtures, and equipment. His team is currently in the process of budget reconciliation to reconcile about \$3.8 million through alternate solutions (i.e., without removing programmatic areas or other aspects of the building), and their goal is to approach the building committee in December with a fully reconciled budget. Note that there is a level of contingencies and allowances built in. He believes the market will be favorable when it is time to go out to bid. In regard to school security and safety, the building will be fully compliant with state guidelines and instruction as to how schools should operate. Sal Menzo added that there is grant funding that Goodwin University Magnet Schools is planning to utilize to address differences in security structures throughout the schools, and, as the System is no longer a part of LEARN, it now has its own School Security and Safety Plan.

6. Adjournment

John Walters motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:29 p.m. Lee Housley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting minutes recorded by Lexi Kaider.



GUES RESOLUTION 25-01

**CORPORATE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2025-26 GOODWIN
UNIVERSITY MAGNET SCHOOL SYSTEM BUDGET**

The Undersigned Secretary of Goodwin University Educational Services (GUES), Inc. hereby certifies that the following resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Directors on **May 14, 2025** and that such resolution has not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof:

WHEREAS, Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. has entered into an agreement with Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc. to authorize Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. to administer the budget and the operations of the Goodwin University Magnet Schools, and

WHEREAS, a budget presented as Attachment A to this resolution has been prepared for the operation of the Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. covering the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the total anticipated budget for this period is represented as Attachment A, and

WHEREAS, grant funding from the State of Connecticut Department of Education Interdistrict Magnet School Funds is available, and

WHEREAS, additional revenues for the operation of the Goodwin University Magnet Schools is available through the charging of tuition to local school districts from which attending students reside, and

WHEREAS, Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. has entered into an agreement with Goodwin University, Inc. to provide services to support the operation of the Goodwin University Magnet Schools and to represent Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. functions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc. Board of Directors hereby approves the 2025-26 budget in an amount represented as Attachment A for the Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. and be it further,

RESOLVED, that Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc. Board of Directors hereby approves any further adjustments to such approved budget if necessary to stay within available appropriations, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc. Board of Directors authorizes the President of Goodwin University Educational Services, Inc. to invoice and collect tuitions from the local school districts, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc. Superintendent is authorized to implement such budget for the operation of Goodwin University Magnet Schools, Inc., which includes the procurement of goods and services required for the operation of Goodwin University Magnet Schools.

Signed: _____

Mark E. Scheinberg, Secretary

Date:

Signed: _____

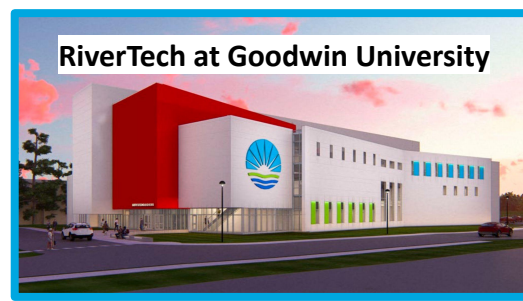
Se-Min Sohn, Chair

Date:



School Year 2025-2026 Proposed Spending

Our Schools



Enrollment Data

School	Student Enrollment as of October 1, 2024	Projected Student Enrollment 2025-2026	Year to Year Difference
Riverside Magnet	481	500	+19
CTRA Middle Level	235	235	-
CTRA High School	507	550	+43
ECAMP	23	35	+12
RiverTech	-	80	+80
Total Enrollment	1,246	1,400	+154



October 1, 2024 Student Reporting

Socioeconomic Status of 2024-2025 Incoming Class			
	Tier A %	Tier B %	Tier C %
RMS	33.3%	29.4%	37.3%

Demographics	
	RMS %
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.42%
Asian	2.49%
Black or African American	31.60%
White	11.85%
Hispanic/ Latino of any race	48.44%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.21%
Two or More Races	4.99%

Riverside Magnet School - Reduced Isolation							
Grade	Total Students	Total Hartford Students	Total Suburban Students	Total RI Students	Total Hartford RI Students	Total Suburban RI Students	% RI Total School
PreK3	42	17	25	12	0	12	28.57%
PreK4	47	16	31	12	1	11	25.53%
K	62	19	43	13	2	11	20.97%
1	66	27	39	9	0	9	13.64%
2	65	21	44	8	0	8	12.31%
3	69	19	50	9	1	8	13.04%
4	66	28	38	8	0	8	12.12%
5	64	20	44	9	1	8	14.06%
Total	481	167	314	80	5	75	16.63%

October 1, 2024 Student Reporting

Total District Population	1246	
RMS	481	38.6%

Multilingual Language Learner		
RMS	56	11.6%

Free Lunch		
RMS	234	48.6%

# Sending Towns (LEA) + Hartford		
RMS	28	

Special Ed		
RMS	74	15.4%

Reduced Lunch		
RMS	39	8.1%



October 1, 2024 Student Reporting

Socioeconomic Status of 2024-2025 Incoming Class			
	Tier A %	Tier B %	Tier C %
CTRA HS/Middle	47.8%	23.4%	28.8%

Demographics	
	CTRA/M %
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.3%
Asian	2.6%
Black or African American	31.1%
White	10.8%
Hispanic/ Latino of any race	48.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.4%
Two or More Races	5.9%

Connecticut River Academy - Reduced Isolation							
Grade	Total Students	Total Hartford Students	Total Suburban Students	Total RI Students	Total Hartford RI Students	Total Suburban RI Students	% RI Total School
6	76	32	44	9	0	9	11.84%
7	81	29	52	9	0	9	11.11%
8	78	27	51	3	0	3	3.85%
9	161	69	92	28	2	26	17.39%
10	122	51	71	22	3	19	18.03%
11	124	67	57	23	2	21	18.55%
12	100	45	55	14	4	10	14.00%
Total	742	320	422	108	11	97	14.56%

October 1, 2024 Student Reporting

Total District Population	1246	
CTRA HS/Middle	742	59.6%

Multilingual Language Learner		
CTRA HS/Middle	106	14.3%

Free Lunch		
CTRA HS/Middle	368	49.6%

# Sending Towns (LEA) + Hartford		
CTRA HS/Middle	37	

Special Ed		
CTRA HS/Middle	133	17.9%

Reduced Lunch		
CTRA HS/Middle	55	7.4%

October 1, 2024 Student Reporting

Total District Population	1246	
ECAMP	23	1.8%

# Sending Towns (LEA) + Hartford	
ECAMP	10

Socioeconomic Status of 2023-2024 Incoming Class			
	Tier A %	Tier B %	Tier C %
ECAMP	23.8%	38.1%	38.1%

Demographics	
	ECAMP %
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.0%
Asian	4.3%
Black or African American	17.4%
White	47.8%
Hispanic/Latino of any race	26.1%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.0%
Two or More Races	4.3%

Early College Advanced Manufacturing Pathway - Reduced Isolation							
Grade	Total Students	Total Hartford Students	Total Suburban Students	Total RI Students	Total Hartford RI Students	Total Suburban RI Students	% RI Total School
12	23	8	15	13	0	13	56.52%
Total	23	8	15	13	0	13	56.52%

Proposed FY 2026 Magnet Schools Spending



District Development Plan (2025 - 2028)

Focus Area: Engagement

Goal: Goodwin University Magnet School System will foster relationships among scholars, families, and staff to build understanding, respect, and trust for future success.

Focus Area: Teaching and Learning

Goal 1: Goodwin University Magnet School System will provide rigorous and high-quality instructional opportunities for all scholars and staff while supporting their social and emotional well-being.

Goal 2: Goodwin University Magnet School System will continue to foster innovation and creativity in its scholars, families, and staff.

Focus Area: Partnerships

Goal: Goodwin University Magnet School System will develop strategies to promote enrollment of scholars and will develop partnerships with the community and businesses to extend learning for all.

Focus Area: Resources

Goal: Goodwin University Magnet School System will appropriately resource all programs and initiatives to meet the needs of scholars, families, and staff while complying with state and federal responsibilities.

Focus Area: Innovation

Goal: Goodwin University Magnet School System will continue to foster innovation and creativity in meeting the needs of its students, families, and staff.

Key Outcomes of Proposed FY 2026 Budget

Focus Area: Engagement

- Evaluate implementation of curriculum at elementary and middle level to support high school pathways
- Continue District Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Work
- Continue work to address attendance of scholars

Key Outcomes of Proposed FY 2026 Budget

Focus Area: Teaching and Learning

- Continue implementation of new Amplify Reading Program
 - Grades PreK - 6
- Continued Curriculum Alignment and Standards Development
 - PreK – 12
- Hire staffing at Middle Level
 - Career Technical Education Teacher
 - Science Teacher
- Hire staffing for RiverTech at Goodwin University
 - Career Technical Education Teacher
 - English/Intervention Teacher

Key Outcomes of Proposed FY 2026 Budget

Focus Area: Partnerships

- Continue partnership with Victorian Student Space Education Center (VSSEC)
 - Establish curriculum for Mars Exploration - Grades 6-12
- Continue to expand Electric Boat Partnership
 - Hire dedicated Career Technical Education Teacher
- Continue Early College and Pathway Development Partnerships
 - Expand work with Bridgeport Public Schools

Key Outcomes of Proposed FY 2026 Budget

Focus Area: Resources

- Purchase Instructional Technology
 - Scholar Chromebooks
 - Staff Laptops
 - Promethean Boards

Key Outcomes of Proposed FY 2026 Budget

Focus Area: Innovation

- Expand Early College/Dual Enrollment Opportunities
 - Computer Science, Cyber Security, and Phlebotomy through University of Bridgeport
- Open RiverTech at Goodwin University with freshman class
- Hire District Student Support Services Staff to outsource to other districts
 - Bilingual Speech Language Pathologist
- Explore partnership with Cybercy to develop tools for scholars, families, and staff to potentially be offered to districts in the United States
- Seek membership and participate in Victoria Artificial Intelligence Collaborative

Capital Expenditure Budget FY 26

Capital Expenditure Budget FY 26

Item	Cost
Security Upgrades	420,000
HVAC Repairs	75,000
Replacement Furniture	50,000
Technology Replacement Plan	125,000
Major Maintenance	80,000
Total	750,000

State Department of Education

Budget Codes

State Department of Education Budget Codes

Code	Description	Example
100	Salaries	All District Employees
200	Benefits	Health Insurance, Payroll Taxes, Worker Comp
300	Prof/Tech Services	Prof Dev, Legal, Audits, Outside Contractors, Goodwin Allocations
400	Property Services	Repairs, Maintenance, Copiers, Snow Removal
500	Other Purch Serv	Transportation, LAP Insurance, Phones
600	Supplies	All: Educational, Admin, Tech, Maintenance
700	Equipment	Tech Hardware, Capital Requests
800	Other - Dues & Fees	Bank & Credit Cards Fees, Prof Dues
900	In-Direct Costs	Contingency and Goodwin Contractual Expenses

Spending Changes: FY 25 vs. FY 26

Proposed FY 2026 Magnet Schools Spending

Expenses	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference	% Difference	Rationale
100 Personnel	16,806,496.20	15,700,320.00	1,106,176.20	7.05%	Contractual and new positions for RiverTech
200 Benefits	3,631,194.20	3,063,957.00	567,237.20	18.51%	9% Health Insurance Increase and coverage for new positions
300 Professional Technical Services	5,033,922.70	4,678,634.00	355,288.70	7.59%	Salary, benefits, and insurance for GU allocated staff
400 Purchased Property Services	1,131,850.00	822,989.00	308,861.00	37.53%	RiverTech transition plan
500 Other Purchased Services	382,465.60	371,340.00	11,125.60	3.00%	
600 Supplies	1,171,824.35	734,741.00	437,083.35	59.48%	Based on review of prior year's budget
700 Equipment	1,261,223.03	1,162,021.00	99,202.03	8.54%	
800 Dues and Fees	30,500.00	107,500.00	-77,000.00	-71.63%	Re-evaluated account
900 Indirect Services	1,228,996.65	970,484.00	258,512.65	26.64%	Added management fee for RiverTech, cost for afterschool programming, cost for summer school programming, and development projects
Total Expenses	30,678,472.73	27,611,986.00	3,066,486.73	11.11%	

FY 2026 Expenses

FY 2026 Magnet Schools Budget Rationale

Expense Drivers

- Personnel Expenses and Rationale for Changes
- Benefit Expenses and Rationale
- Goodwin University Contracted Services
- Other Budget Drivers

Headcount by School/Department

Position	CTRA		CTRM		RMS		Central Office		ECAMP		RiverTech	
	'25	'26	'25	'26	'25	'26	'25	'26	'25	'26	'25	'26
Admin	3	3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	5	4	0	0	0	1
Teachers	61	60.25	25	25.5	46	47	2	2	3	3	2	5.25
Non-certified	12	14	10	10	33	37	12	11	1	.5	0	.5
Total	76	77.25	37.5	38	81.5	86.5	19	17	4	3.5	2	6.75

Non-certified = Managers, Support Staff, Building Substitutes, and Instructional Assistants

Non-certified increases are due to transitioning contracted paras to district personnel and hiring in-house building substitutes.

Total Staff FY 25 - 220

Total Staff FY 26 - 229



Goodwin
University

Magnet School System

Personnel Expenses

Salaries	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference	Percent Difference
Salaries	16,806,496.20	15,700,320	1,106,176.20	7.05%

Rationale for Personnel Expense Increases

- Increase due to additional staffing needed to open RiverTech
- Hiring of district paraeducators instead of outsourcing
- Hiring of additional building substitutes
- Contractual Increases

Benefit Expenses

Benefits	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference	Percent Difference
Health Insurance	2,650,765	2,439,198	211,567	9%
FICA	188,529	171,390	17,139	10%
Medicare	219,884	199,895	19,989	10%
Workers Comp	64,640	52,000	12,640	24%
Unemployment	305,682	277,893	27,789	10%
403 B contributions	86,162	82,848	3,314	4%

Rationale for Benefit Expense Increases

- Health Insurance 9% increase over last year
- Increased staffing due to RiverTech opening

Goodwin University Contracted Services

Category	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference
Salaries & Benefits	851,058	950,548	(99,490)
Instruction	765,000	765,000	0
Computer/IT	257,607	307,194	(49,587)
Admin Fee	882,103	665,463	216,640
Repairs/Maintenance	1,048,859	742,965	305,894
Security	928,957	728,672	200,285
Marketing	0	50,000	(50,000)
Total	4,733,584	4,209,842	523,742



Goodwin
University

Magnet School System

Other Budget Drivers

- Instruction supply budget review
- Transition plan for RiverTech
- Inclusion of after school program funding
- Inclusion of summer school program funding

FY 2026 Revenue

FY 2026 Magnet Schools Budget Rationale

Revenue Drivers

- Entitlement Grants/Sheff Grants
- Tuition Funding
 - Local
 - State
- Auxiliary Services
 - Special Education
 - Consulting
 - Electric Boat
 - Programming
 - Studio - Before and After Care Programming at Riverside Magnet Schools

Entitlement Grant Funds for FY 2026

Grants	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference
Title I	485,431	485,431	0
Title II	72,024	72,024	0
Title III	20,903	20,903	0
Bilingual	14,892	14,892	0
Perkins	23,597	23,594	0
Magnet Athletic Grant	133,400	133,400	0
Special RiverTech Transition Funding	405,000	0	405,000
Academic Support Grant	40,000	40,000	0
Sheff Marketing	55,000	55,000	0
Total	1,250,247	845,247	405,000

Local and State Tuition Changes

	FY 2026	FY 2025	Difference
Tuition Revenue			
Local Tuition Grant	8,271,384.00	7,345,658.86	925,725.14
State Operating	15,959,093.65	13,186,648.00	2,772,445.65
Pre-K State Funded	141,520.00	141,520.00	0.00
Pre-K Parent Funded (2,320)	109,040.00	65,192.00	43,848.00

Assumptions:

Increase enrollment by 154 scholars.

2.5% cost of living increase to State portion of tuition.

Note:

Districts pay 58% of the above local tuition.

State pays 42% of the local tuition and full State portion.



Goodwin
University

Magnet School System

Local and State Tuition Changes

	FY 2026
Auxiliary Revenue	
Special Education	4,420,973.28
Consulting	43,750
Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Electric Boat- Jumoke Academy- Other Programming	131,250
Studio	288,477.00

Note:

Special Education Revenue is directly applied to offset services provided to identified students with Individual Education Plans and 504 Plans.

Final Analysis

Funding vs. Expenses

FY 2026



Assumptions

- Increase in enrollment by 154 scholars
- 2.5% cost of living increase for State tuition
- No increase to Entitlement Grant funding
- Included costs in the budget for the following programs previously grant funded:
 - Afterschool Programming
 - Summer School Programming
- Included costs for capital improvements that may be grant funded

Program Funding vs. Expenses

	Totals
Revenue	(30,678,472.73)
Expenses	30,678,472.73
Net	0

Rationale for Increased Expenditures

- Needed staffing to open RiverTech
- Contractual increases
- Continued focus on curriculum and instruction to improve student outcomes
- Continued efforts to address capital improvement
- Continued efforts to address security enhancements