

Harper Archer Elementary School

Date: **February 10, 2026**

Time: **5:00 PM**

Location: **Virtual Zoom Meeting**

- I. Call to order: 4:23 p.m.
- II. Roll Call

| Role | Name (or Vacant) | Present or Absent |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Principal | Crystal January | Present |
| Parent/Guardian | Janenin Collins | Absent |
| Parent/Guardian | April Waits | Present |
| Parent/Guardian | Bernikka Elder | Present |
| Instructional Staff | Tabetha Barker | Present |
| Instructional Staff | Medalana Smith | Present |
| Instructional Staff | Satin Booker | Present |
| Community Member | Cynthia Culbreath | Absent |
| Community Member | Cynthia Jewell | Present |
| Swing Seat | Cheryl Jackson | Present |
| Non-Voting Member | Matthew Graves | ----- |
| Student (High Schools) | | |

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by: Cynthia Jewell ; Seconded by: Medalana Smith

Members Approving: 7

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Pass

B. Approval of Previous Minutes:

Motion made by: Satin Booker ; Seconded by: Cynthia Jewell

Members Approving: 7

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Pass

IV. Discussion Items

A. Budget Development Presentation

Ms. Barker reviewed the introduction to the draft budget presentation and explained the questions to consider while reviewing the budget.

Dr. January shared that we are currently on step 4 of the budget development process. She stated that staffing conferences will be held February 23-27 and she would hold her conferences on the 27th.

Dr. January reviewed the FY27 strategic plan and shared that the main purpose of the plan is to have scholars that are prepared, learning, and ready to achieve in life. She also stated that every school has KPIs given by the district, with the only difference being found in the objectives of each strategic plan. The HAES GO team has ranked the FY27 objectives.

Dr. January went into the breakdown of the strategic use of resources. She highlighted these points:

- We do intend to fund a minimum of 27 core teachers
- There is a deficit of \$677,402 in the budget
- The district recommends staffing 5.50 EIP teachers but we have 7.50

Dr. January reviewed the FY27 staffing proposal and the use of school-level flexibility. She highlighted these points:

- We have nonstaffing funding that has been allocated but funding would not be released until FTE is met
- Our current leveling reserve is \$117,901; all of which has been allocated to include custodian overtime, field trips, SRO, substitute teachers, and stipends

Dr. January opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Elder referenced the KIPP closings and asked if that would bring a change to our budget outside of the reserve. Dr. January responded and said that she would leave those financial questions to the district and that we also can not consider any funding that is not currently present. Mrs. Jewell said that was a great question, but that topic would not impact the work for today because we cant count students until they are enrolled.

Ms. Smith asked what is the difference in comparison to this year? Dr. January said the differences are what is listed in parenthesis.

Ms. Elder asked, are we losing positions this year? Dr. January responded yes because we are short \$677,402 . Ms. Smith asked would we lose a 1st and 4th grade teacher? Dr.

January replied, we would lose teachers but it may not be in those spaces, it would be based on enrollment, but we would supplement by having EIP teachers.

Mrs. Jewell asked, when we see and/or say recommendation is it the school or district recommendation? Dr. January said it is the district baseline. Ms. Jewell asked, so currently we are \$677,402 in the red. The district is saying we can do the job with the one amount but we are functioning at a different amount? Will we get into that conversation? Dr. January responded, what's listed now gets to zero but of course the budget won't reflect that until it's approved.

Ms. Elder asked, we have 7.50 EIP teacher? Dr. January responded, yes, the district recommends 5.50 but we have 7.50 to help teacher support instruction. Ms. Elder asked, how many teachers do our teachers have? Dr. January responded, it can be 20-23 based on the grade level. Elder stated that she brought her son from a suburban school with about 8 kids per class, and asked what about making the class size smaller for the teachers. 20-25 students is a lot when not every class has EIP support, that is distracting and takes away from the instruction. Dr. January replied, the hope is that we can have more EIP support. Currently we staff more than other schools and the district's recommendation. Ms. Elder asked, what if we reduce the EIP and add a teacher back to help reduce the class size. Dr. January responded, that won't impact the dollar amount but it could be impacted based on what the position is not the dollar amount.

Ms. Smith shared that there appears to be some current positions that are not funded. She asked, what is the difference in the social worker position because it says we are recommended to have 1 but it's staffed as .5? Dr. January shared that we still have the social worker but we would share them with another school. Smith asked if Dr. January could talk more about that. Dr. January said we want to have these resources as available as possible but with a \$677,402 deficit, the position is not going away, the financial responsibility is being shared with another school.

Dr. January asked if there was any other position the team wanted to know about. Ms. Smith said yes, the paraprofessionals for kindergarten. Dr. January said they are still funded just now it would be through turnaround funding. Ms. Smith then asked about the behavior specialist position. Dr. January confirmed that the behavior specialist position would not be funded for the upcoming school year. Ms. Elder asked, so does that mean there won't be one to support behavior? Dr. January responded we will have to use multiple something else's to support behavior. We have 2 counselors, a social worker, MTSS specialist and people on the behavioral team. In order to sustain this position we would have to slice more teachers.

Ms. Smith asked about the media specialist position. Dr. January stated that there is no change to that position and because the media specialist teaches its allocated as .5 and .5.

Dr. January shared that this was the draft budget for FY27 and turned the voting over to Ms. Barker.

Ms. Barker asked for a motion to approve the draft budget.

Motion made by: Bernika Elder Seconded by: Cynthia Jewell

Members Approving: 6

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 1

Motion Pass

i. ACTION ITEM: GO Team vote on Draft Budget (AFTER presentation and discussion)

V. Information Items

A. Principal's Report

Dr. January shared updates on the following items:

- College and Career Week
- Counselors Appreciation Week
- Black History Month Celebrations: our dancers performed at the district Black History program
- In House Field Trip
- Books and Badges
- Spelman Robotics
- Testing: ACCESS, Write Score, NAEP
- APTT: there will a date in March
- GMAS Pep Rally
- APS Tech Competition

B. Committee Reports

C. Cluster Advisory Report

VI. Announcements

Ms. Barker reminded the team to complete the mandatory budget training. She shared that GO team declarations are now open until the end of the month.

Ms. Elder asked for clarity on the length of GO Team members terms. Ms. Barker shared that you can only hold titles/positions for 2 years, but you can remain on the team in a different role.

VII. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion made by: Medalana Smith Seconded by: Bernikka Elder

Members Approving: 7

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Pass

ADJOURNED AT 5:54p.m.

Minutes Taken By: Satin Booker

Position: Go Team Secretary

Date Approved: