GRANADA HILLS CHARTER
Governing Board Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2026 - 4:00 p.m.
Granada Hills Charter High School Library
10535 Zelzah Ave, Granada Hills, CA 91344

Teleconference locations listed below

Minutes

In Attendance:

Brian Bauer, CEO/Superintendent (non-voting)	Sandra Bingham, At Large Member
Jody Dunlap, At Large Member (Chair)	Maribel Ramirez, At Large Member
Lorene Dixon, At Large Member	Luis Cervantes, At Large Member
Joan Lewis, At Large Member (remote)	Thao Ly, At Large Member

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Jody Dunlap and roll call was taken by Joy Kasper. Chair Dunlap led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no public comment.

TK-12 Program Updates *(Jenny DaCosta, Administrative Director, TK-8 and Julia Howelman, Administrative Director, High School)*

- 2026 Summer Instructional Programs - Dr. DaCosta and Ms. Howelman provided an overview of TK-12 summer instructional programs.
    - High School Summer School served **776 students**, including enrichment, accelerated math, credit recovery, ESY, and online courses. The **Summer Transition Academy served 1,419 students**, providing incoming and continuing students with academic instruction, social-emotional activities, registration, counseling presentations, and opportunities to build connections with staff and peers.
    - TK-8 summer programs served **194 students** through K-5 enrichment, middle grades credit recovery, and ESY, in addition to YMCA Day Camp/ELOP programming.
- 2026-2027 School Year Opening - Dr. DaCosta and Ms. Howelman provided an update on the opening of the 2026-2027 school year. At the High School, instructional priorities include a focus on student achievement, engagement, literacy across content areas, instructional alignment, rigorous curriculum, and support for diverse learners, with professional learning aligned to these areas.

Chief Executive Officer/Superintendent's Report (*Brian Bauer***)**

- GHC Charter Renewal
- Devonshire Campus Phase 3 Construction Update (*Norm Holloway*)

Mr. Bauer provided an update on GHC's charter renewal process. He reported that GHC submitted its charter renewal petition and supporting documentation to LAUSD in mid-July, consistent with the anticipated timeline for the LAUSD public hearing and Board of Education vote. He reviewed the anticipated renewal timeline, including the LAUSD public hearing scheduled for August 25, at which GHC would be considered along with more than 40 other charter schools seeking renewal. Mr. Bauer reported that GHC was awaiting LAUSD staff feedback on the submitted petition and that the LAUSD Board of Education was scheduled to consider GHC's charter renewal on October 13, 2026.

Mr. Holloway, Administrative Director of Operations, provided the Governing Board with an update on the Devonshire Campus Phase 3 Construction Project and related furniture. Mr. Holloway reported that construction continues to progress, with plumbing work currently underway and preparations being made to begin interior painting. Although the original goal was to have the building ready for occupancy by September 1, the anticipated move-in date may extend to mid to late October. Mr. Holloway also confirmed that furniture and equipment for the new space have been ordered.

Action Item #1 - Review and Acceptance of the 2025-2026 LAUSD CSD Oversight Report

Mr. Bauer reported on the results of GHC's 2025–2026 LAUSD Charter Schools Division Annual Performance-Based Oversight Visit. He noted that GHC again received the highest possible rating of "4 – Accomplished" in each of the four areas evaluated by CSD: Governance; Student Achievement and Educational Performance; Organizational Management, Programs, and Operations; and Fiscal Operations.

Mr. Bauer highlighted that CSD identified no areas for further growth or improvement and no corrective action requiring immediate attention in Governance. The Fiscal Operations review similarly identified no significant areas for further growth or improvement and no corrective action requiring immediate attention. He also noted that GHC's 2024–2025 independent audit received an unmodified/unqualified opinion, with no material weaknesses or deficiencies/findings reported.

The Board approved the acceptance of the 2025-2026 LAUSD Oversight Report as presented in the meeting agenda.

Luis Cervantes moved to approve the item. Richard Nolan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Action Item #2 – Approval of Revised TK-8 2026-2027 Bell Schedule

The Board approved the revised TK-8 bell schedule for the 2026-2027 school year, incorporating up to 1,800 additional annual instructional minutes. The revision converts shortened Tuesdays into regular instructional days with approximately 50 extra minutes of instruction, while shifting professional development and collaborative planning to scheduled after-school meetings.

Lorene Dixon moved to approve the item. Maribel Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Action Item #3 - Approval of the Granada Hills Charter Committee on Assignments for Local Assignment Options Policy

The Board approved the Granada Hills Charter Committee on Assignments for Local Assignment Options Policy and formally established the Committee on Assignments effective August 10, 2026, in accordance with California Education Code section 44258.7. The committee, consisting of two teachers and two designated school administrators, is authorized to approve limited local assignment options that allow appropriately credentialed teachers, with their consent, to teach elective courses outside their credential authorization.

Luis Cervantes moved to approve the item. Thao Ly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes

Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes		

Action Item #4 - Approval of Revisions to the Management Salary Schedules and Titles

The Board approved the proposed revisions to Classified Management Position Titles and Salary Schedules, effective July 1, 2026, to align with current agreements and organizational structures. The changes include updating specific titles (such as Marketing and Outreach Specialist to Marketing and Outreach Coordinator) and increasing the salary range for the Athletic Director/Permit Specialist position to $91,000-$127,000 to reflect market compensation and assigned duties.

Luis Cervantes moved to approve the item. Lorene Dixon seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Action Item #5 - Approval of a One-Time 2026 Retirement Incentive Program for Eligible Employees Retiring at the Conclusion of the 2025–2026 Work Year

The Board approved a one-time retirement incentive program for certificated and classified employees who retired at the end of the 2025-2026 work year and met the "Rule of 70" (age plus years of full-time service totaling at least 70). Eight eligible employees participated, receiving an incentive of 0.5% of their final annual base salary per year of service, resulting in a total fiscal impact of $74,766.

Sandra Bingham moved to approve the item.. Thao Ly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Discussion/Action Item #6 - 2027-2028 GHC TK-12 Academic Calendar

The Board reviewed the draft 2027-2028 TK-12 Academic Calendar for initial discussion and input prior to further review by school advisory committees. Proposed calendar highlights include a full-week Thanksgiving break, Winter Break from December 20 to January 7, an unassigned non-school day on April 17 to account for the 2028 leap year, and a final instructional day of June 2, 2028. Following discussion, the Board took no action. The calendar will return to the Governing Board for consideration and approval at its next meeting.

Action Item #7 - Approval of Revised 2026 Governing Board Meeting Calendar

The Board approved the revised 2026 Governing Board Meeting Calendar, which outlines the remaining meeting dates for the year, including August 10, September 28, November 2, and December 7.

Sandra Bingham moved to approve the item. Luis Cervantes seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Action Item #8: Approval of June 22, 2026 Governing Board Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the official minutes from the previous Governing Board meeting held on June 22, 2026.

Lorene Dixon moved to approve the item. Sandra Bingham seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with the following votes:

Thao Ly	Yes		Luis Cervantes	Yes		Maribel Ramirez	Yes		Sandra Bingham	Yes
Lorene Dixon	Yes		Joan Lewis	Yes		Jody Dunlap	Yes			

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 4:41 p.m. to discuss the following:

● 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
- Name of case: Granada Hills Charter v. Scottsdale Insurance Company, California Charter Schools Joint Powers Authority d/b/a CharterSAFE, LosAngeles Superior Court, Case No. 26STCV24590

The meeting returned to open session at 5:32 p.m. Chair Dunlap reported that no action was taken in closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Board approved September 28, 2026

Joy Kasper

Joy Kasper, Board Secretary