



Board of Directors Meeting

October 27, 2021 6 p.m.

Zoom teleconference Call

6-7PM: Work Session

7PM: Business Meeting

A. Meeting Called to Order at 6:03 pm

Roll Call

President - Ryan Vesque-present

Vice President - Yianni Tousimis-present

Treasurer - Amy Humphrey- present

Secretary - Courtney Reynolds - present

Member, SAC representative - Elisa Kletter- present

Member at Large- Tully Gibbons- present

Director of GCS: Hillary Miller- present

Ryan Vesque made a motion to move the approval of the meeting minutes to the business section of the meeting. Amy seconded the motion: motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval of Agenda : Amy made a motion to approve the agenda for 10.27.21, seconded by Yianni, motion passes unanimously.

C. Discussion

1. 4 day School Week : Hillary: I met with Karen today and we talked about some very specific logistics. So I might be able to answer some questions. Ryan: How long is the grant funded for? I believe it is for 1 year and we can re-apply for it every year. This is the 21st district grant. GCS children will be included in this grant. Elisa: when does the year expire? Hillary: not exactly sure of the timeline but Karen did say the district will try for this every year. I will ask about GCS being included in the future grants. Two of the main things they are sorting out is bussing and food. Amy: \$17,000 is what the cost for busing if GCS was to stay a 5th day. Yianni: Is the grant state or private? Hillary: I am not sure, but I believe it is a state grant, Tully it is a federal grant. Yianni: it seems like this may be a temporary grant because of covid, so down the road will this be available? Tully: The information I see says it is a grant for rural cities/schools. Elisa: It does say it is for community learning centers grant, so enrichment opportunities for that day are not in

school. Yianni: So there are not any feelings about this grant running out in the future. Elisa: It is a little concerning if we do not get this next year. Hillary, there was no discussion really, but if there is a source of money, we go for it. This is the first year that CCSD was awarded the 21st century grant. Elisa: this might be a concern if we do not get this next year. Courtney: There are so many grants out there for people to get, there just has to be someone out there to find and ask for grants. Yianni: Who would be asking for these grants? Ryan: I believe Mitch. Hillary: It just depends, There are so many grants out there for us as a district and a charter school. The 21st century grant, the district applied for that on their own no knowing if GCS would be included or not, but Karen Quanbeck has stated that GCS will be included. Ryan: Can we get on the committee for this 4 day school week? Yianni: The grant is really more for the district and not us, I think that if we need to find money next year? Hillary: That grant money will fund a lot of things. It sounds to me like CCC will still have people in the building on the fifth day, so that grant money will go to that 5th day to keep the building running. Yianni: From my understanding the funding will go towards these Friday learning centers. So these Fridays will be optional. Hillary: It's going to be a totally opt in program and they are even considering charging, at a no/low cost. Yianni: So it sounds like the final vote on this will be in January. Is this correct? Hillary: yes. Ryan: We as GCS can search for grants and find our own grants. Hillary: Yes absolutely. Tully: Did Q seem confident that they are on track with that January timeline to present to the district board? Hillary Yes, one thing she did say is that our start date would stay the same. Ryan: Elisa can you speak to the survey that was sent out to GCS parents. Elisa: 62% were yes 33% said no 5% said no preference. There were a few comments and it seems like the biggest concern is if we went 4 day would there be options for childcare on the 5th day. I feel like if we could take care of that issue it would be helpful. Ryan: thinking about that: we are not taking a day away from the kids because the school year will be extended. Hillary: Karen Quanbeck also talked about instructional mins to make sure those are being met. GCS will not need to adjust our time frame in any way. If anything we would just stick with what the district does. Yianni: So we would start the same time we did this year and just add on days at the end of the school year. Hillary: Karen said possible school year end would be around memorial day. Yianni: Would we keep the length of the day? Hillary: no we would not, we are meeting our instructional minutes for the school day. Yianni: Was the survey for the parents and teachers? Elisa: yes. I believe that in our previous survey that asked that question the majority of the response said they would rather have a longer day not a longer year. Ryan: We had a lot of comments that stated we want to mirror the district. The biggest thing to me, that if we are extending the day, would be asking even more for teachers and parents. Tully: You do have some people commenting, worrying about what they are going to do with my children when I work? Parents have that same issue during summer break, so by extending the school year that might be helpful in that aspect. Amy, that is true, that will give them that extra learning time. Hillary: I think that we need to keep everything as fluid as possible, making minor changes may seem like it's good for us, we want to be a team and be a part of the district. Tully: is there any research on a decline in the students learning, everything I am finding is its really inconclusive. Hillary: From my experience it comes down to instructional minutes. I would say that if there was any learning loss I would not say it was due to the 4 day school week. What I am thinking and what I would support is teaching and as long as we have good teachers that know how to teach our children, we have strong teachers and I know that they would meet all our goals. My plan would be for teachers to have 2 personal development days and 2 days off. Elisa: Would that be aligned with the district? Hillary: They may be different for us and the district, but we are a charter so that is ok. We dont currency align with the district as it is now. We at GCS can choose what we do on the days off. Courtney: I

have done a lot of research on the topic of academic loss on a 4 day and the research really is 50/50 and they can't pinpoint whether or not it is due to the 4day school week or not, but CCSD does have a plan for that 5th day and is ready to adapt as we move forward. Yianni: I found a study that talks about when 4 day schedules there was an increase in crimes with juveniles, I don't feel like this may be the issue in our community. My other question is for those low income families who need lunch at school, how are they going to do that? Ryan : I think that is one of the logistical things they are still working on. Ryan: In douglas county during covid food was provided, I think similar programs were done here as well. Elisa: I heard that too and that they are trying to figure out some kind of work around. Tully: Mountain Backpacks did a lot for providing food as well and I think they can again. Ryan: That is a great idea. Hillary: We actually have been trying to get ahold of them for a couple of weeks and no one has gotten back to us. So we might need to look into different resources. Yianni: Can we bring this up with Karen Q. ? Hillary: From what I understand because there will not be school on that 5th day they can not serve lunch but they are working on it. Tully: Are they looking for a GCS board member, or someone to be on the committee? Hillary: I kind of got a run around on that, it sounds like they have all the committees set up and they are in the planning process. Tully: Did they give you any suggestions on how GCS can be more involved? Maybe Ryan can be involved. Ryan: Yes, that is a good plan. Elisa: What is our plan, what other information do we want to gather before we have a vote, are we waiting until January? Ryan: Who still wants to wait to vote? Yiannie I think we should wait, I think it would be prudent to have a longer study period for us and vote in February. Elisa: I am good with waiting if we think that's enough time, I do feel weird voting without information, but I don't have a huge issue if we are just saying we will do what the district does. Amy: If we vote now are we saying that we are going to do this or what? Ryan: It is voting on the contingency that the district has a plan. Hillary: yes its the contingency, if for some reason the district goes back to a 5 day we would be able to do that as well. Amy: if they do a 4 day and we don't like the plan can we do a 5 day? Hillary: we can do what we want, it would be our choice. Yiannie. It's good to know the facts. Courtney: I am ready to support the district 100%, and they have been planning this for a long time and I myself have attended many meetings on this topic. The contingency is that the district has to meet certain requirements and they are on the road to doing that. I don't think this is something we have to vote on but it's getting a plan ready for GCS. Amy: I agree with Courtney: I want us to be able to get a plan in place. Courtney: I think that would be beneficial to Hillary so she can have a plan in place. Tully: like Courtney said there has been a lot of planning going on for this, go do some research, voting sooner helps Hillary and the teachers, we don't want to waste their time. Ryan: Elisa the answer to your question I think we should wait at this time, maybe in a couple weeks we can have another working session and get into the grit. Amy: I think we should vote sooner than later for Hillary and the staff.

Ryan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Amy made a motion, Yianni seconded the motion, Motion was passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:09pm

Business Meeting (7PM):

A. Meeting Called to Order at 7:17 pm

Roll Call

President - Ryan Vesque- present
Vice President - Yianni Tousimis- present
Treasurer - Amy Humphrey - present
Secretary - Courtney Reynolds - present
Member, SAC representative - Elisa Kletter- present
Member at Large- Tully Gibbons- present
Director of GCS: Hillary Miller- present

B. Approval of Agenda : **Ryan** Made a motion to move public comment before the directors report on the agenda. Amy seconded the motion. Motion carries. Ryan made a motion to add the approval of the September 29,2021 and October, 14, 2021 meeting minutes to the agenda. Amy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Amy made a motion to approve the agenda with changes, Yianni seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously for the 10.27.21 business meeting, seconded by , motion carried unanimously.

C. Public Comment: ****A sign-up is provided before the meeting begins for all persons wishing to address the Board on issues. For legal reasons the Board will not accept personal complaints against any person connected with the school system at a public session. Speakers are called in the order in which they sign-up. Each participant begins by stating his/her name, address and organization if applicable. A MAXIMUM OF ½ hour is set aside for public comment. Comments are limited to 3 minutes for each individual. Participants wishing to express their views more fully are encouraged to write to the Board. Visitors will only be recognized at this time.*

No public comment.

D. Directors Report :

Hillary Miller: We did hire some day porters to help clean throughout the day, we are in the process of hiring a maintenance person and he will take over. Right now the building is in need of some TLC, so having all these positions lined up will be great for us and we can go about our day to day. I did advertise for an intervention teacher, but have not had any bites on that.

- UIP: We did have a misunderstanding with this, We missed the deadline, we have got an extension for this, and have a meeting planned on November 5th. We are a performing school, this is not an issue that we are late, so we are good to go with that. Speaking with a lot of teachers today we seem to be on the same page as far as goals go.
- Playground: Still have some slide issues, the company said they will replace it free of charge as soon as they have it in stock. The grey slide does have a dent in as well and we are working on that issue as well. Basketball court: the ground has been flattened and hopefully that will be

completed asap.

- Staff Update: Snow Removal Help: I am hoping that the candidate that is in the works and they will be able to do that. I am confident that we will be ok.
- Tables for Lunchroom: Our tables are severely out of date, and unsafe. I feel like we have money in the budget, and need them. I got a quote for 5 new tables for \$9,799.60. I would like to propose getting new tables. Yinani does that quote include delivery, set up and take away of the old. Hillary: Delivery and set up for sure, not take away. Yianni: I would like to see other quotes. Hillary: I can do that, but I have worked with this company before and this is a good deal.

Ryan: Do I have a motion to add the table to the agenda? Amy made a motion, yianni seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

- We will do a movie afternoon in November, the kids are going to vote on it. We wanted to do something fun for them to kick off break.
- New Grant for Restroom supplies Susan, our nurse is applying for a funding grant for menstrual/hygiene products in the building.
- Snow removal: I am hoping that the candidate that is in the works, I am 99% confident that we will be covered in this area.

E. Old Business

1. 4 day School Week: Ryan I can honor this a little bit but I would like us to vote on this in the next meeting. I want to respect Hillary's time and the teachers' time. They need time to plan. I do not want to wait until Karen Quanbeck's plan is voted on. We can align ourselves with how the district is voting, if the plan is not what we were hoping it would be, we can re-evaluate. I want to respect Hillary's time and the staff's time.

E. New Business

1. Staff Bonus: Ryan: do I have a motion to approve staff bonus, Amy I would like to make a motion to approve staff bonus for the amount of \$9,250.00 for the purpose of a yearly bonus for the 2021 - 2022 school year. Yianni seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Kitchen tables: Ryan: Do I have a motion to approve the amount of \$10,000.00 dollars for kitchen tables, if the financial policies as far as bids go? Amy made a motion to approve the amount of \$10,000.00 for school tables. Elisa seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

F. Executive session - adjourn into executive session as authorized by CRS 24-6-402(4)- if needed. No executive session needed.

G. Adjournment Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm

Next Meeting: Nov 17th, 6PM via Zoom