



**Board of Trustees  
Public Meeting Minutes  
10/17/2023**

**Location: Gillingham Charter School, 915 Howard Ave, Pottsville PA 17901**

**Meeting Called to Order:** Jackie Zilliox

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Dan Kurtz, Jackie Zilliox, Jessica Peters, Marsha Chwastiak, Andre Grant (7:27p)

Absent: Scott Herbert, Sharon Klinger

Quorum: Yes. 5 of 7 members present.

In Attendance:

- Krista Bevan, Director of Organizational Development
- Nicolle Hutchinson, Director of Gillingham Charter School/Director of Education
- Diane Cooney, Charter Choices

**Review and Adoption of Agenda:** Nothing to add.

Dan requested a motion to adopt tonight's agenda, Jessica seconded. All ayes, none opposed.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Finance Report:** Diane Cooney, Charter Choices Please see report on Gillingham's website.

**Adjournment to executive session at 7:19 pm.**

**Public meeting resumed at 7:49 pm.**

**Old Business:** None.

**Monthly Reports:**

1. **Executive Director & Director of Education: Nicolle Hutchinson** – You can see that we are hiring two new people. Tonight before you, for 4th grade, and she

will also teach 3rd grade science, Ashley Brennan, who worked with us a couple years ago actually. She was a special ed teacher. She'll be taking over the 4th grade classroom. Steve Bressi is a longtime teacher who worked in the Bloomsburg area, and he was in an administrator role. He was a vice principal and then he was a principal of the high school in Minersville. He has a lot of experience working with kids and leadership roles, but he wants to go back to teaching. He misses the kids and wants to be in the classroom, so he has taken on that role and is excited about it. He started shadowing today. We are excited to have him onboard. And that's my report.

2. **Director of Operational Development: Krista Bevan** – Good evening, Everyone. You'll see on the agenda tonight a request to adopt a revised Homeless Student Policy. Added to the policy was updated contact information for our homeless liaison who is our nurse Connie Yutko, and a clarification that unspent funds will divert to Title I. During In-service the Red Cross came and trained employees in AED/CPR. 22 employees were certified. The employees who still need the training will be trained by our in-house trainer, our PE teacher Mrs. Perhonitch. We also held a Crisis Prevention Institute training at the end of September for an additional 11 faculty to be trained in CPI's De-escalation and non-violent crisis intervention including holds. Enrollment is at 248. That is our report.
3. **Board Charter Compliance Committee: Scott Herbert.** No Report
4. **Board Financial Audit Committee: Jackie Zilliox.** No Report
5. **Board Academic Excellence Committee: Dan Kurtz:** The state sent a sneak peek of the Future Ready scores that will be posted on the internet soon. They are based on our state scores, attendance, career benchmarking and other areas. Our state scores from last year indicate student improvement and growth. Our growth scores are again in the 70's, and our math growth increased and is now in the 70s! The proficiency and advanced scores improved, and the team predicts even more gains since we have the support of assessment coaches and since the ELA and the math pacing guides are being tweaked and the ELA program is implementing the scope and sequences and elements of structure literacy per the state's recommendations and regulations. We scored very well with our career benchmarks, and the attendance team has met several times already this school year to improve attendance even more. That's my report.
6. **Board Facilities Committee: Dan Kurtz.** No Report.
7. **Board Governance Committee: Scott Herbert.** No Report.

### **New Business:**

- a. It has been recommended to the Board to approve the following items in a consent resolution under the categories of Reports, Finances, Governance, Curriculum, Operations, & Personnel:
  1. Tonight's reports
  2. September 19, 2023 public board meeting minutes
  3. Job title and salary adjustment for Michael Chapman from IT & Facilities Manager at the salary of \$58,218.18 to IT & Facilities Support at a salary of \$53,045

4. Increase the salary of Morgan Schreckengost from \$44,176.65 to \$47,176.65
5. Increase the salary of Tyler Shaull from \$42,268.48 to \$45,268.48
6. Hiring of Stephen Bressi as a full-time Upper School Science Teacher at the annual salary of \$67,513
7. Revised Homeless Student Policy

Dan motioned to adopt, Jessica seconded. All ayes, none opposed. Approved.

b. Under the category of governance, it has been recommended to the Board to choose a date for the Board Retreat. – will choose when more members are present and will send Nicolle some ideas and will get back to it when others present.

c. It has been recommended to the Board to approve the following item under the category of Facilities: Bayshore Electric LLC for the installation of additional required smoke detectors, horn strobes and emergency lights in the schoolhouse at the estimated cost of \$26,950

Marsha requested a motion to adopt, Dan seconded. All ayes, none opposed. Approved.

d. It is recommended to the board to approve the following under the category of Personnel: Hiring of Ashley Brennan as a full-time 3rd/4th grade teacher at the annual salary of \$49,500

Andre requested a motion to adopt, Marsha seconded. All ayes, none opposed. Approved.

e. Motion to change the title and responsibilities of Mike Watahovitch from long term science teacher to building substitute and support teacher at the same salary.

Andre requested a motion to adopt, Dan seconded. All ayes, none opposed. Approved.

## **X. DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

1. November, 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** No further business before the board.