Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 10, 2026

MINUTES

Participants:

Glen Howard, Chair
Scott Bess
Davonne Constantin
Malick Curry
Michelle Gilliard
Lisa Mallory
Catherine Meloy

The following staff members were also present: Chelsea Kirk, Colleen Paletta, Elizabeth Rienzo, Kristen Strain, Bennice Thayer, and Molly Vanderloo. Ms. Rienzo recorded the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. Howard called the meeting to order at 9:34am.

Mission Moment

Dr. Kirk recognized the two student board members, Davonne Constantin and Malick Curry, for their contributions to the Board of Directors.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Howard asked for any proposed corrections or other revisions to the April 9, 2026 Board meeting minutes. There being none and, upon motion duly made and seconded, the **Board unanimously approved the minutes by roll call vote.**

2025-2030 Strategic Plan

Ms. Paletta and Dr. Kirk updated the Board on the progress of the 2025-2030 strategic plan, outlining the priorities for the next year. Those priorities include strengthening assessments and curriculum, leveraging AI for enrollment, enhancing partner engagement, launching an alumni council, and developing a freshman seminar for college and career readiness.

Discussion followed, with Dr. Kirk and Ms. Paletta responding to numerous questions.

Management Agreement

Ms. Vanderloo, Ms. Paletta and Ms. Strain presented the proposed updated Management Agreement with Goodwill of Greater Washington ("GGW") and explained that the Agreement's management fee is based on GGW's actual expenses to provide services to GEC. Ms. Strain reminded the Board that the Management Agreement is a "conflicting interest contract" under Public Charter School Board policy because three members of the GEC board are also on GGW's board. After discussion, the Disinterested Board Members (Mr. Bess, Dr. Gilliard, Ms. Constantin and Mr. Curry) **unanimously approved the following resolution by roll call vote:**

- The Management Agreement is found to be fair to the Goodwill Excel Center because:
  - the staffing structure is reasonable,
  - the total fee is reasonable in light of the scope of services, and
  - the total fee is significantly less than the Goodwill Excel Center would pay if it had to hire staff to provide the same quality of management as is provided by GGW under the Management Agreement; and

- The Management Agreement is approved.

FY2027 Budget

Ms. Vanderloo presented the proposed budget for fiscal year 2027, including revenue projections, staffing changes, capital expenses, and the impact of potential increases in per pupil funding.

Discussion followed, with Ms. Vanderloo responding to questions. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the **Board unanimously approved the FY2027 budget by roll call vote.**

Year-to-Date Goals

Dr. Kirk and Ms. Paletta provided highlights of key performance indicators, including credit attainment, reading and math progress, college and career outcomes, graduation rates, retention, and audited enrollment.

Update on GGW Efforts in Prince George's County

For the Board's information only, Ms. Meloy and Ms. Paletta informed the Board that the lease on the new Largo, MD location will be signed on July 1, 2026. They also advised that Dr. Jeremy Easley, a former GEC DC Lead Teacher and current Director of an Excel Center in Charleston, South Carolina, will return on August 1 to be the first Director of this Excel Center.

1776 Lease Update

Ms. Meloy informed the Board that The World Bank has acquired the 1776 G Street NW building and offered a five-year lease extension with favorable exit terms. GEC has begun searching for a new location in the District.

Summer Graduation

Dr. Kirk announced that the summer graduation is scheduled to take place on July 10, 2026, at 11 am at Lisner Auditorium and invited all Board members to attend.

Public Comment

No one from the public attended the meeting.

Mr. Howard adjourned the meeting at 11:32 am.

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Scott Bess
Secretary