



***Goodwill of Greater Washington Transforms Lives and Communities Through
The Power of Education and Employment.***

**Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 9, 2026**

MINUTES

Participants:

Davonne Constantin
Malick Curry
Kim R. Ford
Michelle Gilliard

Glen Howard, Chair
Evelyn Lee
Lisa Mallory
Catherine Meloy

The following staff participated: Chelsea Kirk, Colleen Paletta, Elizabeth Rienzo, Kristen Strain, Bennice Thayer, and Molly Vanderloo. Ms. Rienzo recorded the minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 9:40am.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Howard asked for proposed corrections or other revisions to the December 10, 2025, meeting minutes. Hearing none, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the **Board unanimously approved the minutes by roll call vote.**

Mission Moment

Dr. Kirk shared a video highlighting GEC Alumnae, Velma Wiggins and her daughter, Bonita, who shared their experience at the Goodwill Excel Center.

Board Member Highlights

Ms. Paletta thanked both Ms. Ford for her inspiring remarks at the January graduation ceremony and Mr. Bess for his leadership in co-presenting Trustee Governance training in February at the request of the Public Charter School Board ("PCSB").

Welcome to Molly Vanderloo

Ms. Meloy welcomed and introduced Molly Vanderloo, new CFO at GEC and Goodwill.

Financial Report

Ms. Thayer presented the year-to-date February 2026 financials, highlighting several items of particular importance. Discussion followed with Ms. Thayer responding to questions.

Excel Center Update

Ms. Paletta and Dr. Kirk provided an update on school operations, focusing on the following:

- Credit attainment progress
- Math and Reading growth
- College and career readiness
- Graduation and attendance rates
- Attendance improvement strategies

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

Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Paletta updated the Board on the “FUEL” five-year strategic vision, including curriculum and performance evaluation rubric updates and ongoing professional development for managers.

Charter Goals Amendment Application

Ms. Paletta discussed proposed changes to the Charter Goals Amendment Application and introduced a resolution (i) authorizing GEC management to continue to engage with the PCSB regarding GEC's application to amend its Entering Employment and Post Secondary Charter Goal to broaden it to include college and post-secondary education training programs and (ii) for management to report back to the Board on the results of those efforts. After extensive discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, **the Board unanimously approved that resolution by roll-call vote.**

PCSB Mid-Year LEA Oversight Brief

Ms. Paletta reported that GEC received positive compliance updates from the PCSB, including meeting all conditions from the last five-year review, passing the mystery caller enrollment test, and receiving a strong 10-year charter review report. Ms. Meloy and other staff provided additional details.

OSSE Instructional Day Waiver

Ms. Paletta reported that, recognizing GEC's unique competency-based instructional model, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education issued GEC a five-year instructional waiver, preventing the potential exclusion of under-18 students.

Goodwill of Greater Washington's Expansion into Prince George's County

For information only, Ms. Meloy updated the Board on GGW's expansion of adult charter school programs into Prince George's County, including that (i) lease negotiations are underway for the new facility, (ii) curriculum adjustments have been submitted for approval, and (iii) the director position is expected to be filled by August 2026.

Upcoming Events

Ms. Meloy encouraged Board members to attend the following events to lend support and demonstrate engagement:

- 1) 10-year anniversary celebration on May 1st at GGW headquarters and
- 2) graduation ceremony on July 10 at Lisner Auditorium.

There being no public comment or further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06am.

Scott Bess

Scott Bess
Secretary