

GBCS Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes Greater Brunswick Thursday, December 17, 2015 – 5:30 pm

I. Call to Order By Board Secretary – 5:38 pm

II. Public Notice of Meeting/NJ Sunshine Law

The New Jersey Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right to the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted on in accordance with N.J.S.A 10:4-6 et seq.

On the rules of this act, Greater Brunswick Charter School has caused notice of this meeting by Publicizing the date, time and place, of the regularly scheduled meeting in the Public Notice Section of the Home News Tribune and Star Ledgers, sent to the clerks of Highland Park, Edison and New Brunswick and posted at the Greater Brunswick Charter School located at 429 Joyce Kilmer Ave, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Formal action will take place at this meeting.

III. Roll Call

Voting Members	Role	Present	Absent
Christopher Coulthard	Board Trustee		X
Susan Jackson	Board Trustee	X, 5:43 pm	
Molly Larobina	Board Trustee	X	
David Learn	Board Vice Chair / Trustee	Χ	
Peter Schaeffing	Board Trustee	X	
Anna Seewald	Board Trustee	Х	
Anju Thomas	Board Trustee		X
George Waters	Board Chair / Trustee	Х	
Choka Yogalingam	Board Trustee	X, 6:07 pm	_

Also Present

Non-Voting	Role	Present	Absent
Donna Medea	Education Director	X	
Vanessa Jones	Assist. Education Director	X	
Greg Romero	Supervisor of Instruction	X	
Michael Falkowski	SBA/ Board Secretary	Х	

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Approve Meeting Agenda

Motion for Greater Brunswick Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the Agenda for the **December 17, 2015** meeting.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Χ	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson					Х	Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Х			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam					Х
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

VI. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Motion for Greater Brunswick Charter School, Board of Trustees to accept the minutes from **November 19, 2015.**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson					Х	Anju Thomas					Χ
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Х			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam					Х
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

VII. Public Comment - NONE

VIII. Correspondence

Ms. Medea stated there was a resignation. Mr. Waters stated that Mr. Coulthard who could not be at the meeting wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

IX. Reports / Presentations

1. Director's Report

Ms. Medea provided an NCLB update, discussed the use of Delta T for substitute teachers, and a conversation on student use of computers vs writing.

2. HIB Report – NO HIB Report

Motion to accept Director's and HIB Report.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson		Χ				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Х			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam					Х
Peter Schaeffing		Χ									

X. Closed Session (if necessary) - NONE

XI. Motions for Approval

1. Finance

- a. <u>Board Secretary Report</u>: To approve the October & November 2015 Board Secretary Report
- b. <u>Treasurer Report</u>: To approve the October & November 2015 Treasurer Report
- c. Bills List: Approve Bills List from November 20, 2015 to December 17, 2015
- d. Payroll: To approve the following payrolls:

November 30, 2015	\$189,406.70
December 15, 2015	\$187,363.25

e. To approve the revised FY16 Budget.

George Waters recommended that we bring up going out for RFQ in April for an Auditor

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Х			
Susan Jackson		Х				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Х			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam					Х
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

2. Buildings & Grounds - NONE

3. Personnel

- a. To approve Jessica Kurc to attend a seminar, Helping Students Master New Generation Science Standards held by the Institute for Educational Development in Piscataway at a registration cost of \$239.
- b. To approve Greg Romero to attend the professional development seminar Techspo 2016 in Atlantic City, NJ from January 28 – 29, 2016 with transportation, meals and hotel not to exceed \$400, and registration of \$420.
- c. To approve Victor Calderon for training on environmental compliance and sustainability at Rutgers, with a cost of \$746 for 6 sessions, beginning the end of January.
- d. To approve hiring the following staff:

Name	Position	Salary
Bassey Onyile	MS Teaching Assistant	FT, step 3, \$28, 443
Ramona Hernandez	Spanish Teacher	FT, step 14, \$61,010

- e. To accept the resignation of Meghan Moran effective December 30, 2015, with regret.
- f. To approve the Step increase for Amie Fitzgerald effective January 1, 2016 from Step 13 -\$59,689 to Step 13 MA - \$60,939.
- g. To approve Caitlin Mitchell as a tutor for the SPARK program at \$40 per hour.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson		Х				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Χ				George Waters		Χ			
David Learn	1 st	Χ				Choka Yogalingam		Χ			
Peter Schaeffing		Χ									

4. Curriculum/Special Education

a. To approve the following field trips:

Location		Grades	Date	Cost
Camden, NJ	Camden Aquarium	3 rd Grade	Jan. 5, 2015	No cost to school – funded through a
				Target grant

- b. To approve Kelly Sadowski for a stipend of \$8400 to instruct K-5 classes on computer skills Funded through NCLB, Title IA grant.
- c. To approve contract with Dual Educational Resources (DER Consultants) for 10 visits January through May of 2016 for a total cost of \$9,000.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson		Χ				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Χ				George Waters		Χ			
David Learn	1 st	Χ				Choka Yogalingam		Χ			
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

5. Policy/Miscellaneous

a. To approve the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying (HIB) report presented to the Board of Trustees at the November 19, 2015 regular meeting.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Χ	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson		Х				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Χ			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam		Χ			
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

XII. **Enrollment Report**

	FY16	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Wait
Grade	ENR	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	15,	List
		2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	
K	44	44	44	44	44	44	44							11
1	44	44	44	44	44	44	44							15
2	44	44	44	44	44	44	44							11
3	44	44	44	44	43	43	44							8
4	42	44	44	44	43	43	43							8
5	42	40	40	40	41	41	41							4
6	44	44	44	44	44	44	44							15
7	44	43	43	43	44	44	44							5
8	42	43	43	43	42	42	42							2
Total	390	390	390	390	388	388	390							79

XIII. Committee Reports – Reports posted on Dropbox for review

- 1. SRC Highlight: Book Club with members. PARCC results will be mailed home before break, and a full presentation to be presented in January.
- 2. Community and Development Report posted
- 3. Finance and Facilities Report posted, discussion regarding the playground area and seeking proposals.
- 4. Governance Mr. Larobina commented on the status of a few initiatives.

XIV. **New Business**

Mr. Greg Romero presented the ACCESS results. The results improved from 2014. Ms. Jones commented about a meeting she attended regarding a proposed Charter School moratorium. Board discussion about the importance of Trustees attending such meetings.

XV. Closing Comments – Comments about the advantages of a Charter School, such as parent involvement and how well students are doing once they leave the school; thanks for those who attended family sharing night; thanked the Board for their participation; Mr. Schaeffing stated this is his last term and he will be moving up to Albany; and many thanks to Choka for food.

XVI. Action Items

- Board Retreat January 9 at 9am
- Next Board Meeting: Thursday, January 21, 2016

XVII. Adjournment – 7:34

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Christopher Coulthard					Х	Anna Seewald		Χ			
Susan Jackson		Х				Anju Thomas					Х
Molly Larobina	2 nd	Х				George Waters		Х			
David Learn	1 st	Х				Choka Yogalingam		Х			
Peter Schaeffing		Х									

XVIII. Closed Session (if necessary) - NONE