

# Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes Thursday, June 15, 2017 – 5:30 pm

# I. Call to Order By Board Secretary 542 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 |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       | Board Trustee    | X, arrived after roll call |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | Board Trustee    | X                          |        |
| Evan Gentry           | Board Trustee    | X                          |        |
| Sean Hewitt           | Board Trustee    | X                          |        |
| Susan Jackson         | Board Chair      | X                          |        |
| Molly Larobina        | Board Vice-Chair | X                          |        |
| Mariu Reynoso         | Board Trustee    | X, arrived after roll call |        |
| Anna Seewald          | Board Trustee    |                            | Х      |
| Anju Thomas           | Board Trustee    |                            | Х      |
| Choka Yogalingam      | Board Trustee    | Х                          |        |

### **Also Present**

| Non-Voting        | Role                         | Present | Absent |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Vanessa Jones     | Education Director           | X       |        |
| Hector Alvarez    | Assistant Education Director | Χ       |        |
| Michael Falkowski | SBA/ Board Secretary         | Χ       |        |
| Peter Creekmore   | Teacher Representative       | Х       |        |

# IV. Pledge of Allegiance

# V. Approve Meeting Agenda

Motion for Greater Brunswick Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the Agenda for the **June 15**, **2017** meeting.

Location: 429 Joyce Kilmer Ave

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 |     |    |         | Χ      | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Χ   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Х   |    |         |        |

### VI. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Motion for Greater Brunswick Charter School, Board of Trustees to accept the minutes from May 11, 2017.

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 |     |    |         | Χ      | Molly Larobina   |        | Х   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        |     |    |         | Χ      |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Χ      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Χ   |    |         |        |

### VII. Public Comment

Lynne McGlue – Read a prepared statement to the Board regarding negotiations.

Jennifer Banks – Read a prepared statement to the Board of her experience with Greater Brunswick Charter School and why she chose to work at the school.

March Gaas – Read a prepared statement to the Board regarding negotiations.

Zoe Coleman – Read a prepared statement to the Board regarding negotiations.

Erica Vanette – Informed the Board of her credentials, stated she could not afford higher cost of insurance on her salary.

Lynne Hoo – Informed the Board of a personal health care experience and that without the health care she would either be bankrupt or dead.

Lilia Fabila-Reyes – Read a prepared stated to the Board regarding negotiations.

Rohna Hales (TA) – Informed the Board she loved the school, asked the Board to consider what they would want their family to have and that they should want the same for the staff.

Peter Creekmore – Read a prepared statement to the Board regarding negotiations.

Lynne McGlue – Read a prepared statement from other employees who could not be at the meeting. Commented about the health benefits and negotiations.

# VIII. Correspondence

# IX. Reports

- 1. Director's Report
  - Ms. Jones presented the Director's report to the Board.
  - Mr. Alvarez presented the GBCS bilingual plan.
- 2. HIB Report no HIB reports for the month of June, only 4 for the year, of which only 1 was proven

Motion to accept Director's and HIB Report.

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Χ   |    |         |        |

Motion to approve the GBCS bilingual plan.

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | <b>Voting Members</b> | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|-----------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina        |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Χ   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso         |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald          |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Χ   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas           |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam      |        | Х   |    |         |        |

# X. Closed Session – 6:34pm

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Χ      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Х   |    |         |        |

# **Topics:**

- Negotiations
- Student/Staff matters
- Staff evaluation

# Adjourn Closed Session and Open Public Session – 8:29pm

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Х   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Χ   |    |         |        |

# XI. Motions for Approval

### 1. Finance

- a. To approve the April & May 2017 Board Secretary Report.
- b. To approve the April & May 2017 Treasurer Report.
- c. To approve transfers through the month May 2017.
- d. <u>Bills List</u>: Approve Bills List from May 12, 2017 to June 15, 2017.
- e. <u>Payroll</u>: To approve the following payrolls:

| May 15, 2017 | \$190,266.48 |
|--------------|--------------|
| May 30, 2017 | \$194,911.50 |

- f. RESOLVED, The Greater Brunswick Board of Trustees hereby approves the submission of grant application for the 2017 Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group's "NJEIF or ERIC North" Subfund for the purposes described in the application, in the amount of \$2500 for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- g. To approve the contract with School Business Office for the 2017-2018 school year to provide School Business Administrator services at \$7,200/month, frozen at 2014-2015 rate.
- h. To approve the contract with Johnston Law Firm LLC for the 2016-2017 school year to provide legal services at the following rates: Principals & Counsel \$275/hr; Associated \$235/hr; Paralegals and Law Students \$115/hr

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Х   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Χ      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Х   |    |         |        |

### 2. Buildings & Grounds - NONE

### 3. Personnel

- a. To approve/ratify the hiring of the following afterschool substitutes:
  - Alejandar Suastegui \$15/hr start May 8, 2017
  - Monica Gonzalez \$15/hr start May 8, 2017
- b. To approve hiring the following Summer Academy staff:

| Teacher            | Grade  | Salary         | Start Date   |
|--------------------|--|----------------|--------------|
| Chad Schubert      | Pre-K  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Christine Rozycki  | Kindergarten   | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Lilia Fabila-Reyes | Kindergarten   | \$1648 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Joelle Mah         | 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade                                  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Lyubov Dubinina    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade                                  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Gail Lewis         | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade                                  | \$1648 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Stephani Estrella  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade                                  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Caitlin Mitchell   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade                                  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Daniela Garay      | 4 <sup>th</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade                | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Kristina Markel    | 4 <sup>th</sup> / 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade                | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Nathan Burr        | 6 <sup>th</sup> / 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade                | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Erica Yvonnet      | 6 <sup>th</sup> / 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade                | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Lisa Poricelli     | LLI  | \$2747 stipend | July 5, 2017 |
| Rona Hales         | Reading Program / Middle School required / fill-in sub | \$1648 stipend | July 5, 2017 |

Total (2017): \$35,161

Total (2016): \$37,258

Savings: \$2,097

c. To approve the rehire of the following staff members for the 2017-2018 school year, frozen at 2016-2017 salaries:

| Name    | Position | Salary |
|---------|----------|--------|
| 1100010 |          |        |

| Kristine Johnson    | Asst. to the SBA            | \$53,560.00            |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Kelly Sadowski      | Administrative Assistant    | \$50,000.00            |
|                     | Website Maintenance Stipend | <del>\$3,000</del>     |
| TBD                 | Family Coordinator          | <del>\$ TBD</del>      |
| Carmen Rine         | Dean of Students            | \$70,000.00            |
| Alejandra Suastegui | Receptionist                | \$30,294.36            |
| Linda Seidenstien   | Literacy Coach              | \$55,837.29            |
| Alex Benanti        | Treasurer                   | \$ <del>6,000.00</del> |
| George Newton       | Technology Specialist       | \$82,400.00            |
| Victor Calderon     | Head Custodian              | \$50,000.00            |
| Yaniris Flores      | Custodian                   | \$36,365.60            |
| Francisca Rodriguez | Custodian                   | \$32,526.58            |

- d. To approve the resignation of Ms. Ana Perez effective August 7, 2017.
- e. To approve the following new hires:
  - i. Chad Schubert, Teacher, Step 5BA \$50,036, start date: 9-1-2017
  - ii. Daniel Cyckowski, MS Social Studies Teacher, 1BA \$48,670, start date: 9-1-2017

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Х   |    |         |        |

# 4. Curriculum/Special Education

# 5. Policy/Miscellaneous

- a. To approve the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying (HIB) report presented to the Board of Trustees at the May 11, 2017 regular board meeting.
- b. To approve the 2017-2018 School Calendar.
- c. To approve Charter Agreement with the State of NJ.
- d. To approve the July 2017 Regular Board Meeting date of Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 5:30pm.

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Χ   |    |         |        |

# XII. Enrollment Report

| Grade | FY17<br>ENR | Jul<br>15,<br>2016 | Aug<br>15,<br>2016 | Sep<br>15,<br>2016 | Oct<br>15,<br>2016 | Nov<br>15,<br>2016 | Dec<br>15,<br>2016 | Jan<br>15,<br>2017 | Feb<br>15,<br>2017 | Mar<br>15,<br>2017 | Apr<br>15,<br>2017 | May<br>15,<br>2017 | Jun<br>15,<br>2017 | Wait<br>List<br>2016/2017 |
|-------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| K     | 44          | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 28                        |
| 1     | 44          | 44                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 18                        |
| 2     | 44          | 44                 | 44                 | 43                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 10                        |
| 3     | 44          | 44                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 43                 | 21                        |
| 4     | 44          | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 43                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 7                         |
| 5     | 44          | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 44                 | 11                        |

| 6     | 44  | 44  | 45  | 46  | 45  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 46  | 8   |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 7     | 44  | 44  | 44  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 42  | 42  | 3   |
| 8     | 42  | 42  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 43  | 2   |
| Total | 394 | 394 | 394 | 393 | 392 | 394 | 394 | 394 | 394 | 394 | 394 | 393 | 393 | 108 |

### XIII. Committee Reports

- 1. School Review Multiple meetings held since last meeting, working on school wide plan report provided to Board
- 2. Community Outreach Met to work on goals.
- 3. Development Ms. Jackson congratulated Ms. Seewald and Ms. Thomas on the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fund Raising Dinner
- 4. Finance & Facilities No updates.
- 5. Governance Ms. Jackson commented on the Board Retreat held last weekend.

### XIV. New Business - NONE

**XV.** Closing Comments – Ms. Jackson commented that this will be Mr. Yogalingam's last Board meeting. The Board went around the table and thanked him for his service to the school. Mr. Reynoso thanked Mr. Hewitt for his presentation on Saturday. Mr. Creekmore commented on the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade class trip and negotiations.

### XVI. Action Items

Next Board Meetings: 2017 – July 20, 2017

# XVII. Adjournment – 9:01 pm

| Voting Members        | Motion          | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Voting Members   | Motion | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----|----|---------|--------|------------------|--------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Claudia Avarado       |                 | Х   |    |         |        | Molly Larobina   |        | Χ   |    |         |        |
| Christopher Coulthard | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Mariu Reynoso    |        | Х   |    |         |        |
| Evan Gentry           | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Х   |    |         |        | Anna Seewald     |        |     |    |         | Х      |
| Sean Hewitt           |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Anju Thomas      |        |     |    |         | Χ      |
| Susan Jackson         |                 | Χ   |    |         |        | Choka Yogalingam |        | Χ   |    |         |        |

Location: 429 Joyce Kilmer Ave

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

### XVIII. Closed Session (if necessary)