

CGLA/MEHP Governance Board Meeting  
Tuesday, September 19, 2023  
11:00am @ CGLA

**Members in Attendance:** Lulu Copeland, Nicola Crisp, Merrill Nelson, Tammy Swenson, Edna Varner, Sue Anne Wells

**Staff:** Sandra Baker, Sylvia Davis, Maria Gilchrist, Jeanne Hinchee, Lawonda Reeves, Elaine Swafford, Yolanda Williams

## **AGENDA**

I. Welcome - Sue Anne Wells

- Sue Anne welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- We will have combined meetings moving forward after surveying veteran board members.
- Our Odyssey co-chairs are Sherry and Daniel Anderson, and our speaker will be Fly Girl- Bernice Armour.

II. Agenda Review – Sue Anne Wells

III. Review and Approval of Minutes from the July 21, 2023 Board Meeting – Sue Anne

- John Germ motioned to approve the minutes; Edna Varner seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

IV. Introduction of Guests – Sue Anne and Elaine – Sylvia Davis, Lawonda Reeves

- Dr. Swafford introduced the principals of both schools, and they gave an overview of what is happening and going on at the schools.
- Ms. Davis discussed that teachers returned on July 24<sup>th</sup>, and we had a successful transition week with the students.
- Students grade 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> had the opportunity to visit a local college on August 4<sup>th</sup>.
- TNReady Academy, a support class that is 45 minutes twice a day has been added to the schedule. The girls can earn incentives as well and they are excited.
- The incentive pep rally will happen on the 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:40pm-3:00pm. During this time, we will reward students that hit certain marks on their testing.
- Growth plan meetings with teachers are happening and the focus is literacy.
- The goal is that everyone grows together.

V. Director's Report – Leadership and Change: Looking Ahead toward the Next Decade:  
Updates – Elaine, Yolanda

- Our charter school was honored as agent of change.
- CGLA was ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> high school in Hamilton County.
- CGLA was also ranked the 18<sup>th</sup> high school in TN.
- Academics

- CGLA Transition week included the college tour set to expose the girls to possibilities.
- I-Ready assessments took place the 9<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>.
- Teachers completed growth plans to set how they would like to grow this year.
- After school tutoring has started
- The stem redesignation application has been submitted
- 50% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders came in strong but we still have a lot of work to do.
- Teacher's corner
  - We have teachers are getting married and having babies that we are excited to celebrate.
  - Both schools have had new hires
  - 95% of seniors are committed to going to college. Dr. Swafford is conducting senior interviews.
- Legislative updates
  - Senator passed a law if a teacher is out on maternity leave you pay for 6 weeks and the state will reimburse. Public charter schools are not included in this law. Dr. Swafford and others will be working on a letter to send to legislatures to have public charter schools included.
  - TVAAS 5 levels will not reflect school's letter grade
  - Edna attended the meeting and she shared her concerns regarding the change in letter grade for schools to the committee at the meeting.
- Needs
  - Pantry
  - Uniforms
- Development
  - Gus introduced himself as the Director of Fund Development
  - We are currently planning a donor thank you gathering
  - We will be introducing the twenty o nine club soon
  - Giving Tuesday plan is in motion

## VII. Committee Reports

- Academic Review – Nicola Crisp, Edna Varner for CGLA and Yolanda for MEHP
  - DEI sessions will be more intentional in the classrooms this year. There will be a 3 part meeting.
- Development/Marketing: Sue Anne, Elaine/Yolanda, Gus – Updates on all campaigns and events
- Facilities –Jeanne Hinchee
  - Warehouse bid opening took place and has closed
  - The current building is coming down soon
  - J&J won the bid
  - The new facility will be a turfed field that we will be available for local soccer leagues and others.
- Finance – Tammy Swenson/Hamp Johnston/Jeanne Hinchee – MEHP then CGLA
  - Jeanne presented and reviewed the documents sent by Edtech for the July financial dashboard
  - This is a snapshot of where the budget was

- The board needs to vote on employer healthcare changes for the year
- There is a projected 4% increase in all categories for insurance except there is a 9% increase for spouse
- The finance committee is presenting to keep the paid percentages the same for employer paid health benefits.
- There will be a \$8,000 impact for MEHP
- MEHP- John Germ motioned to approve the budget change, Tammy Swenson seconded and the motion carried.

Strategic Plan Update – Sue Anne and Elaine

VIII. Next Joint Meeting – Tuesday, November 21, @11am @CGLA

IX. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

**Mission (What We Do): CGLA**

We provide girls and young women with a rigorous college preparatory education focused on science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math in a supportive environment that nurtures self confidence, inspires leadership, encourages critical thinking, and promotes academic excellence.

**Vision (Why We Do It): CGLA**

To inspire hope in each girl, positively changing her trajectory in life, and empowering her to possess infinite choices in the future.

**Mission: MEHP**

**What We Do** - MEHP cultivates ambitious, fearless learners through intellectually-stimulating, interactive experiences that awaken curiosity, nurture advanced thinking and promote independence.

**Vision: MEHP**

**Why We Do What We Do** – To establish a trajectory for lifelong learning and self-directed discovery that enables children to reach their full potential as intellectually-engaged learners and ethically-focused leaders.