

These Minutes are Pending Board Approval

Mission Statement: "ACADEMICS. LEADERSHIP. COMMUNITY."

George Washington Academy

Thursday, October 23, 2025

7:30 p.m.

Board Meeting Agenda

Location: George Washington Academy
2277 South 3000 East
St. George, Utah
Learning Lab

Preparation for Strategic Planning was held at 7:00 p.m. prior to the Board Meeting.

The Board meeting convened at 7:33 p.m.

Board Welcome: Casey Unrein

Roll Call: Casey Unrein

Prayer: Josh Serrano

Pledge of Allegiance: Blake Clark

Board Members Present: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, Laura Snelson via zoom, Blake Clark and Shelbi Kelly.

Board Members Not Present: Laura Pressley.

Others Present: Steven Erickson, Spencer Adams, Chance Manzanares, Debbie Kauvaka, Emily Winona, Lisa Riel, Josh Serrano.

Review of GWA Year Goals:

- Academics- By the end of the 2025-2026 school year, GWA students and teachers will work together to achieve an overall 8% increase in math fluency, making steady progress of 2% each quarter through consistent effort, collaboration, and support.
- Leadership- Teachers will lead their own professional development by sharing and modeling best practices in academic instruction and behavior support, fostering a culture of shared leadership and continuous growth.
- Community- Foster a positive school culture that motivates by embedding regular meaningful celebrations that recognize student achievement, personal growth, and staff contributions.

Blake said that they are working on changing the academic goal based on feedback from teachers and data. They want to calculate differently to better reflect the charter.

Approval of Minutes:

- Kevin made a motion to approve the Minutes from the September 25th, 2025 Board Meeting. Rachel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Laura Snelson via zoom. (Shannon was not present for the vote.)

Public Opportunity to Address the Board:

None

Set time for adjournment

Sharon set time for adjournment for 8:45.

Teacher Reports: Emily Winona talked about some of the teacher celebrations. Mrs Willets started using a spelling and grammar curriculum that was purchased for them, and has seen improvements. The third grade team is looking forward to seeing the gaps close. Mrs. Giles said that the SUU student teachers are at the school this week. This is a good opportunity for the teachers to mentor. Counseling started this month. College and career day is Friday. About 20 parents signed up and a few schools will be there also. The Junior Lighthouse team started this month, 144 students applied between 1st and 3rd grade. This speaks volumes to Mrs McCoy and the program. Lisa Riel talked about the 7th grade mission statement - In 7th grade we are empowered to persevere and hold high expectations for ourselves and our learning. The 1st grade mission statement - We will collaborate to support every 1st graders growth academically, socially and emotionally through consistent learning and shared goals and a positive culture. Casey asked that they get all the mission statements for the strategic planning session.

Administration Report:

The report was given by Blake Clark, Executive Director. He stated that all reports due have been completed. He went over the tardies and attendance. Currently there are 146 kids with at least 5 absences and 12 that have reached the 10 day mark. Casey asked when these students get dropped off the roles. Blake explained that its after 10 consecutive no contact days they will get dropped off the role. They are still technically on the role but no funding is received for them. If they come back they need to be put back on the role without having to apply again. Kevin said he thinks they should differentiate those that are excused vs non contact. Shannon said that this data should be presented quarterly so the board can see the trends. Blake went over the behavioral data. There were 76 teacher managed incidents and 183 office managed. The teachers all have a walkie-talkie and can use it to make a B call. A B1 call is saying, I need administrative support and just having a presence of authority in the classroom. B2 is what they call the stay-in-the-game conversations. This is where a counselor or an administrator will go into the class and that class and teach for a moment while the teacher pulls that student out to have a stay-in-the-game conversation. B3 call is saying they're becoming a disruption to the class and they want them to be removed from the class for a period of time. Right now 55% are B3 calls. The goal is to see more B1 and B2 calls. The teachers are being coached to do more B2 calls so they can have the conversations with the students rather than the administrators. This will help

the teachers keep their power in the classrooms. Most of the incidents happen Tuesday and Wednesday and during unstructured time. The WIG was to grow 2% each quarter. They met that by 2.2% and will have a dance party next Thursday during lunch. Blake also reported on Patriot Time data. This data is based on pre-assessment. Kids are not told which group they are in they are just told where to go for Patriot Time. The program is fluid so that if a kid needs to change classes before the next 4-6 weeks they can based on their needs. They don't just go off the assessment the look at how they are performing all day. There is a 30 second clip that will be showed in the St. George movie theaters between November and January. They are paying to track how many times the QR code is scanned.

Financial Report: Business Administrator

Spencer Adams gave the Financial Report. Looking at the budget about a quarter of the way through the year, everything is looking great. Middle of the summary page, you see that every month we are bringing in more revenue than expenses. You can see that gap closing a little bit. Which isn't abnormal. Overall we are in great shape. Looking at the ratios, there is a slight decline from the prior month. The most impactful change is outlined in the finance committee minutes was beefing up the kitchen equipment line. This isn't reflecting the trued up numbers yet, hopefully the October allotment will show those. The approved budget was based on 30 less students so there will be a bit of an increase when the numbers get trued up. All reports have been completed.

Committee Reports (3 min each):

- **Policies Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Finance Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Audit Committee** - Just got the draft and they are expecting to turn it around at the end of this week, early next week. So far there are no findings and the numbers are good.
- **Benefits Committee** – Nothing to report, hopefully next month.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Laura Snelson said they are reading the book Pathways to Proficiency. The focus is gearing towards the application and implementation of evidence based grading. Blake brought up that this will be a multi-year process. That other schools that have done it and do it too quickly end up back peddling and sliding back. They want to ensure they do it correctly and it will take time.
- **Outreach Committee** – Nothing to report.
- **Technology Committee** - Nothing to report.
- **LAND Trust Committee** – Everyone has submitted their bios. They are not at a place to do a public vote yet. Shannon said that she thinks that those bios should be shared so others can see it's normal people on the committee and they can be on it too.
- **PTO Committee** – There was a lot of good feedback from the fall festival. The net income was \$4,481. People stayed longer than normal. There was talk about trying to figure out the best place to have the vendors, inside or outside, could there be a plan A and plan B based on weather. There have been a lot of parents at the PTO meetings. They are still trying to figure out how parents can be more involved throughout the year.
- **Board Development Committee** – Strategic training next week.
- **Campus Management Committee** – Two updates. The door handles - went with grade one, getting a good deal. The electrical for the steamer

Kevin made a motion to continue the meeting. Brady seconded. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.

Discussion and/or Action Items:

- Kevin made a motion to approve the Building Thinking Classrooms Professional Development in the amount of \$9,000 as outlined in the board packet. Brady seconded the motion. Shannon asked if they would start this December 1. Blake said yes, it will begin on a teacher prep day. Laura Snelson asked what the goal of the teacher prep day was. Blake said it depends on the day and they go off of what the teachers want. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.
- Shannon made a motion to approve the 2026/2027 Calendar as outlined in the board packet. Brady seconded it. Kevin asked to change the color of the teacher prep day. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.
- Kevin made a motion to accept the Keyman AAADoor Handles in the amount of \$9,518.60 as outlined in the board packet. Laura Snelson seconded the motion. Casey asked how the door handles and the propping work together. Steve answered that the doors currently need to be unlocked with a key so when TA's or other people come into the classroom they can forget to re-lock the door which is unsafe. These new locks will automatically lock. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.
- Kevin made a motion to accept the Electrical Bill for Kitchen in the amount \$2,841 as outlined in the board packet. Rachel seconded the motion. Shannon asked if the bids to all the companies were the same. Steve said yes they were all the same. Shannon was concerned that the company that is being approved is coming in at half the amount as the other businesses. There was discussion about the possibility of needing to add a breaker box but it should still be under \$5,000. Kevin amended his motion to approve the bid not to exceed \$6,680. Brady seconded the motion. The motion passed. Those who voted in favor: Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom. Casey Unrein voted no.
- Kevin made a motion to approve the HVAC System Replacement in the amount \$9,248 as outlined in the board packet. Sharna seconded the motion. Kevin said that this was retroactive. It had been approved via email as it was an emergency and now they are approving the invoice since they needed to have the system up and running. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.
- Kevin made a motion to approve the New Kitchen Equipment to replace the reach in fridge and steamer in the amount of \$33,416.29 as outlined in the board packet. Rachel seconded the motion. They talked about possibly selling the old equipment. The motion

passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.

- Sharna made a motion to approve the Pressure Relief Valve Replacement. Sharon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.
- Kevin made a motion not to exceed \$25,000 for Chasing Impact: Leadership Coaching Rachel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. All present voted in favor: Casey Unrein, Sharna Rowe, Sharon Moss, Brady Pearce, Rachel Richins, Kevin Peterson, Shannon Greer, and Laura Snelson via zoom.

Hughes Construction Update: Shannon said that by next week we should see more finalized plans. They met last week and looked at carpet, tiles and paint colors. It's been interesting to see their vision.

Sponsorship Update: Shelbi said that a few new sponsors trickled in after school started. All Patriot level sponsorships were filled and the total collected for sponsorships was \$49,500. There was also a very generous family member that donated \$3,000.

Closed Meeting – *None*

Reconvene — Take all appropriate action in relation to closed session items.

Next Meeting: The Board Strategic Planning Meeting will be held next Thursday October 30, 2025. The next regular Board Meeting will be held on November 20, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Brady made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Written by: Shelbi Kelly