

Gateway Academy School Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, Dec 04, 2025, 05:00-7:00 PM

Location: ParkPlace Eatery

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://gpacharter-org.zoom.us/j/87548930995?pwd=MmxsoaUpDLzltkoGFw18GhQpuSjcek.1>

Meeting ID: 923 112 8979

Mission Statement: *Our mission is to provide children with an individualized education emphasizing practical life skills and demonstrations of student learning in a safe, respectful, and supportive environment*

Agenda Items	Presenter	Materials/Notes	Time
Call to Order	Diana Girtain	The board meeting was called to order by Diana Girtain at 5:59 p.m., with board members Amy Arnold, Paul Dail, Diana Salazar, and Jessica Walker in attendance. Staff members in attendance and presenting at the meeting included Dave Armour, Jonada Munk, Amy Gibson, and Erin Waldman.	1 min
Public Comment	Public Attendees	No public comment	5 min
Consent Calendar	Diana Girtain	Paul moved to approved the October 28 minutes, Jessica seconded, all were in favor, and the motion passed.	3 min
Exhibit A Review (schedule overview)	Amy Arnold	Amy discussed section 5d of Exhibit A about increasing choice of learning opportunities in Iron County. She said she chose this section because she was inspired by the recent groundbreaking ceremony for the new Andy Burt Center. She started sending kids to Gateway 17 years ago, and the main reason was because she wanted a choice. She said ICSD is great for so many students, but Gateway stands out because it goes above and beyond and gives another choice. Amy also gave her board walkthrough report, citing how much she loved seeing the one-on-one work and that kids are taught to their individual level. She was especially complimentary of the front desk staff for how welcome they make people feel.	5 min
Director's Report	David Amour	Dave presented his Director's Report, which included enrollment totals. Lost five onsite students and nine OpenEd students. Total enrollment is 2,171. However, the school will probably be getting close to 400 more OpenEd students at start of next term. Dave mentioned upcoming events, including festivals and the winter concert, and he recapped the groundbreaking event, adding that he was grateful for everyone who spoke and was pleased to see the Enoch mayor, as well as state charter board and school board representatives. He discussed other events since the October board meeting, including the Honor Society induction, Veterans Day event, International Day celebration, and Fall Carnival/Trunk or Treat, the latter of which had several community members attend who don't go to the school, which is great exposure.	15 min
Expansion Committee Report	Amy Gibson	Amy presented and discussed two visuals that represent condensed versions of the Strategic Planning and the Expansion and Growth dashboard that will be posted to the website and can be physically distributed. Most of the information presented on the visuals has been	10 min

		<p>discussed in previous meetings; however, she also gave the board an update on moves by the Utah Legislature to consider a bill to eliminate ESPs and put them all into Utah Fits All, taking away the choice of LEAs to use services such as OpenEd. Gateway opposes this legislation but is also looking ahead at contingencies, such as revisiting the hybrid Discovery program.</p> <p>Amy also highlighted the section of the dashboard handout regarding the new early childhood program, saying the SCSB executive director would love GPA to amend its charter to include a preschool.</p>	
Early Learning Plan Goals	Erin Waldman	<p>Erin discussed the current status of the school's Early Learning Plan for literacy and math.</p> <p>1st goal: Last year, maintained percentage of first-grade students scoring at or above benchmark on Acadience math computation from BOY to EOY.</p> <p>2nd goal: Achieved goal to increase percentage of second-grade students scoring at or above benchmark on Acadience Reading Oral Reading Fluency from BOY to EOY by 2%.</p> <p>Erin also discussed the general state literacy and math goal in Acadience of 60% of students making "typical or above typical" progress on pathways of progress, which gives students a goal for growth, even though they may not necessarily hit proficiency. For math, averaging out K-3 puts students right at 60%, with kindergarten at 67% and other classes just below 60%. For literacy, the average is 64.5%, with grades 1-3 above 60% and kindergarten below.</p> <p>Amy Arnold asked about similar goals or data for middle school, to which Erin said there isn't a comparable screener to Acadience for middle school, and the school has to rely on RISE scores. There has been incremental growth in RISE, but it isn't really a screener.</p>	10 min
2025-26 School Year Calendar	David Armour	<p>Dave mentioned how ICSD is considering a four-day school week and that it is something that has been discussed in the past at Gateway. The school wants to make sure they are doing their due diligence to make sure we are doing what's best for the students.</p> <p>He said a survey was sent to staff and that he had created a folder of information for the board with the results, as well as potential calendars and links to research both in favor of and opposition to the idea.</p> <p>Dave asked the board to review this information for a more in-depth discussion in January. Amy Gibson discussed the considerable process to make the transition happen, with Dave adding that in order to make it happen this year, Gateway would have to go to the Charter Board in February.</p> <p>Jessica asked if there has been consideration of doing one thing for middle school versus something else for elementary, to which Dave replied that doing a pilot program might work.</p> <p>Paul said that if the school has to go to SCSB in February, it would be nice to see parent feedback by January, with Amy Arnold adding that her feedback as a parent would depend on what ICSD does.</p>	20 min

Strategic Plan Review	David Armour	<p>Dave presented two strategic plan documents, one which had the major completed items that have been removed from the draft document with the full panels. He will continue to add to the former document as more items are completed.</p> <p>This will come up again in July at the board's annual strategic planning meeting, including several items that are annual reporting items that the school doesn't have data on yet, such as the climate survey.</p> <p>A few highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a more formal RISE testing score report at the January meeting, but the important part, which has been hinted to at previous meetings, is that there was growth in ELA. • Continuing training on Montessori pillars schoolwide, and the current Montessori cohort is about halfway done. The staff participating in this cohort are excited and implementing those things in their classroom. • Continue to partner with Americorps and the math mentor program. He said that while the school was concerned they were going to lose math mentors, a grant came through, and there are more math mentors than previous years. <p>In general, Dave said that it is exciting to see that in the first year of this process, they completed two or three things, the second year saw six or seven items completed, and at the halfway point of this year, already completed nearly as many as last year.</p>	30 min
Finance Report	Jonada Munk	<p>Ada discussed the finance report for the month of October. They have finalized annual audit work and Utah grant applications, almost all of which have been approved. Also implemented new timekeeping software that has been mentioned at previous meetings.</p> <p>Ada said that, although it is not part of October, the state funding streams have been significantly updated as a result of GPA's higher enrollment. She will discuss this at greater length in the next meeting; however, one item that she said bears mentioning is the SPED funding drastically increased.</p> <p>Ada said she is part of a state focus group to discuss the funding approach for new and expanding charter schools in SPED.</p> <p>This funding increase will be helpful because, as discussed at previous meetings regarding the SPED program, the school has needed to draw from reserves to cover SPED program costs. This will be the first year the program will be self-sustaining in some ways.</p>	10 min
FY2024-25 Audit Report Review	Roger Carter/Ada Munk	<p>Financial Statements Copy</p> <p>Ada gave the audit report, saying there wasn't much to report. It was a clean audit. She said the state issues a large audit guide every year that her department reviews throughout the year. The guide is approximately 90% accounting but also has academic and board compliance elements.</p> <p>Ada said there is a single audit that is required for any school that receives more than \$1 million in federal funds, which includes Gateway because of the USDA loan; however, that was delayed this year because</p>	5 min

		of government shutdown.	
Action Items:			
None		Amy made a motion to adjourn, Diana S. seconded, and votes went as follows: Amy - yes, Diana S. - yes, Paul - yes, Jessica - yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.	
Discussion: Executive Session: In accordance with UCA 52-4-205 (for one or more of the following purposes):			
Action from closed session, if any:			

Rules of Procedure:

- All meetings are open to the public, and the public is welcome to attend.
- The agenda of each upcoming meeting with draft minutes of the prior meeting will be made available to all council members at least 24 hours in advance, will be posted on the school website and made available in the main office. The agenda will include the date, time and location of the meeting. If School Land Trust is on the agenda, the agenda will be posted 1 week in advance.
- Minutes will be kept of all meetings, prepared in draft format for approval at the next scheduled meeting.
- The board will prepare a timeline for the school year that includes due dates for all required reporting and other activities/tasks that the council agrees to assume or participate in. The timeline will assist in preparation of agendas to be sure the council accomplishes their work in a timely manner.
- The council consists of the governing board of Gateway Preparatory Academy (Two Parent Majority or 5/7 parents) as well as the school director.
- The chair conducts the meetings, makes assignments and requests reports on assignments. In the absence of the chair the vice-chair shall conduct meetings.
- The board must have a quorum to vote. A quorum is equal to a majority of board members.
- The board completes a Conflict-of-Interest form annually and the board will follow the conflict of interest policy.
- Meetings shall be conducted, and action taken according to very simplified rules of parliamentary procedure as required in 53G-7-1203(10). Council actions will be taken by motions and voting with votes and motions recorded in the minutes.

Public Comment Procedures:

- Comments are limited to 3 min per individual,
- Personnel matters cannot be addressed during public comment,
- All public comment materials should be shared with the board of directors at least 24 hours in advance,
- The preferred communication method with the board is email: board@gpacharter.org, and
- No board action can be taken on topics addressed during public comment and that are not listed as an action item on the meeting agenda.