

Centennial Academy

Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2023 @ 12:00 PM

Governance Committee Members: Maurice Baker, Rewa Berry (Chair), Howard Grant, Walt Higgins (Vice-Chair), Jessica Olowoyo (Head of School)

Everyone present except Dr. Howard Grant who let us know he had a conflicting schedule prior to meeting.

Call to order @ 12:01 PM

1. Discuss Board Member

- Per Jessica Olowoyo, Dr Gervin's visit went well. He wanted to invite Superintendent Herring, but she could not make it. Good fit for school when it comes to mental health. They visited the Restoration House right after school tour. Representatives at Restoration House stated how they appreciate Centennial because we treat the people like human beings. Feels that Dr. Gervin will be able to assist with resources needed to provide support in mental health to entire community (teachers, students, families).

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2. Update on training

- Training: everyone has received link
- 3 hours for all board members was initially received at retreat.
- June 17, 2023 is Board Retreat
- Jasmine to facilitate Zoom between myself and Ayanna
- Send bi-weekly notices to remind people to complete hours before deadline date of May 30th

3. Update on strategic Plan

Per Jessica Olowoyo

- Decision about how we want to proceed as a school regarding charter renewal is critical
- Think about ultimate goal for Centennial and work back from there
- Should not have any problems renewing charter regarding academics. Facilities and capacity is an issue because APS does not want us to have any learning lofts.
- APS put out "Red List" and Centennial is currently at a 147% utilization (just the building) which must change.
- Georgia Charter School Association visited school and will review to see what it will look like in various scenarios to resolve facilities issue. Once the report is received, it will be shared with the Governance Board.
- 17% of the total budget to resolve facilities issue. Architect is reviewing and will provide report
- In March, APS (Daniel Drake Facilities Manager) will visit school to see what can be done.
- More important to make our stance at Centennial than anything.

- Building capacity was 600 and is now 546. If we are to move to Washington Cluster, Centennial can apply for a waiver but not a good look in classroom size compared to average classroom size in APS.
- Centennial currently has 516 Zoned students.
- Not feasible to have a middle school model for 100 students if we have to remain at 546.
- Maurice Baker asked about the YMCA relocating for us to use the building. Walt Higgins explained how previously this was discussed but never answered if it was a possibility.
- Rewa Berry agreed about utilizing the YMCA building and asked about us going up.
- This will be discussed more at Governing Board meeting scheduled for Monday, February 27th.
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4. Update on Board Engagement

- Maurice Baker talked about upcoming Science Festival in March. Students will appear on NBC affiliate show to complete a science demonstration. Summer Blackmon is responsible for choosing ambassadors that will represent Centennial.
- Jessica Olowoyo expressed that K-12 Inventor through Georgia Tech students from Centennial will participate March 15th.
- We will continue to receive updates of activities via monthly Newsletter Jasmine Spencer distributes.
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5. Update on Board Giving/ Resources

- Jessica Olowoyo expressed that the band room/ Music rooms need soundboards.
- Maurice Baker-asked if Woodruff Arts Center still interact with Centennial? Jessica Olowoyo stated that Alliance Theater does.

6. Q&A

- None

7. Adjourn @ 1:08 PM