

Genesis Innovation Academy

“Creating a Legacy of Greatness – One scholar at a time!”

BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

January 23, 2025

7:00 PM

- I. Opening/Call to Order at 7:04PM.
- II. Attendance and Quorum Verification
 - A. Attendees: Tomika Jones (TJ), Gavin Samms (GS), Keishia Niblack (KN), Marissa Coleman (MC), Jeff Lawrence (JL), Marcus Shute (MS)
 - B. Absences: Alex Parker (AP), John Kenneth White (JKW), Eddie Bradford (EB)
 - C. Quorum: A quorum is present.
- III. Approve Agenda and Minutes
 - A. Approve Consent Agenda
 - B. Approve **December** Minutes
 - C. Approve **November** Financials
 - D. JL motioned to approve the consent agenda, December minutes and November financials. MC seconded the motion. Passed unanimously without abstention or opposition.
- IV. Announcements & Recognitions – No action taken.
 - A. 1/25 School Choice Expo
 - B. 1/28 Basketball Banquet
 - C. 1/29 Welcome Wednesday
 - D. 2/5 4.5 Week Spring Progress Report
 - E. 2/6 Scholar of the Month
 - F. 2/7 Academic Celebration
 - G. 2/11 Girls Track Meet @ Lakewood Stadium
 - H. 2/13 Boys Track Meet @ Lakewood Stadium
 - I. 2/17 – 2/21 Winter Break
 - J. 2/25 Girls Track Meet @ Lakewood Stadium
 - K. 2/27 Boys Track Meet @ Lakewood Stadium
- V. Discussion & Decision Items for the Board
 - A. Governance – (Dr. Marcus Shute, Committee Chair)
 1. Update: Governance Training (TJ/MWS)
 - a. February 12, Atlanta, GA
 - b. April 23, Athens, GA
 - c. First board members must attend an additional training session preceding the governance training.
 2. Update: Board Governance (MWS) - Committee to schedule interviews with three new board candidates.

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- B. Finance – (Jeff Lawrence, Committee Chair)
 - 1. Update: Insurance Renewal (GS)
 - a. Insurance renewal resulted in a 19% increase due to market conditions and claims trends.
 - 2. Update: [Enrollment](#) - as of January 1
 - a. Boys Academy – 305
 - b. Girls Academy – 311
 - 3. Budget process to begin in February; initial meetings will include GS, JL and DE.
- C. Development – (Keishia Niblack, Committee Chair)
 - 1. Update/Discussion: Define Development Strategy (KN, JKW)
 - a. Lance Lucas will be our temporary grant source.
 - b. Future strategy includes hiring a part time grant writer and exploring a Chief of Staff role. We will also consider partnerships with external grant writers for large applications.
- D. Academic Excellence – (Dr. Gavin Samms, Committee Chair)
 - 1. Update: Safety Plan and Drills - No action taken.
 - 2. Update: HR – Chief of Staff – No action taken.
 - 3. Update: Fall Semester Academic Recognition - These initiatives are for high achieving scholars, including monthly value - based awards and new honors apparel for 4.0 students
 - 4. Update: Enrollment Marketing / Withdrawals Report – No action taken.
 - 5. Update: SCSC Monitoring – There were six findings from the monitoring visit which include: Parent Bill of Rights adjustments, ESL notification compliance, property record maintenance and updates to conflict of interest and procurement processes. All findings are being remediated.
- VI. Public Forum - None.
- VII. Executive Session – None.
- VIII. Action Item Review
 - A. Old Business (Prior Action Items)
 - 1. AP will speak with his HR contact about becoming a board candidate and will provide an update to MWS for the next Governance meeting. - Pending
 - 2. JL will make a recommendation back to the Board about the new school wish list. - Completed

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3. GS will prepare withdrawal summary for discussion. - Pending

B. New Business (New Action Items)

1. Finance Committee to create a financial dashboard summarizing trends and highlights for preparation of the initial budget meeting in February.
2. MWS will share grant writing resources.
3. GS to finalize a Chief of Staff strategy.
4. GS will work with CQ (FRC) to update the school’s wish list, including square footage and classroom needs for board review.

IX. Next Board Meeting **February 27, 2025, 7PM**

X. Closing and Adjournment at 8:14PM.