

GENESIS

INNOVATION ACADEMY

"Creating a Legacy of Greatness – One scholar at a time!"

MINUTES | Board of Directors

August 28, 2025

7:00 PM

I. Opening / Call to Order - @ 7:11 PM

II. Attendance and Quorum Verification

Attendees: Dr. Gavin Samms (GS), Alex Parker (AP), Alison De Souza (AdS), Keishia Niblack (KN), Jeff Lawrence (JL), Eddie Bradford (EB)

Absences: Marissa Coleman (MC), Dr. Marcus Shute (MWS), Daryl Jones (DJ), Tamika Jones (TJ)

Guests: Jeremy Faulk (JF)

Quorum: A quorum was established.

III. Approve Consent Agenda

- A. Adoption of Agenda
- B. Approval of **June** Minutes
- C. Approval of **July** Minutes
- D. Approval of **May** Financials
- E. Approval of **June** Financials
 - a. Boys Academy
 - b. Girls Academy
- F. Committee Reports
- G. Recommended Board Action Items

SUMMARY: Board Meeting Opening and Consent Agenda Approval

Jeremy Faulk opened the board meeting, greeting participants and confirming attendance. After establishing that a quorum was present, Gavin Samms facilitated the approval of the consent agenda. The motion to approve was made by Eddie Bradford and seconded, resulting in unanimous approval without opposition.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

IV. Announcements and Recognitions

- a. Scholar of the Month- 9/4
- b. Curriculum Nights- 9/3 (in-person), 9/4 (virtual)
- c. Grandparents Day Breakfast & Lunch- 9/5

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SUMMARY: Gavin Samms discussed several upcoming events, including the Scholar of the Month celebration, which honors students for their character and academic achievements. He also mentioned curriculum nights scheduled for September 3rd and 4th, with in-person sessions for K-5 and virtual sessions for grades 6-8. Additionally, Grandparents Day will be held for the first time in five years, aimed at fostering family engagement.

*** Upcoming Events: Discussion of events such as Scholar of the Month, Curriculum Nights, and Grandparents Day.**

V. Discussion & Action Items

- A. Governance – (Dr. Marcus Shute, Committee Chair)
 - a. Update: Board Retreat
 - b. Action: Vote on Board Candidate

- B. Finance – (Jeff Lawrence, Committee Chair)
 - a. Update: FRC update and Facility Search
 - b. Action: Emergency Approval for Laptop Funding
 - c. Enrollment
 - i. Girls Academy (as of 8/27/25) - 307
 - ii. Boy Academy (as of 8/27/25 – 323

SUMMARY: Finance Updates and Laptop Purchase Approval

Jeremy Faulk provided an update on the finance committee's discussions regarding a \$10 million property offer, indicating that the desired location is no longer available unless a matching cash offer is made. He also addressed the urgent need for 250 Chromebooks, proposing a budget of approximately \$62,000 for their purchase. The board discussed and ultimately approved the motion to allocate up to \$65,000 for this acquisition.

*** Laptop Purchase Approval: Discussion and approval of the budget for purchasing new laptops.**

- C. Development – (Keisha Niblack, Committee Chair)
 - a. Update: Enrollment Marketing

SUMMARY: Development and Enrollment Updates

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Keshia Niblack noted the absence of updates from the enrollment marketing committee due to a missed meeting. She highlighted the need for direction regarding the development plan, questioning whether to continue with the existing strategy or pivot to a previous plan. Jeremy Faulk and Gavin Samms agreed on the necessity of connecting with Keshia to ensure the committee's effectiveness moving forward.

* The need for meeting minutes and accountability for their completion.

D. Academics – (Dr. Gavin Samms)

- a. Update: Staffing
- b. Update: Performance Results

SUMMARY: Academic Performance and Marketing Strategies

Gavin Samms explained the Commission's scoring system for evaluating student performance, which includes levels of mastery and progress scores. He highlighted that the Boys Academy performed well in 2024 compared to district averages, although there were concerns about lower reading scores. Alex Parker emphasized the importance of using these positive metrics in marketing strategies to appeal to parents and potential donors.

VI. Public Forum

VII. Executive Session

VIII. Action Item Review

- a. Old Business (Prior Action Items)
- b. New Business (Prior Action Items)

IX. Next Meeting: September 25, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

X. Closing and Adjournment – Adjourned @ 8:17 PM