

**GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, November 15, 2005 @ 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present:

Leslie Burlock	Cecily Cameron	Eve Collard
Cathy Dean	Becky Draper	Ashley Hager
Matt Holzer	Susan Hoffman	Karen Jess-Lindsley
Donna Liu	Joyce McMin	Marcia Matre
Lisille Matheson	Gale Mondry	Sharon Olken
Leon Schmidt	Laura Spivy	
Peter Thorp		

Board Member Excused:

Lydia Chavez	Carole Hays	Cloey Hewlett
Judith McCrae	Bob Scavullo	Suzanne Schutte
Albert Tovar	Marie Washington	Liana Szeto

Also Present:

Christina Griffith	Margot Shaub	Karen Dutina
Quenadyne Bucher		

1. PRE-VIEW OF THEATRE AND UPCOMING PLAY:

- 1.1** Board members were asked to go to the auditorium for a sneak preview of an upcoming play. Once there, a surprise unveiling of the dedication of the newly renovated auditorium in honor of Lisille Matheson took place, complete with speeches and applause.
- 1.2** Board members were then treated to a performance of Act II of the Agatha Christie play “And Then There Were None” by Mr. Petrocchi’s drama group.

2. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 2.1** Chair Cathy Dean called the meeting to order at 5:37pm in the Library. The draft minutes of the October 18, 2005 meeting were approved unanimously.

3. PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

4. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

- 4.1** Sharon Olken shared the many upcoming events taking place in our new school, including the play in the new Lisille B. Matheson Theater December 9th – 11th.
- 4.2** Sharon took a moment to highlight that under the leadership of Marcia Matre as President, the Gateway Parent Association meetings have a different format this year and are more interactive with the parent body. The GPA is sponsoring a Town Hall Meeting December 6th with a guest speaker from Kaiser on the important subject of adolescents and drugs.
- 4.3** Sharon provided an update on department goals and mentioned that the Science Department is researching the possibility of offering chemistry in the 10th grade.
- 4.4** Sharon reviewed two serious disciplinary incidents which are ongoing.
- 4.5** Sharon responded to questions from Board members regarding a possible SFUSD strike and said that a strike would not impact the operations of Gateway.

- 4.6** Vice Principal Christina Griffith updated the Board with the news of the upcoming Hope Jam fundraiser to benefit an “adopted” day care center in New Orleans. This is a high profile endeavor by students which is being closely watched by many.

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

- 5.1** Peter acknowledged the tremendous efforts of Gale Mondry and Margot Shaub in preparing the auditorium for the tribute to Liselle.
- 5.2** Peter shared that things are becoming more complicated for charter schools at the legislative level, and that some are still struggling with facilities, with editorial comments, etc. With approximately 26 schools being looked at for closure in the near future, some are blaming charter schools. He will keep the Board apprised.
- 5.3** Peter anticipates that our applications will increase dramatically in the coming years.

6. DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION:

- 6.1** Eve Collard updated the Board on the Matters of the Mind luncheon including the news that the guest author, Doris Kearns Goodwin, would be autographing her book in the Library.
- 6.2** The Board then viewed the short video made by a former *60 Minutes* producer and friend of Gateway which will be shown at the luncheon. Many Board members found the piece to be a powerful and moving tribute to our students, founders and vision – an excellent way to encapsulate the mission and success of Gateway for potential donors.
- 6.3** Peter presented a case for the potential benefits of a capital and endowment campaign, including seizing the momentum many potential donors may feel after seeing us in our new facility and after receiving the extraordinarily generous pledge from the Draper Family Foundation. The Board then discussed the prospect of a capital and endowment campaign (Campaign for the Future) to sustain the dreams of the founders and place Gateway in a stronger financial position to reach our goals.
- 6.4** Peter proposed a resolution to thank the Draper Family in appreciation for their gift to Gateway. The resolution was unanimously approved.
- 6.5** A second resolution was passed to authorize the Development Committee to move forward with the initial planning for such a Campaign. The resolution was unanimously approved.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 7.1** Joyce McMinn of the Community Outreach Committee updated the Board on the December 7th Neighborhood Coffee. Along with co-chair, Leon Schmidt, 4-8 neighborhood leaders are expected to attend to meet Sharon, Peter and some of our students. Our goal is to continue to reach out to our new community and let them know we want them involved and we want neighborhood kids to view Gateway as a possible school for them. Joyce also reminded us of the Alumni return date of 1/3/06.
- 7.2** Laura Spivy reported for Marie Washington and the Finance Committee that our projected deficit for this academic year increased by about \$15,000 to \$90,000 due to increased security costs. She also mentioned that the Finance Committee has initiated the budgeting process for 2006-2007. The committee is now investigating several areas that appear to be opportunities, i.e., public sector grants, utility/facility savings, and special education encroachment.
- 7.3** Gale Mondry addressed the issue of faculty retention and said she is compiling information in order to summarize findings in December.

7.4 Cathy Dean provided an update from Judith McCrae regarding the Education Committee – that they have met and discussed goals, are working on specifics, including following up on the plans outlined in the WASC outcome reports. They will meet in January – more details will be announced in December’s Board Meeting.

7.5 Cathy Dean also talked about the internal and external best practices research conducted by the Strategic Planning committee, to develop recommendations related to measures of progress against our goals -- for discussion at the next Board meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library at Gateway High School.

Signed: _____
Becky Draper, Board Secretary

Date