

# Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors Meeting Approved Minutes

Date: November 13, 2024  
Time: 4:00 p.m. CDT

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors was held at 11801 Bluebonnet Boulevard in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**I. Call to Order**

Ms. Ulibarri called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m. CDT and confirmed a quorum.

<b>Louisiana Board Members</b>		Present	Absent	
Ty Gose	Chairman	X		
Adonica Pelichet Duggan	Vice Chairman	X		
David Whidden III	Secretary	X		
Kathy Victorian	Treasurer		X	
Elisha McCardell	Director		X	
Erin Franco	Director	X		
<b>Other Staff/Guests</b>				
Sam Heisman	Founding Head of School, GH Harveston	X		
Katie Fetzer	Prospective Board Member	X		
Jim Stoner	Prospective Board Member		X	
Bianca Ulibarri	Director of Governance, GH America	X		via Zoom
Jay Heiler	Chief Executive Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Holly Manuel	Senior Finance Manager, GH Harveston	X		via Zoom
Laurel Fisher	Assistant Head of School, Lower School	X		
Matt Bushard	Chief Financial Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Jasmine Theyard	Manager of Campus Operations, GH Harveston	X		

**II. Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Whidden move to adopt the agenda as presented. Ms. Pelichet Duggan seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 4:08 p.m. CDT.

**III. Discussion and Consideration to Add New Board Member(s)**

Mr. Gose introduced Dr. Fetzer to the Board and gave a brief overview over her background. Mr. Whidden moved to approve the addition of Dr. Katie Fetzer to the Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors. Ms. Pelichet Duggan seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 4:11 p.m. CDT.

Mr. Gose gave a brief overview over Dr. Stoner's background. Mr. Whidden moved to approve the addition of Dr. Jim Stoner to the Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors. Ms. Pelichet Duggan seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 4:13 p.m. CDT.

#### **IV. Approval of Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Approval of Minutes from August 21, 2024**
- b. **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Report**

Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented; Mr. Whidden seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 4:14 p.m. CDT.

#### **VI. Head of School Update**

Mr. Heisman presented his Head of School update. He welcomed Dr. Fetzer and Dr. Stoner to the board and is excited to work with them. He was happy to speak to the success of the school's Extracurricular athletics and how amazing they are doing. The flag-football team made the semifinals, and a recent survey shows a 95% satisfaction in our athletics. The academic intervention program is continuing to be robust and making great progress. The school is still having challenges in Sped Staffing. This is a challenge all schools in the state are facing. Mr. Heisman updated the board on the status of his current goals. The school has applied for the CSP grant, a little less than 2 mil. This grant will be allocated towards furniture, salaries, and supplies. Mr. Heisman has started the process for hiring a Lower School Head of school. The school is still awaiting their letter grade results.

#### **VII. GHLA Growth Discussion**

Mr. Heiler gave a brief update that the team is actively looking into additional growth. The team will present more detailed information at the next board meeting.

#### **VIII. Finance Update**

- a. **Review of YTD Financial Report**

Ms. Manual provided a brief update on the year-to-date financials. The school is currently running favorable in revenue due to increase in state funding and student enrollment.

- b. **Audit Update**

Ms. Manual gave an update on the audit process. The audit process will be wrapping this week. The completed audit should be completed before thanksgiving. Auditors will be at the February meeting.

- c. **Discussion and Consideration to Approve a Third-Party Custodian Agreements w/ Regions Bank**

Ms. Manual gave a quick overview on the Third-Party Custodian Agreement. Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to approve the Third-Party Custodian Agreements w/ Regions Bank as presented. Mr. Whidden seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 5:06 p.m. CDT.

#### **IX. Announcements/Adjournment**

The board requested to have an update on the status of absent board members be presented at the next scheduled board meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m. CDT.