

# Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors Meeting Approved Minutes

Date: June 24, 2025  
Time: 6:00 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

Mr. Gose called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. CDT and confirmed a quorum.

Louisiana Board Members		Present	Absent	
Ty Gose	Chairman	X		
Adonica Pelichet Duggan	Vice Chairman		X	
David Whidden III	Secretary	X		
Kathy Victorian	Treasurer		X	
Erin Franco	Director	X		
Jim Stoner	Director	X		
Katie Fetzer	Director	X		
<b>Other Staff/Guests</b>				
Drew Thomas	Head of School, GH Harveston	X		
Dan Scoggin	Chief Academies Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Jay Heiler	Chief Executive Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Bianca Ulibarri	Director of Governance, GH America	X		via Zoom
Holly Manuel	Senior Finance Manager, GH Harveston	X		via Zoom
Jason Doughty	Executive Director, GH Harveston	X		via Zoom
Matt Bushard	Chief Finance Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Jasmine Theyard	Director of Campus Operations, GH Harveston	X		

## II. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Whidden moved to adopt the agenda with the amendment to table agenda item 6(b). Ms. Fetzer seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:03 p.m. CDT.

## III. Approval of Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from June 3, 2025
- c. Approval of the 2025-2026 Employee Handbook

There was discussion on the additional proposed language of the Employee Use of Equipment Section in the Employee Handbook. The Board determined that further clarification is needed. Mr. Whidden moved to approve the consent agenda with the change to the 2025-2026 Employee Handbook to remove the additional language in the Employee Use of Equipment Section at this time; Mr. Stoner seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:14 p.m. CDT.

**IV. Board Recognition of Founding Harveston Head of School: Sam Heisman**

Mr. Whidden wanted to thank Sam Heisman for all of his hard work and dedication. He proposed providing a monetary gift to Mr. Heisman to show the Board's appreciation. Mr. Whidden moved to approve and issue a monetary gift to Mr. Heisman. Mr. Gose seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:11 p.m. CDT.

**V. Head of School Update**

Mr. Thomas gave the Head of School Update. Majority of school administration is on break to take time and refresh for the upcoming school year. Hiring is going well. The lower school is almost complete. The team is still facing hiring challenges for ESS staffing. The team is preparing for the new school year and will be attending NFO. Current enrollment is slightly above the budgeted target of 668.

**VI. Growth Discussion**

**a. Harveston Campus Phase 2 Development Plan**

Dr. Scoggin updated the Board on the Phase 2 growth plan. Unfortunately, the finance team was recently notified that EFF made the decision not to make a finance investment for GH Harveston phase 2. This is due to the current charter market challenges they are seeing. Staff will be working hard over the next 6 weeks to find another financing source. At this time, staff is unable to make a recommendation on proceeding with the GH Harveston Campus Phase 2 for fall 2027 at this time. Staff will bring this back to the Board at their next scheduled meeting with an update.

**b. Discussion and Consideration to Approve Project Reimbursement Resolution**

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

**VII. Finance Update**

**a. Discussion and Consideration to Approve and Adopt the 2025-2026 Annual Budget and Board Resolution**

Ms. Manual informed the Board the audit engagement letters have been received and will be sent to the Board Secretary for signing. She presented the final FY2026 budget. There have been no changes to the budget since the last board meeting. Mr. Stoner moved to approve and adopt the 2025-2026 Annual Budget as presented. Mr. Whidden seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:50 p.m. CDT.

**VII. Announcements/Adjournment**

Mr. Whidden moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Fetzer seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m. CDT.