

Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors Meeting Approved Minutes

Date: March 16, 2026
Time: 5:00 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 5:04 p.m. CT and confirmed a quorum.

Louisiana Board Members		Present	Absent	
Ty Gose	Chairman	X		
Adonica Pelichet Duggan	Vice Chairman	X		
David Whidden III	Secretary		X	
Erin Franco	Treasurer	X		
Jim Stoner	Director	X		
Katie Fetzer	Director		X	
Other Staff/Guests				
Dan Scoggin	Chief Academies Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Bianca Ulibarri	Director of Governance, GH America	X		via Zoom
Holly Manuel	Senior Finance Manager, GH Harveston	X		
Jason Doughty	Executive Director, GH Harveston	X		via Zoom
Drew Thomas	Head of Upper School, GH Harveston	X		
Julie Harris	Head of Lower School, GH Harveston	X		
Matt Bushard	Chief Finance Officer, GH America	X		via Zoom
Jasmine Theyard	Director of Campus Operations, GH Harveston	X		
Tani Budde	Auditor, Ericksen Krentel	X		

II. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to adopt the agenda as presented; Mr. Stoner seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 5:05 p.m. CT.

III. Discussion and Consideration to Add a New Board Member

Dr. Scoggin provided the background of Mr. Haymon. Board members commented that for future candidates, having additional board members input during the process would be beneficial. Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to approve the addition of Bryan Haymon to the Great Hearts Louisiana Board of Directors; Ms. Franco seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 5:08 p.m. CT.

IV. Approval of Consent Agenda:

- a. **Approval of August 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- b. **Approval of October 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes**
- c. **Approval of 2026-2027 School Calendar**
- d. **Approval of 2026-2027 Family Handbook**
- e. **Approval of 2026-2027 Enrollment Policies and Procedures**
- f. **Approval of GHLA Financial Policies and Procedures**

Ms. Theyard addressed the Board's questions regarding the changes to school calendar which included Professional Development and virtual school days. The Board commented on the Volunteer agreement included in the Handbook and how this will be enforced. After discussion about the GHLA Financial Policies and Procedures, Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to approve the consent agenda with an amendment to be included in the GHLA Financial Policies and Procedures that set a threshold for unbudgeted contracts greater than 100,000 to require the Board's approval; Mr. Stoner seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 5:40 p.m. CT.

V. Finance Update

- a. **FY2025 Financial Audit Presentation (Tani Budde, Ericksen Krentel)**
Mr. Budde presented GH Louisiana's audit report conclusions. He presented the audit scope and conclusion.
- b. **Review YTD Q2 Financial Statements (Actual vs. Plan)**
- c. **Review of the FY2026 Forecast (Plan vs. Forecast)**
- d. **Annual Budget Planning Timeline Overview**

Ms. Manual gave a quick overview of quarter two's activities and the FY2026 forecast. She presented the annual budget timeline and targets for FY2027.

Items taken out of order

Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to amend the agenda to take agenda item VIII. Consideration of Student Expulsion Appeal next; Ms. Franco seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:14 p.m. CT.

VIII. Consideration of Student Expulsion Appeal

Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to enter into Executive Session under the provisions of La. R.S. 42:17(A)(7) to conduct an appeal hearing for a student expulsion; Mr. Stoner seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:15 p.m. CT.

The Board entered into executive session at 6:15 p.m. CT.

The Board returned from executive session at 6:48 p.m. CT.

Mr. Stoner moved to uphold the expulsion decision; Ms. Franco seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:49 p.m. CT.

Items taken out of order

Ms. Pelichet Duggan moved to amend the agenda to take agenda item VII. GHLA Growth Discussion next; Mr. Stoner seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed at 6:50 p.m. CT.

VI. GHLA Growth Discussion

- a. **Harveston Phase 2**
The team will bring a finance plan before the Board next June.
- b. **Lake Charles Charter Application and Campus Opening Update**

The application for Lake Charles received a friendly denial from the local district. The application now moves to the LDOE for review. The next step will be to have a capacity meeting with LDOE and GH Leadership team. This will occur sometime in June. There will be a special meeting for the Board to approve this updated application.

IX. Executive Director and Heads of School Updates

- a. **Enrollment Update**
- b. **Academic Performance Update**
 - i. **Annual Academic Performance Plan**
- c. **Lower School Report**
- d. **Upper School Report**

Ms. Harris and Mr. Thomas gave a quick update to the Upper and Lower School report.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. CT.