



**GPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

January 16, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Cecil H. Steppe Presiding

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pete Chodzko (arrived late), Michelle Evans, Rafael Hernandez (Zoom), Jeremy Hurlbert, Bud Mehan (Zoom), Mica Pollock (Zoom), Vincent Riveroll, Michael Rodrigues (arrived late via Zoom), Cecil H. Steppe and Viridiana Word

**EXCUSED:**

Maria Cruz Avalos, Myeisha Lobbins, Jacque Nevels and Anne Spitzberg

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Board Chair Steppe called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. and the roll was called.

**AGENDA REVIEW (Board Chair Steppe):**

Board members reviewed the agenda items.

**ACTION ITEMS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS (Board Chair Steppe):**

**1. Review of the Minutes: (Board Chair Steppe)**

Board members reviewed the minutes from the November 14, 2023 and December 12, 2023 board meetings.

*Motion to approve November 14, 2023 minutes m/s/c Word/Evans 8 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Mica Pollock: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: aye.*

*Motion to approve December 12, 2023 minutes m/s/c Hurlbert/Word 8 favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: aye.*

## 2. Superintendent's Report (Superintendent Riveroll)

Superintendent Riveroll reported that board members received the Director's report in advance. Superintendent Riveroll introduced Chief Levenson to speak on the items below.

a. Title 1, Part A Local Educational Agency (LEA) Parent and Family Engagement Policy

Chief Levenson explained this requires LEA's to engage with parents to get their input on school matters. Updated the policy and the School Site Council (SSC) has approved it.

*Motion to approve the Title 1, Part A Local Educational Agency (LEA) Parent and Family Engagement Policy m/s/c Hurlbert/Word 8 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes and Word: aye.*

b. Comprehensive School Safety Plan:

Chief Levenson presented the plan which describes how GPA will address safety situations on campus. New requirements that have recently come out will mean that an updated plan be brought back for the March meeting after being approved by our SSC.

*Motion to approve Comprehensive School Safety Plan m/s/c Evans/Hurlbert 8 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes and Word: aye.*

c. LCAP Mid-Year Report:

Chief Levenson explained that as part of LCAP there must be a mid-year presentation, which has been presented to SSC. This is an informational item.

d. Homeless Policy:

Chief Levenson explained that Ms. Kinyua supports our 44 families that are homeless. This is a change in the homeless liaison staff member. Staff will look into the attendance of these students and report back to the board.

*Motion to approve Homeless Policy m/s/c Word/Evans 9 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Rodrigues: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: aye.*

**3. Finance Committee Report (Board Member Word/Tamayo)**

Ms. Word explained how items are added to the agenda in the finance section after being completely vetted, in advance, by the Finance Committee.

a. Monthly Financials:

Mr. Tamayo presented the November financials, which have been provided in advance to board members. Mr. Tamayo also gave a State budget update for next year.

*Motion for acceptance of November's monthly financials as recommended by the Finance Committee m/s/c Finance Committee/Evans 9 In favor – 1 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Chodzko: abstain; Evans: aye; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Rodrigues: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: aye.*

b. Prop 28 - Arts and Music in Schools Funding Report:

Ms. Word introduced Chief Levenson to explain the arts education program instruction. This year these funds are being used to augment already existing programs. In 2023-24 we are approved for \$225,319 so GPA has a new section of band and a robotics course added to the master schedule. Next year additional programs will be added.

*Motion for approval of the Prop 28 - Arts and Music in Schools Funding Report as recommended by the Finance Committee m/s/c Finance Committee/Chodzko 10 In favor – 0 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Chodzko: aye; Evans: yes; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: yes; Pollock: yes; Rodrigues: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: aye.*

**4. Public Comment on Non Agenda Items (Board Chair Steppe)**

No public comments were received.

**5. Closed Session (Board Chair Steppe)**

**Excused from Closed Session (Evans, Riveroll and Word)**

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code section 54957.6) Agency designated representative(s): Chairman of the Board  
Unrepresented employee: Superintendent

**6. Returned to Open Session at 8:00pm (Board Chair Steppe)**

Mr. Chodzko shared the board's discussion regarding Superintendent Riveroll's compensation for the 2023-2024 school year. The Board proposed and approved a 20% increase to his annual salary and a \$30,000.00 one time payment. The Board reviewed comparative compensation data, shared their rationale for this increase, and showed deep appreciation for an outstanding job.

*Motion for approval of an adjustment to the Superintendent's Employment Agreement including a 20% salary increase and a \$30,000 one time payment retroactive to the start of the 2023-2024 school year, August 2023. m/s/c Chodzko/Hurlbert 7 In favor – 3 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Chodzko: aye; Evans: abstain; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Rodrigues: aye; Riveroll: abstain; Steppe: aye; and Word: abstain.*

**7. Adjournment of Regular Meeting (Board Chair Steppe):**

Dr. Steppe asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Motion for adjournment of regular meeting m/s/c Mehan/Pollock 8 In favor – 2 Abstention – None opposed Roll Call: Chodzko: aye; Evans: abstain; Hernandez: aye; Hurlbert: aye; Mehan: aye; Pollock: aye; Rodrigues: aye; Riveroll: aye; Steppe: yes; and Word: abstain.*

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm**

Due to COVID-19, Gompers Preparatory Academy campus may implement intermittent and long-term campus closures to protect the health and safety of students, staff, and families.

Copies of GPA board documents may be accessed at:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/gpa/Board.nsf/vpublic?open>