

**Great Oaks – Wilmington**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Meeting Minutes: 05/03/2021**

In Attendance:

**Board Members Present:** Jim Mazerakis, Erica Hitchens, Rysheema Dixon, Robert Snowberger, Keria Broadnax, Angela Harvey- Bowen

**School Staff Present:** Nathalia Joshua, Leland Kent, Damien Burke, Samanta Lopez, Tomanise Chalmers, Kaitleen Gillis, Lacreacia Stewart- Henderson, Samantha Dalli, Rasheeda Ames- Davis, Madeline Ronga, Michael Williams, Amanda Taylor, Kendria Waltower, Surrell Holley, Annette Roskam, Karlin Larkin, Tamara Price

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 PM.

Public Comments: None

April's Board Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously at 5:40 PM.

Public announcement was made by Leland Kent to honor Nurse Rasheeda Ames-Davis for her leading efforts of keeping our community safe. In addition to going above and beyond constantly.

Principal Lopez expressed gratitude for both Nurse Davis and Keria Broadnax for their COVID testing efforts.

I. Principal Report: Samanta Lopez

Middle School testing begins May 10 and will go on for the rest of the month.

DPAS unannounced observations will commence this week for all teachers.

Walkthroughs are still being conducted.

The Middle School Honor Roll celebration had 70+ participants to recognize 43 high achieving students.

19 High Schoolers have reached the Honor Roll.

Pod students were able to engage in an enrichment opportunity of visiting a nearby library/ exhibit owned by a local, community member.

Finalizing student retention list for the next academic school year.

Letters of families with students who need summer school will be sent out this month as well.

School calendar for FY22 was submitted to the DDOE for a traditional academic year with in- person learning.

## II. Finances Report: Damien Burke

The Web Report was approved by the Board unanimously.

A lot of funds could be rolled over into next school year!

Working with the foundation on getting reimbursed dollars.

Explanation of CEB rent was explained as well as projected at utilizing a floor and a half for next school year. As well as the difference in timing for revenues and expenses.

Still looking to build a committee of diverse community members focused exclusively on spending ESSER 2 and ESSER 3 funding.

On the state issued P-card, we are spending about \$6,000 a month

## III. Operations Report: Damien Burke

Successfully completed our May 1 Unit Count and our final number is 318 students.

For FY22 we are forecasting a budget for 334 students. We are currently on track to have 332 students next academic year.

Recruitment will be focused on gaining seventh and eighth graders for next year as they are our lightest cohorts of students.

## IV. Executive Director Report: Leland Kent

Led the welcoming of the newest Board member, Angela Harvey- Bowen.

Robert Snowberger offered to provide lunch for all teachers in celebration of Teacher's Appreciation Week.

All of the pods students were highlighted this month for this recent asset mapping in the Wilmington community where they have been visiting local, black owned businesses and also listening to local, high achieving leaders.

Recapped modification being bought in front of the Charter School Accountability Committee (CSAC) of transforming Great Oaks into just a high school.

Board members were invited to the May 10 public hearing and the May 27 final hearing.

Expecting to hear from the Delaware Secretary of Education, Susan Bunting, during June to know if the modification request will be approved, not approved or approved with conditions.

The executive team will be meeting to discuss a timeline of creating Great Oaks strategic plan.

The Public Meeting adjourned and the Board moved into Executive Session.