

**Great Oaks – Wilmington**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Meeting Minutes: 08/02/2021**

In Attendance:

**Board Members Present:** Jim Mazarakis, Rysheema Dixon, Keria Broadnax, Angela Harvey- Bowen, Stephanie Toronto, Robert Snowberger

**School Staff Present:** Nathalia Joshua, Leland Kent, Damien Burke, Samanta Lopez, Tomanise Chalmers, Annette Roskam, Destiny Pennington, Kaitleen Gillis

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM.

Public Comments: None

June's Board Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Head of School Report: Samanta Lopez

GO Wilm has successfully completed summer engagements including: Extended School Year (ESY), 28-35 students for Accelerated Learning, 36 students participated in credit recovery with about 90% taking two or more courses, in building Network Connect engagement, and a camp at William Hicks that was open not only for Great Oaks students, but also scholars in the community.

Ms. Lopez proceeded to share pictures and videos of students across the different summer programs.

Mr. Kent shared an article that highlighted Great Oaks Wilmington and the summer efforts. [Click here](#) to view the article.

Ms. Lopez responded to the question of what was the parent feedback by stating how supportive and excited families were. A lot of families ended up reaching out to the school to share their excitement and offered their own feedback.

II. Director of Operations' Report: Damien Burke

Budgeted for 343 students, currently sitting at 338 students.

Pushing for in- person learning; however, families who fill out a Google form may be considered for virtual learning. 10% of families have been vocal about remaining online, 20% of families are estimated to opt for virtual learning, but it is not expected that more than 25% of families will choose virtual learning.

Phone calls, emails, social media and Remind notifications were sent out to all families to touch base and remind students of the first day of school.

The school has decreased from 84 to just 16 families being unreachable.

High School will be on the 6th floor and Middle School will be on half of the 5th floor.

Weekly testing will be taken over by Quidel.

The proposed virtual plan will have cameras streaming class, but the teacher will be focused on teaching to the students who are in person.

Auditing is currently happening on site which has started on July 20th to ensure we are in compliance.

Revenues are much higher than budgeted due to CARES, ESSER and ARP dollars.

Came in under budget in expenses, savings were a result of being mostly virtual.

All of ESSER II funds were received and must be spent by next year.  $\frac{2}{3}$  of ESSER III funds has been received, still working on a budget plan to spend funds before September 2024. CBOC, staff and parents have provided input and suggested investing in counseling services, SEL materials, continuing working with our community partners and investing in high quality instructional materials (HQIM).

A financial committee has been proposed to strategically use the ESSER III funds.

Web report approved unanimously at 6:14pm.

### III. Executive Director Report: Leland Kent

DCAP arbitration is set to begin in October 2021.

Great Oaks modification was approved with conditions. Listed below:

- On or before July 1, 2021 the school submits a plan for at least 65% of Great Oaks teachers to become fully licensed and certified in their correct content area by September 1, 2021. This will include a plan for each individual unlicensed and/or uncertified teacher currently employed by the school. The certification must be held in the content area in which they are teaching and for the group of students for which they are assigned. Great Oaks is to be reminded that the only exception to full licensure and certification is for areas where there is no “qualified alternative certification.”
  - GO Wilm has successfully completed and received notification that documentation was approved and sufficient.
- On or before July 1, 2021 the school must submit a full recruitment plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

- On or before the last day of each month the school must submit monthly updates on recruitment and enrollment through September 30, 2021.
  - GO Wilm has successfully completed and received notification that documentation was approved and sufficient.
- On or before October 31, 2021 the school must submit a budget demonstrating financial viability based on September 30 unit count.
- On or before April 1, 2022 the school must demonstrate 80% enrollment (260). Should enrollment fall between 80% and 90%, the school must submit a budget demonstrating financial viability based on the April 1, 2022 count.

Board should prepare for financial training through the Delaware Charter School Network.

Comprehension Plan and school goals have been shared with the Board. Both documents will be continuous working documents with suggestions already given.

Carvertise as a recruitment effort has officially begun as about 4 cars have already hit the road with ED Kent's car to be joining the others soon.

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