



## School Governing Board Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2020

The meeting of the Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona Governing School Board was held on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 telephonically. Leslie Shultz-Crist served as recording secretary.

**Members Present:** Nathan Pullen, Kimberly Murphy, and Nina Munson

**Members Absent:** Marli Mayon, Maryann Richardson, and Cassandra Anderson

**Guests Present:** Al Charlesworth, Nexfaze and Chris Dickenson. Grad Solutions

**Staff Members Present:** Dawn Woods, Interim Superintendent and CAO; Leslie Shultz-Crist, Director of Assessment and College Readiness. Sabrina Araiza, Administrative Intern and Teacher.

### I. General

- Call to Order – Nathan Pullen, Board Chair  
The regular meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Nathen Pullen.
- Roll Call – Nathan Pullen  
Nathan Pullen welcomed everyone and noted that Marli Mayon, Maryann Richardson, and Cassandra Anderson were absent but there was a quorum.

### II. Approval

- Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2020.
- Approval of the Agenda.  
Kimberly Murphy moved to approve the agenda and approve the minutes for the October 20, 2020 regular School Board meeting. Nina Munson seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed.

### III. Presentations –

- **Grad Solutions Presentation**  
Chris Dickenson, Director of Community Relations, share the background history of Grad Solutions, a Dropout Recovery Program. There is a grant opportunity to add a credit recovery system to our existing GLAAZ school program. This is an opportunity that students can use to get back on track and it is based on progress and can run year-round. They also offer a mentorship program to students along with homeless, food and housing support. Grad Solutions would support the students from entry though graduation. Funding is based on ADM and the partnership would include cost sharing. Grad Solutions would split the money received from the ADE. State statue states that students enrolled

in a CRP must be enrolled in a school that is designated an alternative school. If we would partner with Grad Solutions, we would need to work with them to try to get around the mandate of becoming an alternative school

- **Tune In To GLAAZ News and Yearbook Presentation**

Terry Poorten introduced herself and shared she has been at GLAAZ for 5 years. She teaches the new SEI class, publication, and productions and English 12. She shared the history of the Publication and Production class and how it has morphed since the pandemic. She applied for a mentorship program with St. Louis High School. It is an incredible opportunity and the students have begun creating Pod Casts with QR codes. The girls are going to use this idea to expand the yearbook in a very chaotic time. The girls are very excited to do this and Terry has found a wonderful local production company, Peekaboo, that will charge about ½ the amount we have paid in the past. This company sells them for \$30, in a larger size and there is no minimum to buy!

#### IV. Reports

##### A. Chief Academic Officer Report

CAO Dawn Woods shared the following updates:

- **School Updates:**

- **Site Visit** - Dawn share the process of our Virtual Site Visit and how it went. The ADE Specialist, Danielle Skrip, was very positive and encouraged GLAAZ to come up with our own next steps. This is something very unusual and new. The board asked Dawn what next steps she sees ahead. Dawn shared that one of the most important next steps is to increase engagement with our students. There are some that are falling away, and this is a great opportunity to recommit and find new creative ways to bring them back in to GLAAZ, even virtually.

- **Fiscal Monitoring Corrective Action Plan** – GLAAZ was chosen for fiscal monitoring for the 2019 school year. There were several things miscoded in the GL, to the wrong grant on not coded to a grant at all, however all grant money was spent on the appropriate approved items. A Corrective Action Plan (CAP) was submitted and is under final review. It appears that 1\$11,740 will need to be returned with in 30 days after the correction plan is accepted.

- **School Updates:**

- **Volunteer Commitment by the Seniors:**

- Sabrina shared some wonderful stories about the Pen Pal program. One girl sent her Pen Pal flowers for the Thanksgiving holiday and another taught her Pal how to email so they contact each other regularly. The program has been extremely beneficial and heartwarming for both sides.

- **Benchmarks for continued in person school:**

- As of November 30, due to numerous positive COVID test at FloCrit the school has returned to distance learning with On-Site Services available for students who need them. The decision of how to return after the Winter Break will be decided with input from parents, ADE and CDE recommendations.

Current Data	Cases RED	% Pos RED	CLI YELLOW
Maricopa (Central Phx) <b>Recommended Delivery: Hybrid</b>	November 22: 386 up from 132 Oct. 25 cases per 100,000 Cases Increasing	November 22: Positivity 14.6% up from 7.1% Oct. 25	November 22: 9.4% up from 3.5% Oct. 25 of Hospital visits were for COVID-Like Illness

- **Enrollment** is 94. (9<sup>th</sup> – 23, 10<sup>th</sup> – 20, 11<sup>th</sup> – 22, 12<sup>th</sup> – 29).
- **Academics**
  - Welcome Back - Nicole Marchi! She has a full schedule of meetings with students and is overseeing staff PD
  - GLAAZ Basis Partnership: This unique opportunity will be providing distance-based, video meeting opportunities for Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona students to receive tutoring from female students at BASIS Phoenix. This tutoring program will use the third-party video platform Zoom ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)) which students, parents/guardians, and staff members can access via the Internet and use for purposes of communication and programming. Students will be meeting between 4:15 pm - 5:00 pm on Tuesdays.
  - December 4, 2020 – ADE Virtual Site Visit
  - December 17 & 18, 2020 - Finals
  - Week of December 21, 2020 – Grades will e mailed.
  - Free virtual tutoring though GCU (ongoing)
- **Events**
  - November 18, 2020 - 15 Yearbook and SEI students will attend - ALMA (AZ Latin Media Association Bilingual Webinar
  - November 23, 2020 – All school Virtual Assembly with Tessa Brock - Harnessing Hiccups (Handling Challenges with Self-Awareness and Self-Care
  - December 4, 2020 – On this Fateful Day in 1942 – Holocaust Survivor – Dr. Alexander White – Placed 269 on Schindler’s List
  - December 22 – January 4, 2021 – Winter Break
  - Soroptimists have provided Christmas Bags for each senior including gift cards, books, and other wonderful things.
  - Virtual High School Nights
    - Alhambra High School
    - Madison School District
- **Professional Development Calendar – November - December**
  - Drug Free Workplace
  - Discrimination: Avoiding Discriminatory Practices

- Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Prevention
- EMAC Training for Cycle 6-EL Desktop Monitoring
  
- **Grant Updates**
  - **Private Grants Awarded**
    - **MESA Club Grant** – University of Arizona and GCU have increased the grant to provide additional funding for supplies and stipends for each of the 3 teachers.
  - **State, Federal and Local Grants**
    - **Enrollment Stabilization Grant Program** – GLAAZ received \$45,555 from the ESG. It is lower than anticipated. ADE is in conversation with the Governor’s Office to continue conversations about the financial hit the schools have taken due to the drop in enrollment. This money can be applied to salary, PPE, furniture to create safe distances at school, etc.
    - **FEMA Public Assistance AZ Express pay Program** - GLAAZ applied for FEMA reimbursement program we have been accepted into the program and will be working with a dedicated specialist to complete the process. 75% of every qualified dollar spent can be reimbursed.
    - **NEW - Acceleration Academies Funding** –
      - On November 10, 2020, the Governor’s Office, and the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) announced \$19 million to help Arizona students most impacted by the COVID pandemic. The funding supports a program called the Acceleration Academies and comes from the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund as part of the CARES Act.
      - **GLAAZ qualifies for:**
        - **Base Funding:** 183 schools -Every school will need at least **\$75,000** to implement enough evidence-based interventions to have an impact. This Grant can be used for:
          - Targeted Professional Development to build Teacher Capacity
          - Small Group Instruction to Accelerate Student Learning
          - The Use of High-Quality Curricular Materials
          - Summer Instruction to Offset Summer Learning Loss
          - Schools Receiving Impact Funding Will Participate in LETRS Training

## V. FINANCIAL REPORT

Al Charlesworth from Nexfaze provided an oral report on the school finances.

- GLAAZ had an October operating loss of \$16,857, which was \$29k unfavorable to budget. Total revenue was unfavorable to budget by \$18k due State Aid (\$15k) and meal reimbursements (5k) that were lower than budget due to reduced census. Census

for October was 94 and the budget for the month was 118. Federal school grants were \$3k above budget as we drew down additional funds to cover allowed expenses that were have been incurred.

Compared to October of last year, revenues were down \$28k.

- **October Revenue**

The reduced state aid and meal reimbursement will continue to be a revenue problem for the school as the number of students are down as compared to the prior year and budget. \$14k of Federal Grants was drawn down from 5 different grants (IDEA, Title I, IV, School Safety and ESSERS) so no one grant was significantly over budget.

- **October Expenses**

Overall expenses were \$10,360 more than budgeted. We were slightly over budget in salaries (\$1,619). Employee Benefits were over budget by \$4,241 due to Medical Benefits that are running higher than expected for the year. Contract and Professional Services were under budget but Professional and Consulting fees that are included in this category were \$1,620 over budget due to psych and speech evaluations that were higher than expected. Food, Supplies and Equipment was \$5k under budget due no costs in athletic activities and lower costs in food and program supplies.

Communication and Networking was significantly over budget due to computer expense related to \$9k of chrome books that were purchased. This was offset by revenue from restricted grants over the past two months. Occupancy was over budget by \$2,277 due to Facility Maintenance related to the annual alarm and fire sprinkler inspections.

Transportation costs were \$4k under budget due to no usage of public transportation and lower than expected vehicle maintenance costs.

- Tax credit 5,500 as of November 2019.

**VI. CALL TO THE PUBLIC** – Nathan Pullen made three calls to the audience. There were no community members on the call.

**VII. ACTION ITEMS**

- None

**VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, AND PLACE**

January 19, 2021 5:00 p.m., Room 200 or Virtually

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. by Nathan Pullen and seconded by Nina Munson. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020  
Leslie Shultz-Crist, Recording Secretary