

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOLDEN DOOR CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016 AT 5:30 PM IN THE MAIN FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting has been publicized in accordance with Section 5, Ch 231, PL 1975, Open Public Meeting Law by notification of the Jersey Journal and Hudson Reporter within the legal time required. Time may be allotted for public comment at this meeting

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

**III. OUR MISSION**

The Golden Door Charter School was founded on the simple convictions that a first-rate education is the right of every individual, that all children can learn, and that every child should be challenged to reach his or her full potential. The overall goals of the school are to:

- Demonstrate the benefits of academic achievement that public school students can routinely attain when the advantages of charter school governance are coupled with ambitious new academic standards
- Increase the availability of choice to parents and students when selecting a learning environment
- Encourage the use of different and innovative learning methods

**IV. ROLL CALL**

Board Members (voting):

Joanne Youmans (President)	<u>Present</u>
Danielle Downs (Vice President)	<u>Absent</u>
Jessica Cappadona	<u>Absent</u>
Nick Del'Re	<u>Present</u>
Tonya Keyes	<u>Present</u>

Additional attendees (non-voting):

Brian Stiles (Chief School Administrator)	<u>Present</u>
Paul Velelis (Business Administrator / Board Secretary)	<u>Present</u>

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**V. PRESENTATION**

- Vincent Kee of Hudson County Spotlight Youth Theatre discussed the After-School Performing Arts Program with the Board. He gave background information on his company then provided an overview of the program.

**VI. MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Youmans and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve the following minutes by unanimous voice vote (3-0):

- Board minutes of **March 16, 2016**.
- Executive Minutes of **March 16, 2016**.

**VII. CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Academic Officer, Mr. Brian Stiles, reviewed the following items for the Board:

- Report provided and discussed at the meeting.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board President invited members of the public to present any comments to the Board. The following comments were made:

- Cindy Brown, President of the Golden Door Charter School Education Association, (a) introduced their team of officers, (b) discussed steps being taken to create a positive atmosphere for staff, (c) mentioned upcoming ratification of new contract, (d) asked Board to consider leveraging the NJEA for professional development opportunities and (e) asked about Host District Support Aid.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Public bodies may meet in closed session when the matters under discussion are: (1) Matters made confidential by state, federal law or rule by court. (2) Disclosure would result in an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, unless the person affected consents in writing. (3) Disclosure would impair the body's right to receive federal or state funds. (4) Collective bargaining. (5) Lease or acquisition of property, setting of banking rates, investment of public funds if disclosure would harm the public interest. (6) Investigations into violations of law. (7) Strategies to protect public security. Pending, ongoing or anticipated litigation or contract

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negotiation, including attorney-client privilege. The threat of litigation must be more than theoretical for this exemption to apply. (8) Personnel matters affecting employees of the public bodies, unless all parties request or consent to a public hearing. Prior to discussion of personnel, affected employees must be given notice, known as a Rice notice, which gives the employee the right to request a public hearing. (9) Proceedings that could result in a suspension, civil penalty, or loss of a license or permit.

Motion by Ms. Keyes and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve the following resolution and go into closed Executive Session. Carried by a unanimous voice vote. (3-0)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION STARTED AT 6:35 PM**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, intends to exclude the public for a portion of this meeting, and  
WHEREAS, that pursuant to an exception contained in the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, the Board of Education will now go into closed session for the purpose of discussing **collective bargaining, personnel and legal matters** and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate minutes shall be taken by the Board of Trustees during this closed session, and at such time as the confidentiality of these minutes is no longer necessary, they will be released to the public, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no formal action will be taken by the Board of Trustees during this closed session.

Motion by Ms. Youmans and second by Ms. Keyes to come out of Executive session. Carried by a unanimous voice vote. (3-0)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDED AT 8:00 PM**

**THE BOARD RECONVENED THE REGULAR MEETING AT 8:00 PM**

*The Chief Academic Officer recommends the following resolutions for approval:*

**X. FINANCE**

Motion by Ms. Youmans and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve Item A. Carried by unanimous voice vote (3-0).

A. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **submission of the FY17 Budget**.

Motion by Mr. Del'Re and second by Ms. Keyes to approve Item B. Carried by unanimous voice vote (3-0).

B. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve and accept the grant from the **Lowe's Charitable & Educational Foundation (LCEF)** in the amount of \$56,062.02.

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Motion by Ms. Youmans and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve Items C through F. Carried by unanimous voice vote (3-0).

- C. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **Payroll Report** for **March 15, 2016** in the amount of \$186,260.26.
- D. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **Payroll Report** for **March 31, 2016** in the amount of \$184,023.26.
- E. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **Bills List** for **March 2016** in the amount of \$121,957.53.
- F. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **Bills List** for **April 1<sup>st</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 2016** in the amount of \$175,738.71.

Items G and H Tabled until next month

- G. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Board of Trustees's Monthly Certification of Financial Status: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.11 (a) 4, the members of Golden Door Charter School Board of Trustees certify that as of **March 31, 2016** after review of the secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a) 3 and that sufficient funds are available for the remainder of the fiscal school year.
- H. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Board Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report: The Golden Door Charter School Board of Trustees accepts the Report of the Secretary and Treasurer's Report which said reports are in agreement for the month ending **March 31, 2016**.

**XI. PERSONNEL**

Motion by Ms. Keyes and second by Ms. Youmans to approve Items A through C. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (3-0).

- A. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the hiring of **Angelica Carone** as **Paraprofessional** effective on or about April 1, 2016 at the prorated salary of \$25,180 for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year (Note: Replacement for Vanessa Viccajee who resigned in January 2016).
- B. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the hiring of **Caitlin Culhane** to permanent position as 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher effective on or about April 1, 2016 at the prorated salary of \$44,839 for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year.

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- C. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve **Irene Garcia** to be added to substitute teacher list at the rate of \$100 per day on an as needed basis.

**XII. CURRICULUM**

Motion by Mr. Del'Re and second by Ms. Youmans to approve Item A. Carried by unanimous voice vote (3-0).

- A. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the **Montclair State University School of Conservation** field trip to be paid with NCLB funds as per the attached document.

Motion by Mr. Del'Re and second by Ms. Youmans to approve Item B. Carried by majority voice vote (2-0) with one abstention by Ms. Keyes.

- B. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the proposal from the **Hudson County Spotlight Youth Theater** to develop an after-school performing arts program as highlighted by the attached document and pending written approval from the St. John Church (i.e. landlord).

Motion by Ms. Keyes and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve Item C. Carried by unanimous voice vote (3-0).

- C. Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the revisions to the **School Calendar** for the 2015-2016 school year as per attached document (Note: Changes highlighted below).
  - a. *Pre-K Moving-up Ceremony*: Thursday, June 23, 2016, 9:30 a.m.
  - b. *Honors Awards Ceremony*: Thursday, June 23, 2016, 1:00 p.m.
  - c. *Kindergarten Graduation*: Friday, June 24, 2016, 9:30 a.m.
  - d. *8th Grade Graduation*: Friday, June 24, 1:00 p.m.
  - e. *Last day of school*: Monday, June 27, 2016 (\*noon dismissal)

**XIII. GOVERNANCE**

Motion by Ms. Keyes and second by Mr. Del'Re to approve Item A. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (3-0).

- A. Resolved that the Board of Trustees **update the bylaws** to include language which states that public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker unless the Board President agrees to allow for additional time which cannot exceed 2 minutes.

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**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Keyes and second by Ms. Youmans to adjourn at 8:05 PM.  
Carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Velelis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Velelis  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary