

**Oglethorpe Charter School  
Governing Board Meeting  
Agenda  
January 25, 2021**

<b>Open Session</b>	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>
<b>1. Welcome</b>	<b>Lisa Reavis</b>
<b>2. Approve Agenda</b>	
<b>3. Approval of December Meeting Minutes</b>	
<b>4. Financial – Review of Revised Budget</b>	<b>Connor Buchanan</b>
<b>5. Presidents Report</b>	<b>Lisa Reavis</b>
<b>6. Administrators Report</b>	<b>Kevin Wall</b>

# **OGLETHORPE CHARTER SCHOOL**

## **Governing Board Meeting December 14, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** Lisa Reavis, Jon Cohen, Dawn Deppen, Shanequa Gresham, Chris Hintz, Sam Carter

**Board Members Absent:** Patrick Dean, Connor Buchanan, Jonathan Brown, Matt Dowling, Regina Rahimi

**Principal Present:** Kevin Wall

**Others Present:** Tavares Brown

**Open Session:** Called to order at 5:00 pm by Lisa Reavis

**Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda: Sam Carter  
Motion to second: Chris Hintz  
Motion unanimously passed

**Approval of November 16, 2020 meeting minutes:**

Motion to approve: Sam Carter  
Motion to second: Dawn Deppen  
Motion unanimously passed

**Financial Report through November, 2020 was presented by Lisa Reavis**

Cathy Vogel reported on various grants awarded to OCS.

The State of Georgia awarded OCS a facilities grant in the amount of \$39,034.00, which is to be used to renovate the current fluorescent lighting to LED lights. A Federal Cares Act Proportionate Calculation grant in the amount of \$13,435.55 was awarded to OCS to purchase document cameras and Apple pencils for teachers. A Federal Cares Act Stimulus grant in the amount of \$161,867.63 was awarded to OCS for the purchase of software and hardware such as laptops, Chromebook carts, Chromebooks, and iPads.

**President's Report:** None

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Wall stated we will be finishing this week in a hybrid model with students before we begin our winter break. When school resumes in January, the Board of Education stated we could be reverting back to a total virtual learning model with students if the CDC rates move into the red.

## Committee Reports

**Governance and Accountability:** Chair, Patrick Dean

Lisa Reavis presented the following Finance Committee Report:

Finance Committee Meeting  
November 17, 2020

Committee Members Present: Lisa Reavis, Connor Buchanan, Kevin Wall, Cathy Vogel

The current operating budget was reviewed by all committee members. The budget is in line to-date.

Lisa Reavis requested Cathy Vogel prepare a tentative preliminary 3-year budget, which is to be presented at the next committee meeting February 8, 2021.

The final committee meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2021.

**Nomination Committee:** Chair, Jon Cohen - none

**Academic Committee:** Chair, Regina Rahimi with Chris Hintz

Director of Instruction, Tavares Brown, presented the following Academic Committee report:

Academic Committee Report  
December 14, 2020

**Credit Recovery:** The big focus after the first nine-week grading period has been on credit recovery due to the high failure rate among OCS students. The following data was compiled after report cards were issued after the first nine-week grading period:

OCS Course Failure List  
1<sup>st</sup> 9 Weeks  
Credit Recovery/Remediation Numbers

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Totals

Teacher's Name(s)	Total Number	Total #	Total %	% by Subject
Roberts	43	43/152	28.2%	ELA/READ
P. Williams	37	37/152	24.3%	52.6%
Greenbush	27	27/152	17.7%	17.7%

C. Smith	36	36/152	23.6%	23.6%
Bruen	43	43/152	28.2%	MATH A/D
Davis	12	12/152	7.9%	43%

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Looping: Totals

Teacher's Name(s)	Total Number	Total #	Total %	% by Subject
Baker	60	60/150	40%	ELA/READ
Dillon	9	9/150	6%	46%
Jackson	6	6/150	4%	4%
J. Williams	19	19/150	12.6%	12.6%
Castillo	42	42/150	28%	MATH A/D
Simpson	46	46/150	30.6%	58.6%

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Traditional: Totals

Teacher's Name (s)	Total Number	Total #	Total %	% by Subject
Heard	36	35/151	23%	ELA/READ
Melton	10	10/151	6.6%	29.8%
Jones	35	35/151	23.1%	23.1%
Finley	64	64/151	42.3%	42.3%
Garola	10	10/151	6.6%	MATH A/D
Verdree	39	39/151	25.8%	32.4%

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Totals

Teacher's Name(s)	Total Number	Total #	Total %	% by Subject
Humphrey	7	7/150	4.6%	ELA/READ
Thomas	49	49/150	32.6%	37.3%
L. Smith	66	66/150	44%	44%
R. Graves	62	62/150	41.3%	41.3%
Roland	66	66/150	44%	MATH A/D
J. Shehane	57	57/150	38%	82%

#### RA: Totals

Teacher's Name(s)	Total Number
Perry	0
Mazzie	10
McDermott	10
Vogel	13

Luciano	10
Meyer	20
Campbell	5
Peigelbeck	26
Clayton	23
Wells	2
Rivers	44
Branch	2
Fenning	0
Morgan	0

Credit Recovery Plan: Mr. Brown (Director of Instruction) scheduled meetings with all teaching teams and put the following Steps in place as our credit recovery plan:

- Step 1: Review Failure Reports/Familiarize yourself and your students with Edgenuity/Identify Eligible Students (10/27)
- Step 2: Using Edgenuity as the preferred Credit Recovery Platform
- Step 3: # of Assignments/Determine highest grade achievable/Differentiation of Assignments
- Step 4: Monitor Student Progress
- Step 5: Grade Change Forms submitted to Mr. Wall before December 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wall will then submit the forms to Ms. Grant.

Step 2 references using a platform called Edgenuity as one of the main platforms that teachers could use for the credit recovery process. Edgenuity's credit recovery courses help students who have fallen behind learn the material they need to know to move forward. The flexibility and design of the courses empower students to focus on exactly the content they need to in order to catch up to their peers. This is a modules based platform that many school systems are using as their sole virtual learning platform.

Note – The school system purchased 2 platforms for all schools to use at the beginning of the school year. In order to try and get a handle on the multi platforms being used, the school system purchased the itslearning platform. The idea was that parents and students would only have to use one platform for all virtual learning needs. The roll out of the itslearning platform had glitches and all teachers in the school district had to revert back to mainly the google classroom platform but other platforms as well. The school system **did not** purchase the Edgenuity platform for any of the charter schools. Oglethorpe had to purchase that program (\$12,000).

Many Oglethorpe teachers used the Edgenuity platform for the first nine-week credit recovery process. We also allowed them to use all platforms such as google classroom, USA Test Prep and teacher made assignments with the overarching goal of getting students that had failed passing for the first nine-week grading period.

**Critical Decision Forms:** At the conclusion of the first nine-week grading period we required OCS teachers to send out critical decision forms. Teachers were also required

to have parent meetings on any critical decision form that was sent home. Critical Decision forms are typically mailed home at the end of the first semester, but we wanted to get a handle on the failures much quicker this year. This has turned out to be a very effective way of getting parents and students involved to ensure academic success. Multiple Critical Decision meetings have been held every afternoon. A typical critical decision meeting involves the entire teaching team and one administrator meeting with the parent and student. This has proven to be the best credit recovery procedure that we have employed. The combination of the early mailout of the critical decision form, required team meeting with parent and student, and the use of Edgenuity as the main credit recovery platform has resulted in large numbers of students receiving passing grades for the first nine-week grading period.

Note – We had total teacher buy in with our credit recovery process and procedure. In past years, we did not get as big of a bang for our buck with our credit recovery Sat Schools. We will start another credit recovery process for the second nine-week grading period after the Christmas break to address failures for that grading period. We will do the same thing during the third nine-week grading period as well. This should keep our Summer School numbers to a minimal. We do anticipate a very small number of students that will need credit recovery in the summer. Using the Edgenuity platform will allow us to only have to use a few teachers to monitor the credit recovery process. We will not know the final percentage of students moved off the failure list until grades are finalized for the first semester. On Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> (deadline for submitting grade change forms), over 80 grade change forms were signed meaning that 80 students had passed classes the first nine-week grading period that were previously failing. Many more grade change forms were signed prior to this December 4<sup>th</sup> deadline, and we do anticipate some more being signed prior to Christmas break.

**Second Semester In-person Cohort:** All teachers are expected to return to work in January. This will allow us to offer more in-person learning opportunities for all students. We should be able to operate with no students on the waiting list. We will continue with our Monday and Tuesday cohort of students and add an entirely new cohort of students on Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will continue to remain a deep cleaning day. The numbers for the second Cohort as of Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> based upon the parent survey are as follows:

Totals so far for students wanting to come in-person.

6th: 24 of 34  
7thT: 23 of 34  
7thL: 20 of 32  
8th: 22 of 34

**New Schedule:** We will be making a schedule change beginning in January adding more time on to the school day but also allowing every student to see every teacher 5 days a week. Please see the attached double hybrid schedule:

The Board went into closed session at 5:27pm. The board went into open session at 5:38pm.

**Other Business:** None.

**Parent, Guest, Teacher, and Staff Comments:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Vogel  
Oglethorpe Charter School

To: OCS Governing Board  
From: Kevin Wall  
Date: January 25, 2021

**Congratulations Ka'Nylah Walker:** Ka'Nylah has been selected to represent Oglethorpe Charter School as the January Student of the Month. Ka'Nylah is a high performing 8<sup>th</sup> grader that is currently has an average of 90 or above in all classes. She is taking High School Spanish, and she is also a member of the OCS BETA Club. Ka'Nylah would like to attend Woodville Tompkins High School next and focus on health care. She does not know where she wants to go to college, but she would like to one day be a pediatric nurse. During her free time Ka'Nylah likes to watch movies and do other things that stimulate her mind. Ka'Nylah is inspired by her grandmother, because her grandmother is the reason that Ka'Nylah would like to join the nursing profession. Her grandmother is a trauma unit nurse at St. Joseph Candler Hospital in Savannah. We all know that Ka'Nylah will be very successful as life marches on for her. **Great Kid!**

**CHAMPIONS CHAMPIONS CHAMPIONS CHAMPIONS**


**Congratulations OCS Volleyball:** The Oglethorpe Charter School Volleyball team completed an undefeated season this year. OCS Volleyball has now won city championships in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2020.






The team was coached this year by Susan Carlie, Gretchen Simpson, and Samantha Mazzie. We would like to say a special thank you to Erica Benjamin (Windsor Forest coach and former OCS coach) for helping out too.


**Congratulations Stock Market Game Teams:** The Oglethorpe Charter School Stock Market team coached by Monica McDermott won big this year. The Kash Kats (7th graders Nicholas Anderson, Saul Castillo and Austin Charles) invested most of their (imaginary) \$100,000 into the technology sector and ended up with \$106,572.58, after 10 weeks of trading. That makes them the winners of the middle school division of the entire congressional district (all 17 counties)! A big shout out has to go to Team Incorporated (Leighera Blair, Jamya Cohns, Taylor Cummings and Cloe Guise) who ended up with a total equity of \$110,833.83. They came close to winning it all, but an error concerning the rules (there are a lot of them!) knocked them out of contention.




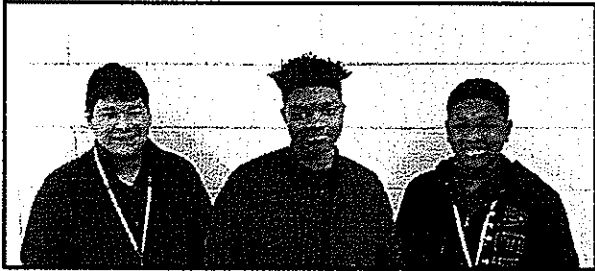
## Winners from District 1

Middle School









Oglethorpe Charter School  
Savannah

**Lottery:** The annual lottery was held on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. We had plenty of applications to fill the seat requirements for school year 2021-2022. We offered 127 seats to our in-coming 6<sup>th</sup> grade class.

Kevin Wall  
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