

**Oglethorpe Charter School  
Governing Board Meeting  
Agenda  
November 16, 2020**

**Open Session**

**5:00 p.m.**

**1. Welcome**

**Lisa Reavis**

**2. Approve Agenda**

**3. Approval of October Meeting Minutes**

**4. Financial Report**

**Review Audit Report for FY 19-20**

**Thomas C Buchanan**

**5. Presidents Report**

**Lisa Reavis**

**6. Administrators Report**

**Kevin Wall**

**7. Closed Session**

# **OGLETHORPE CHARTER SCHOOL**

## **Governing Board Meeting October 26, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** Patrick Dean, Connor Buchanan, Regina Rahimi, Chris Hintz, Dawn Deppen, Jonathan Brown, Matt Dowling, Shenequa Gresham, Sam Carter, Jon Cohen

**Board Members Absent:** Lisa Reavis

**Principal Present:** Kevin Wall

**Others Present:** Tavares Brown, Dr. Jennifer Kolman, Dr. Luis Branch

**Open Session:** Called to order at 5:00 pm by Patrick Dean

**Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda: Regina Rahimi  
Motion to second: Connor Buchanan  
Motion unanimously passed

**Approval of Sept. 28 and Oct. 12 meeting minutes:**  
Motion to approve: Jon Cohen  
Motion to second: Jonathan Brown  
Motion unanimously passed

**Financial Report through September, 2020 was presented by Connor Buchanan**

**President's Report:** None

**Principal's Report:** We started the hybrid teaching model today for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in person. Mr. Brown, Dr. Kolman, and Dr. Branch arranged a very smooth operation our first day. Due to our school being used as a public polling site, we will hold in person classes Thursday and Friday.

At this time, Mr. Wall turned the meeting over to Patrick Dean to report the minutes from the quarterly governance and accountability meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

**Governance and Accountability:** Chair, Patrick Dean reported the following minutes.

### **Governance and Accountability Committee Quarterly Report Sub Committee Meeting October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**School Start:** Oglethorpe Charter School followed the lead of the Savannah Chatham County School System and started the school year on August 19<sup>th</sup> with all students, teachers, faculty and staff in the virtual setting.

**Learning Management System and Edgenuity:** The school system purchased a learning management system called itslearning for all schools including charter schools in the school system. The main goal of this learning management system was to have one platform where everything could be found associated with virtual learning. The use of multiple platforms (google classroom, google meets, zoom, Microsoft Teams) created a great deal of frustration and confusion for students and parents. itslearning had glitches when it was rolled out on August 19<sup>th</sup>. The main glitch was due to the communication of the itslearning platform with the power school platform. Power School is the main platform that is used by the school system in every school for scheduling, attendance, grading etc. When itslearning is set up correctly, a student simply logs into the platform and will see a tile to click on for every class that they are scheduled in. This was not happening the first 3 weeks of school. Multiple extra tiles were being displayed because of how the power school platform was communicating with the itslearning platform. Our teachers had to revert back to using multiple platforms in order to get the school year started. This naturally caused confusion. As of October 21<sup>st</sup>, we are moving in the right direction in getting all teachers on board with the itslearning platform as the single primary source for all virtual learning.

**Edgenuity:** The school system purchased Edgenuity for all schools in the school system except charter schools. Oglethorpe Charter School purchased this software and will be using it for credit recovery. Edgenuity is a standards-based software program that is modules based. Example: If a student fails a math class the first 9 weeks, a module of learning can be assigned to that student for credit recovery. Once the module of learning is successfully completed by the student, the teacher can complete a grade change form. Note – Prior to the pandemic, our approach to credit recovery was Saturday School. We had a high number of failures the first nine-week grading period. We should know by the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine-week grading period if Edgenuity is a good fit for our credit recovery efforts.

**MAP Testing and GMAS Testing:** Unlike **standardized tests**, **MAP** Growth is administered periodically during the school year, and it adjusts to each student's performance, rather than asking all students the same questions. ... One similarity is that **MAP** Growth aligns to the same standards in a given state as the state **test**, so both measure similar content. We just finished our first round MAP testing. Naturally, our main goal with what we want to see with our students regardless if they are virtual or in person is student growth. We will not know the results of our efforts until another round of MAP testing has been administered. Georgia Milestones is a single assessment system that consists of end-of-grade measures in English language arts and mathematics in grades 3-8, end-of-grade measures in science in grades 5 and 8, end-of-grade measure in social studies in grade 8, and end-of-course measures for specified high school courses. Georgia applied for a state waiver on high stakes testing again this year but was denied the waiver. That means that we will be administering the GMAS test in the last nine weeks of school.

**In-person Learning:** Oglethorpe Charter School followed the lead of the Savannah Chatham County School System using a phased in hybrid approach. Oglethorpe Charter School parents were surveyed to see if they would like for their child to attend

in-person or remain virtual. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, Oglethorpe Charter School had 43 out of 152 students in grade 6 return for in person learning. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Oglethorpe Charter School had 32 out of 300 students in grade 7 return for in-person learning, and we had 32 out of 150 students in grade 8 return for in-person learning. Due to workforce issues, we had to wait list students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Middle School Athletics:** The green light was given to middle schools to compete in Cross Country and Volleyball. Cross Country tryouts were held at Oglethorpe on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Titan Talk Sessions SEL Sessions:** Administration and Counselors of Oglethorpe Charter School conducted 4 Titan Talk sessions in order to keep all Oglethorpe Charter School stakeholders up to date. Morning and afternoon zoom sessions were held in September and in October. The guidance department has build in Social Emotional Learning (SEL) sessions into the curriculum to help meet the behavioral health needs of students as we navigate our way through school during the pandemic.

The Board went into closed session at 5:21pm. The board went into open session at 5:27pm.

**Nomination Committee:** Chair, Jon Cohen reported the following.

The Board has unanimously voted to move Dawn Deppen into vacated parent rep. position previously occupied by Dwayne Dawson. The Board has unanimously voted Sam Carter to move from parliamentary position to community rep. position.

**Academic Committee:** Chair, Regina Rahimi with Chris Hintz - none

**Other Business:** None.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Vogel  
Oglethorpe Charter School

To: OCS Governing Board  
From: Kevin Wall  
Date: November 16, 2020

The following members of the Governance and Accountability Committee met on October 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Patrick Dean      Jon Cohen      Iavares Brown      Jennifer Kolman  
Kevin Wall

The following report was generated after the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting and reported out to the Governing Board on the monthly October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting:

**Governance and Accountability Committee Quarterly Report Sub Committee  
Meeting October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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**Congratulations Ishika Patel:** Ishika has been selected to represent Oglethorpe Charter School as the November Student of the Month. Ishika has one of the highest-grade point averages in the school. She currently has no grade lower than a 93. Ishika is a member of the OCS BETA Honor Society, and she also participates in chorus. Ishika would like to attend Woodville Tompkins next year. She does not know where she would like to go to college, but she knows that she would like to be a medical doctor one day specializing in pediatrics. During her free time, Ishika enjoys reading and traveling. As with many of our students of the month, Ashika is inspired by her parents

because of their hard work ethic. Ishika is a positive role model for all OCS students.  
**Great Kid!**

Kevin Wall  
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