

**Howard Gardner MI Charter School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 15, 2015**

The Howard Gardner MI Charter School (“HGMICS”) held a Board of Directors meeting on December 15, 2015. Dr. Susan Trussler called the public meeting to order at 7:20 P.M and then subsequently presided over the meeting. The HGMICS facility located at 1615 E. Elm Street, Scranton, PA was the location for the public work session and private board meeting. The following directors attended: Amy Kenton (via skype), Susan Trussler, Lou Nivert, Frances Langan and John Ruddy. Also in attendance were Maria Rozaieski, and Brent Pennington, Renee Dougherty and Erin Brennan, Esquire-- Oliver, Price and Rhodes. Clarence Lamanna was the lone public representative. Susan Trussler led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and then took roll call for board members and administrators.

Dr. Trussler, President	<u>X</u>
Mr. Ruddy	<u>X</u>
Ms. Alperin	<u>Absent</u>
Dr. Langan	<u>X</u>
Mr. Nivert	<u>X</u>
Dr. Kenton (via skype)	<u>X</u>
Mr. Speicher	<u>Absent</u>
Administration:	
Maria Rozaieski, Interim CEO/Principal (non-voting)	<u>X</u>
Renee Dougherty, HR Mgr (non-voting)	<u>X</u>
Brent Pennington, Business/Tech Mgr (non-voting)	<u>X</u>

**Approval of Previous Minutes**

Mr. Ruddy made a motion, which Dr. Langan seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 2015 public meeting. No questions or discussion ensued and all the directors voted to carry the motion.

**Financial Update**

Brent Pennington provided the financial update. As of December 15<sup>th</sup>, the accounts payable balance was \$153,830.90 and the accounts receivable balance was \$833,432.65. The accounts receivable balance is high due the state budget impasse. A board vote was not needed to approve the financial update.

### **School Matters and Policies**

Maria Rozaieski informed the board about three matters concerning school matters and policies. First, Ms. Rozaieski indicated that a trouble student that has provided administrators and teachers with significant concern in the past has decided the transfer from the school. Thus, the student is no longer a concern for HGMICS. Second, Ms. Rozaieski summarized a necessary revision of the school's transportation policies. Ms. Rozaieski distributed a sample dismissal form to aid the discussion. Issues concerning the revised policy were discussed including the difference between policies and procedures. Third, Ms. Rozaieski summarized the school's PSSA data which was very positive. The data included topics of English and Math for each of the grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>. Only the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Math provided disappointing results. The other 11 statistics provide positive data for HGMICS.

### **Board Items**

Susan Trussler stated that Clarence Lamanna's candidacy for the board had been approved in executive session. Mr. Lamanna would represent Tim Speicher's replacement on the HGMICS board since Mr. Speicher is stepping down from the board after many years of service. He begins his term on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The second board item was the discussion of the school's plan for the future. With no pre-kindergarten students the school needs a plan to increase total enrollment. The school lost about 30 students along with the funding for 30 students which has challenged the school's financial position.

At 7:45, no other items of business were mentioned so Dr. Langan made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Next Board Meeting Date: Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at 1615 East Elm Street, Scranton, PA.**