

**Howard Gardner MI Charter School  
Public Board Meeting  
April 17, 2018**

The Howard Gardner MI Charter School (HGMICS) held a Public Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2018. Dr. Susan Trussler called the public meeting to order at 7:00 PM 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. The following directors attended: Mr. John Ezbiansky, Ms. Laila Kane, Dr. Amy Kenton, Dr. Frances Langan, Dr. Clarence Lamanna, Mr. Lou Nivert, Dr. John Ruddy, Dr. Susan Trussler, and Ms. Stephanie Westington. Also in attendance were Dr. Marie George, CEO, Ms. Maria Rozaieski, Principal, Atty. Kim Scanlon, Solicitor, and Ms. Renee Dougherty, HR Manager. Two public visitors attended the meeting: Karen McKeon, Scranton School District and Mina Ardestani of Scranton SD.

Susan Trussler led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and then took roll call for the board members and administrators.

**Directors (voting)**

Dr. Susan Trussler, President	X	Dr. Frances Langan, Vice President	X
Dr. John Ruddy, Secretary	X	Mr. John Ezbiansky	X
Ms. Laila Kane	X	Dr. Amy Kenton	X
Dr. Clarence Lamanna	X	Mr. Lou Nivert	X
Ms. Stephanie Westington	X		

**Administration and External Council (non-voting)**

Dr. Marie George, CEO	X	Maria Rozaieski, Principal	X
Ms. Renee Dougherty, HR Manager	X	Atty. Kimberly Kost Scanlon	X
Mr. Charles Wallinger	X		

**Public Guests (non-voting)**

Karen McKeon and Mina Ardestani both attended the meeting. Neither had specific questions or an agenda to discuss. They attended to learn more about current school matters.

The Board members briefly discussed the March 2018 meeting minutes. Lou Nivert made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes. Fran Langan seconded the motion. John Ruddy abstained from voting as he did not attend the March meeting. All other board members voted in favor of approving the March 2018 meeting minutes.

The Board reviewed the financial report prepared by Charter Choices for the period ending March 31, 2018. In brief, HGMICS has 6 months of cash on hand and is financially healthy. Total revenues are about 1% below original budget projections due to the delay in receipt of federal title monies. Revenues should be within budget numbers by the end of the fiscal year (this summer). Expenses are in-line with budget numbers. Laila Kane made a motion to approve the financial report, which Stephanie Westington seconded. The HGMICS Board unanimously approved the financial report.

Also regarding financial matters, the HGMICS Board discussed the termination of the Charter Choices contract. Clarence Lamanna made a motion to end contracted business services with Charter Choices no later than July 31, 2018. Laila Kane seconded the motion. The HGMICS Board unanimously approved the motion to end the contracted business services with Charter Choices no later than July 31, 2018.

Regarding personnel matters, the HGMICS Board considered a motion to reaffirm hiring Charles Wallinger for the Business Manager position effective Monday, April 16, 2018 at an annual salary of \$60,000. plus benefits @ 35%, which prorated would be a total of \$16,875. for the balance of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. John Ezbiansky made a Motion, which Fran Langan seconded. The HGMICS Board unanimously approved the motion to reaffirm the hiring of Charles Wallinger.

Susan Trussler initiated a discussion regarding the school's bylaws and the school's educational foundation. A brief discussion ensued about the original purpose of the foundation. The motion was made to approve the revised bylaws for the Howard Gardner School for Discovery, which serves as the School's educational foundation and to change the name to the Howard Gardner Charter School Foundation. Clarence Lamanna made a motion, which John Ruddy seconded. The HGMICS Board unanimously approved the motion to change the school's bylaws and the name of its foundation.

Regarding school matters and policies, Marie George presented her monthly CEO report. She briefed the HGMICS board on the Annual golf tournament which is scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup>

at the Pine Hills Country Club. Dr. George also focused her attention over the past month on the school's safety and security systems. The school's safety committee held its first meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Dr. George also highlighted the benefits of three types of federally funded grants that HGMICS receives. As an upcoming matter, the HGMICS 2018-2019 budget process will begin this month and will be a point to be considered in the May and June 2018 board meetings.

Also regarding school matters and policies, Maria Rozaieski presented her monthly principal's report. She briefed the HGMICS board on the school's enrollment, PSSA testing, faculty professional development and student extra-curricular events. The student enrollment for 2018-2019 year is currently at 263 students. There are waiting lists of varying length in every class except 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Kindergarten currently has the highest waiting list. PSSA testing is currently underway at the school with some tests already having been administered. The science portion of the exams is scheduled for later this month. The school held half-day faculty professional development sessions earlier this month. Trainings dealt with identifying and helping homeless students, writing student learning objectives and for the teacher aides, classroom management and the principles of Multiple Intelligences. Two HGMICS students who participated in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science competition placed in the top 2 in the region and will participate at the state competition in May.

At 7:35 PM, no further items of business were raised and Susan Trussler asked for a motion to adjourn, which Lou Nivert provided. The next HGMICS Public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 7:00 PM.