



APPROVED MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Greater LA Education Foundation

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Los Angeles Education Foundation (GLA) was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, via Zoom video conference.

Present: Monte Perez, Gloria Rogers, Candace Bond McKeever, Capri Maddox, Cord Jefferson, David Sanford, Elizabeth Graswich, Chris Steinhauser  
Others Present: Daisy Esqueda, Kristina Romero, Sam Gelinias, Alex Halpern, Alexandra Roosa

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Perez called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. He acknowledged staff and additional guests.

**COMMUNICATIONS (PUBLIC COMMENTS)**

NONE

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes for the meeting on February 16, 2021.

It was MOVED to approve the meeting minutes by Candace Bond McKeever; SECONDED by Gloria Rogers. All approved; none opposed.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Dr. Perez provided an update from the Executive Committee. He shared that the Executive Committee met earlier in the month to discuss several items including the search and hiring of GLA's next President and Chief Deputy of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation.

Dr. Perez shared that four candidates were interviewed by himself, Dr. Duardo, and Candace. Ultimately, an offer was made to Kerry Franco, the Senior Director of Development for Corporate and Foundation Relations at USC Keck School of Medicine. He was pleased to share that Kerry agreed to accept the position of GLA President and Chief Deputy of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation. Dr. Perez noted that the board will have time to discuss and ratify the hiring of Kerry Franco as GLA president and Chief Deputy of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation in a closed session at the end of the meeting.

Dr. Perez also shared that, later in the meeting, the board would review and vote on the resolution for authorized signers for checks and contracts that was already reviewed by the Executive Committee meeting.



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

As the Interim President of GLA, Sam Gelinas provided an update on the foundation's current program and activities including the Community Schools expansion, the LA Community Impact Hub, expanding learning supports for districts, GLA's upcoming research and publications, partnership with the English Learner Investment Initiative, and GLA's district networks.

### **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

Sam shared that GLA Secured a \$2.5M grant from Ballmer Group to support a multi-year commitment to expand community schools across California. GLA will work in partnership with LACOE to: 1) increase the number of high-quality community schools in LA County, 2) position LACOE to serve as a technical assistance provider to schools, districts or LEAs, and other county offices of education across CA to adopt the model in new geographies, and 3) develop and implement an advocacy strategy for state and federal policy to support ongoing technical assistance, sustainability and expansion of community schools.

### **LA COMMUNITY IMPACT HUB**

Sam shared that three community partners were selected to host a Teen Tech Center through first RFP: Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Weingart YMCA, Boys and Girls Club of the Antelope Valley. For the next phase, partners will be selected from Sylmar/Pacoima and North Long Beach/Lynwood. Sam also shared that there are mid-stage conversations with Camp Kilpatrick, the youth detention center in Malibu, to bring a tech center there. GLA has been working with LACOE's Ed services team that runs those camps, along with probation are very excited about that.

Sam reminded the board that GLA is acting as the granting agency for CBOs that are selected to host a center. GLA now has a draft contract in place between county internal services division and LACOE, who is acting as the administering entity and are hoping to have that finalized for sort of a formal kickoff July 1.

### **EXPANDING LEARNING SUPPORTS FOR DISTRICTS**

Sam shared that GLA was awarded \$300K over two years from the California Community Foundation to support LA County districts focused on building and managing partnerships to maximize recovery funds.

The goals for this project over the next two years include: 1) expanding summer learning opportunities, 2) expanding school year enrichment and expanded earning opportunities, and 3) streamlining, improving, and tracking partnership development efforts for districts.



Sam shared that GLA worked LACOE's Expanded Learning Technical Assistance Unit and Partnership for Children and Youth to conduct a survey of districts around what their plans were for the summer and where they felt like there were needs and opportunities.

One of the needs that they elevated was needing help building partnerships with local CBOs that can provide services and aligned agencies and partner organizations like parks and rec or other sorts of service providers. There's been an influx of dollars to districts for things like expanded learning and enrichment and in the survey, districts shared that they are thrilled to have the support but are still understaffed and feel like they need help accessing and leveraging those dollars and building some of these partnerships.

The funding from CCF will be used to staff person who can work with the expanded learning technical assistance unit to make those kinds of partnerships much more accessible and easier for districts to activate around.

#### RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Sam shared that GLA will release a brief that summarizes and analyzes findings from the previously mentioned survey. The survey and brief will provide information for GLA and LACOE to develop new tools and resources, seek philanthropic partners, and develop a regional advocacy agenda based on local needs.

GLA will also release Pathway to Proficiency, which is an analysis of English Learners and the English learner roadmap implementation in LA County. Sam shared that GLA carried out an in-depth analysis of how ten different LEAs are servicing EL students and what that looks like. GLA was able to work with Liz Graswich's team around some of the promotion and were able to get a feature in EdSource. This project is part of an investment from the Sobrato Family Foundation

#### ENGLISH LEARNER WORKFORCE INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (EL-WIN)

Sam went on to provide an update on a new program that GLA has been implementing with the English Learner Workforce Investment Initiative (EL-WIN), a coalition of funders who are invested in connecting smaller and under-resourced districts with grant writing support to center English Learners as part of a staffing expansion for universal preschool.

Sam shared that GLA is working with a network of districts to provide them resources and match them with grant writers to help them more effectively apply for state funds.

#### DISTRICT NETWORKS

Sam concluded his report with an update on GLA's two district networks. Sam shared that the Los Angeles College Accelerator Network was coming to the end of the first year of implementation. Sam also shared that GLA is in conversations with the College Futures Foundation to provide a second investment in developing an LA County toolkit that will codify



all the findings from the past year and next year of implementation into a replicable toolkit that GLA can share with other districts.

Lastly, Sam provided an update on GLA's Network for Advancing a Diverse and Culturally Responsive Workforce. The network will host a culminating convening at the end of June to bring all the districts together to celebrate their progress and give them an opportunity to share their action and grant plans and implementation strategy for next year.

#### STAFFING UPDATES

Sam Gelinis introduced Alexandra Marmion Roosa who joined GLA as the Chief Financial Officer on June 7 and invited her to share a few words.

#### FINANCE

Dr. Perez invited Board Treasurer, Gloria Rogers, to provide a finance update.

Gloria shared that philanthropic revenue is tracking slightly lower than originally budgeted, which can be attributed to grant term finalization taking longer than expected. Gloria shared that the cash flow projection timing is tracking as expected on grant fund receipts. The first installment of the Ballmer grant was received in April and is still expected to come in on budget. Additional receipts expected in the fourth quarter are an additional \$1.175M Best Buy and an additional \$200k from California Community Foundation.

Gloria shared that the PPP loan was fully forgiven in Q2.

Gloria went on to share that payroll expenses are tracking lower than budgeted through the first three quarters of FY22 due to delayed onboarding of a new position plus a staff transition in November. Gloria shared that Q3 is still under budget and will continue through Q4 until the President position is filled.

Gloria went on to explain that participant incentives, such as awards for the Educators of Color program are under budget due to an adjustment in timing. It is anticipated that these awards will be disbursed in the last quarter of FY22. This budget will be moved to program contract expenses and grant disbursements.

The favorable variance in Miscellaneous expense represents a set-aside for program expenditures that were set asides for COVID-related expenses and other programs like Educators of Color, Post-Secondary Support, and Summer Learning.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS

Dr. Perez followed with a request to approve the Acceptance of Funds for the period of September January 1, 2022 through Mar 31, 2022. It was MOVED to approve the Acceptance of Funds by David Sanford; SECONDED by Candace Bond McKeever. All in favor; none opposed.



## REVISIONS TO AUTHORIZED SIGNERS FOR CHECKS AND CONTRACTS

Dr. Perez transitioned to the next agenda item—revising GLA’s authorized signers for checks and contracts. He shared that at the February 16<sup>th</sup> board meeting, the board approved to update the resolution and the list of authorized signers to align with the current leadership of the organization and board. He shared that the board is revisiting the resolution to make sure we have some additional internal capacity to operationalize and activate on necessary expenses.

Dr. Perez reminded the board that the GLA board has designated the Board Chair, Board Treasurer, Board Secretary, and President as Authorized Signers at various levels of approval to sign checks, execute agreements, access the foundation credit card.

The proposed resolution will maintain that (a) only one Authorized Signer is needed to approve transactions of less than \$5,000 and (b) for transactions of \$5,000 or more, two signers are required and can be the Board Chair, Board Treasurer, Board Secretary, and President. However, it also designates the Chief Financial Officer as an additional Authorized Signer that can approve transactions of less than \$5,000.

Dr. Perez shared that the Executive Committee discussed updating the resolution and agreed that it is necessary to avoid some of the unexpected consequences that the GLA team has experienced since John was transitioned off the authorized signers list. Adding the Chief Financial Officer as an authorized signer will help ensure operations run smoothly.

Dr. Perez shared that the second page of the resolution allows GLA to update its current list of authorized signers and formalizes the removal of the names of previous authorized signers.

Dr. Perez opened the floor for discussion.

Dr. Perez asked for a motion to approve the Resolution for Authorized Signers for Checks and Contracts. It was **MOVED** to approve the Resolution of Authorized Signers for Checks and Contracts by Chris Steinhauer; **SECONDED** by Candace Bond McKeever. All approved; none opposed.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### LACOE UPDATE

Daisy Esqueda provided the LACOE update on behalf of Dr. Duardo who was out on vacation. Daisy shared that Dr. Duardo wanted to share her excitement about the board acting on the new President of GLA at the meeting. Daisy went on to share that there were going to be some actions taken up at the State Board of Education this afternoon regarding community schools funding and that it was looking positive for LA County. She shared that LACOE is getting about



17 million and districts throughout LA County are getting both planning and implementation grants.

#### **BOARD MEMBER UPDATES**

Chris Steinhauser shared that at the CSU the requirement for the SAT and ACT was abolished. He also shared that in the future the hard work will be around grading because it is subjective. He suggested that a communication plan needs to be developed to support systems and kids, to avoid a reverse effect where kids aren't qualified based on issues of grades.

Gloria Rogers acknowledged that it is educator appreciation month for teachers and classified staff and shared her gratitude.

Daisy added that Dr. Duardo wanted to acknowledge GLA and the California Credit Union for their support in helping LACOE provide \$20 e-gift cards to all Central juvenile hall and Barry J. Nidorf staff members. Remaining gift cards will be given to LACOE custodial teams.

Dr. Perez shared that the California County Board of Education statewide committee is looking for legislation to support for next year. He asked for ideas and suggestions to be forwarded to him or Kristina

#### **BOARD MEETING CALENDAR**

Dr. Perez shared that the Board would reconvene on Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. The location of the meeting will be determined as the date approaches and in accordance with LA County's COVID-19 regulations but will likely be remote.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

Dr. Perez shared that the Board would transition to a closed session to discuss the hiring and ratification of the President and Chief Deputy of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation

Dr. Perez asked for a motion to enter a closed session. It was **MOVED** to enter a closed session by Candace Bond McKeever; **SECONDED** by David Sanford. All in favor; none opposed.

Dr. Perez returned to the public session and shared that the board had ratified the hiring of Kerry as GLA President and Chief Deputy of Strategic Partnerships and Innovation

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was **MOVED** to adjourn at 4:00 PM by Candace Bond McKeever; **SECONDED** by David Sanford. All in favor; none opposed.