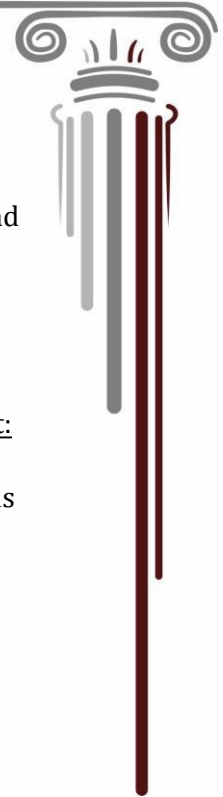


**GEORGE GERVIN PREP ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD**  
**2801 E. Southern Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85042**



The George Gervin Prep Academy Governing Board's Mission is to provide resources, which support student growth and development as well as preparation of the administrative staff and teachers that will allow them to successfully compete in the educational arena.

**MINUTES**  
**May 21, 2026**

Members Present:

- Herb Jackson, Chairman
- Michael Williams
- Dr. Robert Pipkins
- Dr. Amina Simmons

Members Absent:

Norman Darkwa  
Dr. Tamala Harris

Staff Present:

- Barbara Hawkins, Superintendent
- Katlin Hewson, Principal

Staff Absent:

None

Call to Order – Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

Pledge of Allegiance – all present participated

Call to the public - This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Governing Board. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.01 and in compliance with the Open Meeting Law, the Governing Board will neither discuss nor act on issues raised during this portion of the agenda. When necessary, issues will be taken into consideration and placed on a subsequent agenda.

**No members of the public were present.**

Approval of Minutes – April 2026 minutes - Motion to approve minutes

*Dr. Pipkins moved and Dr. Amina Simmons seconded, unanimously approved 4-0.*

Principals Report – Principal Hewson gave an overview of the 2025-2026 school year and lessons learned. Which includes an emphasis put on math and implementing project-based learning opportunities, participation in a science fair. Results of AZELLA testing improved by 300% from last school year. Celebration of teacher appreciation day went well. Ms. Hewson is continuing working on growth of student body (enrollment). Ms. Hewson highlighted some of the challenges which include the struggle in finding good, qualified staff as well as concerns related to the attendance rate of current teachers. In addition it appears student behaviors have escalated due to the end of year excitement. Current enrollment is 166 to include the addition of 3 new students; SPED students sit at 20 with one student testing out; AZELLA student numbers are reducing from 47 to 37 due to the level of proficiency acquired

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during the 2025-2026 school year; 9 McKenney-Vento students have been assisted. Two students will be retained a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader and an 8<sup>th</sup> grader both based on the parents request.

A staff member was released due to personal reasons, GGPA is continuing to post open positions, one candidate is being vetted for the Counselor position, and the first-grade teacher accepted the job.

We're waiting on a response from ADE on the grants applied for to include 21<sup>st</sup> Century, SEI and Direct student services. Adoption is requested for the following policies:

- 1) Master Schedule
- 2) Employee Code of Conduct
- 3) Emergency Operational Evacuation and Disaster Relief Plans are complete which were reviewed by both the fire and police departments.
- 4) GGPA Strategic Plan which addresses 1) attendance, 2) alignment of curriculum, 3) SPED and EL, 4) Accountability of staff, 5) Integrity of instruction to include lesson plans and internalization of lessons
- 5) Adoption of Curriculum materials for the 2026-2027 school year and revised Bell Schedule that reduces two hour blocks to one hour.
- 6) Updates to the Student handbook by adding a two-page Parent Compact

*In addition*, Dr. Simmons stated the motion includes correcting page 8 of the Emergency Management Plan from a release to the board on April 18, 2026, to May 19, 2026. Motion *to approve* the principals report and to adopt all the policies listed above moved by *Dr. Simmons* and seconded by *Dr. Pipkins* *unanimously approved 4-0*.

Dr. Pipkins focused on Juneteenth, as he wanted to know had the school planned any activities for the Juneteenth Holiday and none had been planned it was finally decided to unite with other community activities as not to burden staff and/or to possibly table for enrollments at these other events.

Superintendents Reports: Ms. Hawkins focused on the required building repairs to include power washing the building, cleaning of windows, strip & wax the floors, repair the roof since it doesn't need replacing. Review of the April and year to-date financials, staff vacancies, as the projection of a B-letter grade based on formative and benchmark testing results. Ms. Hawkins reintegrated we need financial support from the giving community and she would be working on identifying potential opportunities. GGPA continues to maintain compliance academically, operationally and financially. Motion *to approve* the superintendent report moved by *Mike Williams*, and seconded by *Dr. Pipkins*, *unanimously approved 4-0*.

Committee Reports – It was brought to the board's attention of a potential new board member that Mr. Williams will vet and send a recommendation to the board at the next scheduled meeting.

Additional Action Items – The board voted to have a summer break and not have a June or July Board meeting and reconvene in August when updates and work repairs will be completed.

Other Business – None

Executive Session\* - None

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

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