



GEAC September Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting

September 18, 2020

Committee Members

Zeinab Chami, Eva Coleman, Anthony Greenburg, Gigi Lincoln, Cathy Longstreet, Owen Bondono, Anne Markey, Angela Pérez, Ben Pineda, Lisa Rivard, Ramont Roberts, Ruth Lahti, Mandy Stewart, Gregory Talberg, Marcus Walton, Jeffrey Whittle,
 Sacha Froese (guest)

Time	Item																																				
9:00am	<p>Welcome 9:01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During Virtual Open Meetings, it is important that all voices are heard and that all comments are recorded audibly for closed-captioning. • For these two reasons, we are switching our discussion protocol. • As appropriate to topic, the chair will officially open the floor for discussion. • Instead of visibly raising hands – a cue that is hard to manage - council members with a comment or question will type “comment” or “question” in the chat. • The secretary will run through the list, in order, and call on each council member to speak when it is their turn. • A council member can also enter a full comment or question in the chat. When the secretary reaches that comment or question, they will ask the council member if they would like to read it aloud. If they decline, the secretary will read it aloud to record it for the closed-captioning record. <p>Note: Also important to notice when people lose access and try and get them back.</p>																																				
9:07	Public Comment - no public comment																																				
9:05	<p>Review and Approval of August Minutes: https://drive.google.com/file/d/12Hg9Nu3HJRAybpDyEOjL0ZXKgbxNfO5R/view?usp=sharing</p> <p>Motion by: Jeff Whittle Seconded by: Eva Coleman Discussion: Motion carries unanimously.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Yay</th> <th>Nay</th> <th>Abstain</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mr. Owen Bondono</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Zeinab Chami</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms. Eva Coleman</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr. Anthony M. Greenburg (absent)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr. Margaret Lincoln</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs. Cathy Longstreet</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs. Angela J. Pérez (absent)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr. Benedict L. Pineda</td> <td>x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Mr. Owen Bondono	x			Ms. Zeinab Chami	x			Ms. Eva Coleman	x			Mr. Anthony M. Greenburg (absent)				Dr. Margaret Lincoln	x			Mrs. Cathy Longstreet	x			Mrs. Angela J. Pérez (absent)				Mr. Benedict L. Pineda	x		
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	Dr. Lisa R. Rivard	x			
	Dr. Ramont M. Roberts	x			
	Ms. Ruth Lahti	x			
	Dr. Mandy R. Stewart	x			
	Mr. Gregory Talberg	x			
	Mr. Marcus A. Walton	x			
	Mr. Jeffrey C. Whittle	x			
9:15	Ice Breaker – zoom scavenger hunt				
9:45	<p>Student Representative - Sacha Froese</p> <p>Student @ school</p> <p>Bonds for schools – a lot of time on cosmetics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security system - when we need textbooks and desks • More feedback on where the money is going; better uses than making things look fancy • Ensure we are using items purchased in better ways - A lot of money on the security system and that is just used to buzz everyone in <p>Other school priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money spent on exercise equipment – PE is important to be active; learn about nutrition; improve quality of school meals (deep fried food twice a week at school); often we push the things that are easy to push and not more difficult issues • Teachers spend more time asking kids to take hats off than put masks on; students are using tulle and cheesecloth; it's hard because of the varying opinions – conflict; focus on things that are difficult instead of being really strict on the easy things • Focus on STEM – being pushed; don't think it's a bad thing; but it is very prescribed whereas other areas are less prescriptive: biology, chem, physics and then "take some English and history "without the emphasis on the value of those topics"; the power of using your voice and conversation should be learned in those places • Pretty good consensus - teaching is not an easy job; had a lot of really good teachers; being a really good teacher is incredibly hard; being a really bad teacher is incredibly easy; need some way to assess teachers to address teachers that aren't putting in the work. • Personal finance – need more information for students on life skills; a lot of kids don't get it at home either because parents can't impart it or don't think to impart info <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben – champion the prioritization; frustrated by amount of rigor we force our K-12 students to get through to reach a broken undergraduate program; can you speak on the rigor; what should be trimmed for "real-world" skills; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sacha – loved chemistry; great teacher; spent a lot of time going over very, very specific things; could have gotten equivalent knowledge in a lot less time – especially if I'm not going into a chem field; these classes should be an overview to help students receive general knowledge and then the next class should be more specific; focus on more applicable things • Mandy – because school funding is complicating, confusing and under-funded; need the bond initiative to pass; find out what the community is passionate about in order to get it to pass; poll the community to find out what they want (pickleball courts) so have to give the community pickleball courts to get a roof and instructional upgrades; wonder, in general, when you talk about what students need to graduate, the finance course would contribute to people's knowledge about bonds and relates to this issue as future voters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sacha - Yes, that perspective is interesting; but if you send the money on it – use it; invoking security questions. 				

- Mandy – yes, we had an expert come through and confirmed this position.
- Jeff – Recently worked on an enhancement millage that had a big focus on security; there does need to be a fairer funding model in Michigan; love the idea of personal finance;
- Owen – loved the statement “pushing the things we need to push” because people often shy away from the hard things.
- Zeinab – Encourage you to become part of the system to fix it – perhaps educational law;
- Lisa – what is a really great teacher?
 - Three teachers stood out; Mr. Leach – well planned out and put a lot of effort in. Other teachers give you a handout and then go watch funny cat videos. Ms. Lahti – discussion and getting us really engaged in things; I like to talk. Mr. Vesta – really good at coming up with fun ways to do things; test review is jeopardy and gets into things; uses his personality; relays his interests and uses it to keep us interesting; talked about more things in those courses that was unrelated to the course, but also learned more than other classes.
- Ruth – very proud; students like Sacha make my job worthwhile; you will go off and do great things;

10:12

GEAC Paraprofessional Discussion
 Letter to Council:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JATPiRSzhlbbdUeqwTQUUpCrhtXsnx9a/view?usp=sharing>
 Recommendation from GEAC:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JATPiRSzhlbbdUeqwTQUUpCrhtXsnx9a/view?usp=sharing>
 Motion by: Owen Bondono
 Seconded by: Cathy Longstreet
 Discussion: Minor document edits recorded in the motion.
 Motion carries unanimously.

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Owen Bondono	x		
Ms. Zeinab Chami	x		
Ms. Eva Coleman	x		
Mr. Anthony M. Greenburg (absent)			
Dr. Margaret Lincoln	x		
Mrs. Cathy Longstreet	x		
Mrs. Angela J. Pérez	x		
Mr. Benedict L. Pineda	x		
Dr. Lisa R. Rivard	x		
Dr. Ramont M. Roberts	x		
Ms. Ruth Lahti	x		
Dr. Mandy R. Stewart	x		
Mr. Gregory Talberg	x		
Mr. Marcus A. Walton	x		
Mr. Jeffrey C. Whittle	x		

10:52

Moved to break for ten minutes
 Motion: Zeinab Chami
 Second: Angela Perez
 Motion carries unanimously.

11:02

Committee Assignments and Goal Setting

Discussion:

1. Choose goals as a group or
2. Break into sub-committees and develop goals to bring back.

Consider: reviewing this section of last month's meeting to recap the conversation. Leah can set up a Teams meeting if provided the day/time.

Safety and support in the classroom during a pandemic and not (including social emotional learning)

Chair: Jeff Whittle

Owen Bondono

Eva Coleman

Angela Perez

Lisa Rivard

Marcus Walton

Preservation of Public Education

Chair: Ruth Lahti

Margaret Lincoln

Cathy Longstreet

Mandy Stewart

Greg Talberg

Policy of Public Education

Chair: Ben Pineda

Zeinab Chami

Ramont Roberts

11:40	Approval 2021 GEAC Dates and Locations			
	Motion by: Ruth Lahti			
	Seconded by: Marcus Walton			
	Motion carries unanimously.			
	Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain
	Mr. Owen Bondono	x		
	Ms. Zeinab Chami	x		
	Ms. Eva Coleman	x		
	Mr. Anthony M. Greenburg (absent)			
	Dr. Margaret Lincoln	x		
	Mrs. Cathy Longstreet	x		
	Mrs. Angela J. Pérez	x		
	Mr. Benedict L. Pineda	x		
	Dr. Lisa R. Rivard	x		
	Dr. Ramont M. Roberts	x		

11:55	Wrap-Up and Adjourn Committee of the Whole for Workgroup Time				
	Student guest for October hosted by Zeinab; discussion about flexibility in age range and choices and representation; include 10 minute debrief after the student conversation to discuss further				
	Committee discussions – Leah will set up folders and drop in notes templates.				
	Will move to Teams soonish. Will need to transition to Google Drives soonish.				
	Motion by: Gigi				
	Seconded by: Cathy				
	Motion carries unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:05.				
	Name		Yay	Nay	Abstain
	Mr. Owen Bondono		x		
	Ms. Zeinab Chami		x		
	Ms. Eva Coleman		x		
	Mr. Anthony M. Greenburg (absent)				
	Dr. Margaret Lincoln		x		
	Mrs. Cathy Longstreet		x		
	Mrs. Angela J. Pérez		x		
Mr. Benedict L. Pineda		x			
Dr. Lisa R. Rivard		x			
Dr. Ramont M. Roberts		x			
Ms. Ruth Lahti		x			
Dr. Mandy R. Stewart		x			
Mr. Gregory Talberg		x			
Mr. Marcus A. Walton		x			
Mr. Jeffrey C. Whittle		x			