

**BEST Academy**  
**Date: September 10, 2020**  
**Time: 6:00pm**  
**Location: Zoom Call -**

<https://atlantapublicschools-us.zoom.us/j/8289976727?pwd=WDVYVU8zVEJjSDRjWUNXaEp1dFITdz09>

- I. Call to order: 6:07PM
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Timothy Jones	Present
Parent/Guardian	Eric Glover	Present
Parent/Guardian	Vacant	
Parent/Guardian	Vacant	
Instructional Staff	Vacant	
Instructional Staff	Vacant	
Instructional Staff	Vacant	
Community Member	Vacant	
Community Member	Keith Strickland	Present
Swing Seat	Robert Williams	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: Yes

III. Action Items

- A. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: **Dr. Jones** Seconded by: **Mr. Glover**  
**Members Approving:** Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams  
**Members Opposing:** N/A  
**Members Abstaining:** N/A  
**Motion Passing**

B. **Fill Vacant Positions (Election to be held)**

<b>Vacant Position:</b>	<b>[Parent]</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Kenya Gilliard
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A

### Fill Vacant Positions

<b>Vacant Position:</b>	<b>[Parent]</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Latonia Kurtz
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A

<b>Vacant Position:</b>	<b>[Staff]</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Ruquanda Epps-Primas
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A

*Sheronda Gullatt-Cooper who was a staff member, left the district and is no longer a member of the BEST GO Team. Dr. Vernon Smart was nominated to take her place.*

<b>Vacant Position:</b>	<b>[Staff]</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Vernon Smart
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A

*Marcus Smith, who was on the staff ballot, got a promotion and is no longer working at BEST. Dr. Bruce Williams was nominated to take his place.*

<b>Vacant Position:</b>	<b>[Staff]</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Bruce Williams
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A

GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A
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C. **Fill Open Community Member Seat:**

<b>Open Position:</b>	<b>Community Member</b>
<b>Nominee's Name:</b>	Randy Fling
GO Team Members <b>In favor</b>	Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams
GO Team Members <b>Opposed</b>	N/A
GO Team Members <b>Abstaining</b>	N/A

D. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** *List amendments to the minutes:*

Motion made by: [Mr. Williams](#); Seconded by: [Mr. Glover](#)

*Amendment:* [GO Team representative present at meeting indicated budget cannot be approved with voting tool on Microsoft Outlook.](#)

**Members Approving:** Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams

**Members Opposing:** N/A

**Members Abstaining:** N/A

**Motion Passes**

E. **For High Schools: Appoint Student Representative**

**Student Representative:** [Robbie Colbert](#)

Ms. Epps-Primas spoke on Robbie's behalf and shared his strengths with the members of the GO Team. Mr. Strickland recommended Robbie host student town halls. Dr. Jones referenced student surveys spearheaded by Mr. Strickland last year. He also mentioned that the previous student representative led Fresh Start Mondays.

F. **Review and Approve Public Comment Format**

Motion to adopt made by: [Mr. Williams](#); Seconded by: [Mr. Glover](#)

**Members Approving:** Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams

**Members Opposing:**

**Members Abstaining:**

**Motion Passes with further consideration of time allotment for public comment if yielding time and Facebook chatroom**

G. **Review and Adopt GO Team Norms**

Motion made by: [Mr. Williams](#); Seconded by: [Mr. Strickland](#)

**Members Approving:** Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams

**Members Opposing:**

**Members Abstaining:**

**Motion Passes**

IV. **Discussion Items**

- A. **Discussion Item 1:** Communication Plan – Dr. Jones discussed the information that has been shared with families using school resources such as robocalls, BEST App, and the school website.

V. **Information Items**

- A. **Return + Learn Plan** Mr. Williams spoke about the Return + Learn Plan that was used on Day 1 as a form of communication between the district and families. He explored informational tabs such as transportation, nutrition, technology and other departments.

- B. **Principal's Report** Dr. Jones shared information about the Class Master List and Virtual Parent Center that was placed in students' Mybackpack. He discussed the One Stop Shop Zoom call for families to connect with various staff members for the first two weeks of school. Mr. Strickland mentioned his concern regarding the social and emotional needs of students from parents. Dr. Jones discussed Advisement SEL activities for students as well as the In10ionality Awards for students/staff, which are given weekly at Fresh Start Monday.

Mr. Glover stated that he has been happy with the service (teacher/parent liaison) his family has received from the school. He stated that one area of concern he has is for students who may have technical issues before a class begins and is marked absent. Mr. Williams suggested the administrative team share a protocol with teachers so students can perhaps email me their teacher if there is a technical issue or unable to login to Zoom.

VI. **Announcements**

- A. Dr. Jones gave candidates an opportunity to speak to the GO Team and share their interest in becoming a member. Afterwards, Mr. Strickland asked the members if there was anything the school could do better.
- i. Latonia Kurtz (parent) shared that she has a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and is an advocate for all students including students with special needs. Ms. Kurtz

indicated that teachers could be more patient with the middle school students.

- ii. Ruquanda Epps-Primas (teacher) shared that she believes in the mission of BEST Academy and wants to contribute in any way possible. Ms. Epps-Primas stated that BEST Academy could focus more on SEL with our students given the challenging times.
- iii. Kenya Gilliard (parent) shared that she has an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at the school and wants to contribute in her child's education. *Dr. Gilliard arrived on the call after Mr. Strickland asked candidates to identify developmental areas.*

B. Next meeting is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

## VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Dr. Jones](#); Seconded by: [Mr. Glover](#)

**Members Approving:** Timothy Jones, Eric Glover, Keith Strickland, and Robert Williams

**Members Opposing:**

**Members Abstaining:**

**Motion Passes**

**ADJOURNED AT 7:13PM**

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**Minutes Taken By:** [Robert Williams](#)

**Position:** [Swing Member](#)

**Date Approved:** [September 12, 2020](#)