**Bolton Academy**

**Date: October 1, 2025**

**Time: 3:00pm EST**

**Location: Front Office Conference Room/Hybrid**

**Zoom recording: https://www.youtube.com/live/maN8syeOijg?si=-vMJFwvv8Mx\_HtCH**

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Shenita Mickens at3:11pm
2. **Roll Call:**

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| **Role** | **Name** | **Present or Absent** |
| **Principal** | **Heather Stephenson** | **Present** |
| **Parent/Guardian** | **Joanna Caceres-Aponte** | **Present** |
| **Parent/Guardian** | **Meredith Castelan** | **Present (late)** |
| **Parent/Guardian** | **Shenita Mickens** | **Present** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **Michael Armstrong** | **Absent** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **Celine Browne-Roberts** | **Present** |
| **Instructional Staff** | **Breonna Jenkins** | **Present** |
| **Community Member** | **Avina Gupta** | **Present** |
| **Community Member** | **Amy Kelley** | **Absent** |
| **Swing Seat** | **LaToya Brooks** | **Present** |

**Quorum Established:** Yes, (7/9)

1. **Action Items** 
   1. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: Avina Gupta; Seconded by: Joanna Caceres-Aponte

Members Approving: Heather Stephenson, Shenita Mikens, Celine Browne-Roberts, Breonna Jenkins, LaToya Brooks

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

**Motion** The motion to approve agenda passes

* 1. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Motion made by: LaToya Brooks; Seconded by: Avina Gupta

Members Approving: Heather Stephenson, Joanna Caceres-Aponte, Shenita Mikens, Celine Browne-Roberts, Breonna Jenkins

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

**Motion** The motion to approve the agenda passes

1. **Discussion Items** 
   1. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan Development
      1. Principal Stephenson shared that since our current Strategic Plan ends at the end of 2025, we need to develop a new plan for the next five years based on recent data. She emphasized that we need to align ours with Atlanta Public Schools’ plan.
      2. APS has updated its mission and vision to focus on “educate and empower Atlanta students to shape the future” and structured their plan around six focus areas:

* Strength of Team
* Shared Responsibility
* Efficiency and Effectiveness
* Instructional Core
* Caring for Every Child
* Sparking Student Curiosity
  + 1. We looked at the goals and key performance indicators in APS’ plan so we can have an idea of what we need to do when restructuring our new plan.
    2. Our goals are to be updated and approved by January 2026 so over the next few meetings, we will spend time developing the plan which will take us through the next five years. The steps will include:
* Start with mission and vision
* Then, focus areas, objectives, and key performance indicators
* Lastly, strategies and actions

The GO Team will focus on the first two, with the last one being managed by the principal.

* + 1. Principal Stephenson explained that the purpose of the meeting was to have discussions around our focus areas and ensure that our work aligns with APS’.
    2. She shared that the difference between the Strategic Plan (SP) and the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) is that the SP is our long range 5-year vision, while the CIP is the yearly action plan
    3. Principal Stephenson shared three key resources for us to review-
* The previous SP
* An example of another school’s CIP goals
* School data sheet
  + 1. She shared the planning process, which outlines the focus of each session.
    2. We reviewed and discussed the GMAS and KPI data shared by principal Stephenson.
    3. We then looked at our mission and vision to determine if they are aligned to APS’, and if not, what changes need to be made. Within both statements there is a focus on IB and DLI which are two of our core values. Possible suggestions were to create more child-friendly versions for student accessibility. It was decided that for right now there is no pressing need for revisions, but this can be explored in the future if necessary.
    4. Principal Stephenson then shared and reviewed our prior goals which were met or surpassed. In the CIP the focus continues to target math, ELA, behavioral incident reduction, and attendance.
    5. For the new SP the focus will be on developing 3-4 goals to maximize impact. The discussion prioritized literacy, math, attendance, discipline, student-staff relationship, and school culture as high impact target levels.
    6. Based on the data, the goals will be developed around math, reading, and student-staff relationships.

1. **Information Items** 
   1. Principal’s Report
      1. Leveling

Principal Stephenson shared that two new teachers were hired, Ms. Reese and Ms. Richardson. Both with strong credentials and experience. Their start date is Friday, October 3rd. She also shared the timeline and onboarding plan, so they can be ready for their new students when we return from Fall break on October 20th.

* 1. Additional Information Items

APS Forward 2040 –Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan Update-

* There are two upcoming public meetings: October 20th and November 10th. An update was also shared by Meredith Castellan.

1. **Announcements –**

* Joanna Caceras-Aponte shared thatas of today, Hootie’ s Nest Egg has raised $55,000 with three pending corporate sponsors with verbal confirmations still to be added.
* LaToya Brooks shared about the Hawks game fundraiser. The chorus will receive a percentage of all tickets sold, so we continue to promote and support the event.

1. **Public Comment-** no public comment.
2. **Adjournment** Motion made by: Joanna Caceras-Aponte; Seconded by: Avina Gupta

Members Approving: All others

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

**Motion** The motion to adjourn the GO Team meeting passes

1. **ADJOURNED AT 4:47 p.m.**
2. **Next Meeting:** December 10, @ 3:00 PM in the Media Center.

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**Minutes Taken By:** Celine Browne-Roberts

**Position:** Secretary

**Date Approved:** [Insert date when approved]