

Meeting Minutes

William Finch Elementary

Date: **8/29/2024**

Time: **3:30 PM**

Location: **Zoom**

- I. Call to order: **3:31 PM**
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Dr. Tara Spencer	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Edwina Lawrence	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Kashon Caldwell	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Xiomara Bailey	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tatyana Mcknight	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Erin Gore	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tesia Germain	Present
Community Member	Ms. Adriana Sola	Present
Community Member	vacant	
Swing Seat	Dr.Regana Hill	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: **Yes**

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: **Erin Gore**; Seconded by: **Regana Hill**
Members Approving: Tesia Germain, Kashon Caldwell, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Adriana Sola
Members Opposing: None
Members Abstaining: None
Motion Passes
- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:**
 Motion made by: **Erin Gore** Seconded by: **Regana Hill**
Members Approving: Tesia Germain, Kashon Caldwell, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Adriana Sola
Members Opposing: None
Members Abstaining: None
Motion Passes

c. **Fill Vacant Positions** *(copy and complete table for each vacant position)*

Vacant Position:	Parent
Nominee's Name:	Kashon Caldwell
GO Team Members In favor	Tesia Germain, Erin Gore, Regana Hill, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Edwina Lawrence, Adriana Sola
GO Team Members Opposed	None
GO Team Members Abstaining	None

d. **Election of Officers**

i. **Chair: Result:** Ms. Erin Gore

Officer Position:	Chair
Nominee's Name:	Erin Gore
GO Team Members In favor	Tesia Germain, Regana Hill, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Edwina Lawrence, Adriana Sola
GO Team Members Opposed	None
GO Team Members Abstaining	None

ii. **Vice Chair: Result:** Dr. Regana Hill

Officer Position:	Vice Chair
Nominee's Name:	Regana Hill
GO Team Members In favor	Tesia Germain, Erin Gore, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Edwina Lawrence, Adriana Sola
GO Team Members Opposed	None
GO Team Members Abstaining	None

iii. Secretary: Result: Ms. Tesia Germain

Officer Position:	Secretary
Nominee's Name:	Tesia Germain
GO Team Members In favor	Regana Hill, Erin Gore, Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Edwina Lawrence, Adriana Sola
GO Team Members Opposed	None
GO Team Members Abstaining	None

iv. Cluster Representative: Result: Ms. Tatyana McKnight

Officer Position:	Cluster-Representative
Nominee's Name:	Tatyana McKnight
GO Team Members In favor	Regana Hill, Erin Gore, Xiomara Bailey, Tesia Germain, Kashon Caldwell, Edwina Lawrence, Adriana Sola
GO Team Members Opposed	None
GO Team Members Abstaining	None

- e. **Set GO Team Meeting Calendar** (*GO Teams are required to have a minimum of 6 meetings, with at least 4 allowing for Public Comment*)

	Date	Time	Location	Public Comment (Yes/No)
1	9/26/2024	3:30 PM	Zoom	Yes
2	10/24/2024	3:30 PM	Zoom	No
3	11/21/2024	3:30 PM	Zoom	Yes
4	01/23/2025	3:30 PM	Zoom	Yes
5	02/27/2025	3:30 PM	Zoom	No
6	04/24/2024	3:30 PM	Zoom	Yes
7				
8				

Review and Approve Public Comment Format

Motion to adopt made by: Ms. [Erin Gore](#) Seconded by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#)

Members Approving: Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Edwina Lawrence, Tesia Germain, Adriana Sola

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

Review and Approve Go Team Calendra

Motion to adopt made by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#) Seconded by: [Tatyana Mcknight](#)

Members Approving: Xiomara Bailey, Edwina Lawrence, Kashon Caldwell, Erin Gore, Tesia Germain, Adriana Sola

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

Review and Adopt GO Team Norms

Motion made by: Dr. [Regana Hill](#) ; Seconded by: [Edwina Lawerance](#)

Members Approving: Xiomara Bailey, Tatyana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Erin Gore, Tesia Germain, Adriana Sola

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

- a. **Discussion Item 1:** School Start Update: Current Enrollment & Leveling
 - i. Dr. Spencer shares that the projected student enrollment was 264 however the school is currently at 266 students. Because the enrollment is beyond expectation, Dr. Spencer shares that she earned \$10, 668 extra because of the two additional students. In addition to the \$10,668 there was reserve fund from last year used as hold over money in the amount of \$31,839 to support enrollment either with gains or losses. Dr. Spencer is now eligible to receive the \$31,839 and she does not need to pay it back to the district because she met her projected enrollment. Dr. Spencer also received a grant for the amount of \$45,000 to support any safety and security needs. Dr. Spencer will use the funds to hire a halftime paraprofessional to assist with behaviors, cafeteria duties, and activities within the building. She would use the safety grant to upgrade camera systems and put things into place to make sure that Finch is a

safe place to teach and learn. Dr. Spencer is currently waiting for her boss to give feedback on the ideas she has for the new funds.

- b. **Discussion Item 2: Assessment Overview: MAP Data**
 - i. **GMAS:** Dr. Spencer shared the Georgia Milestone Data for the years of 2018-2024. Dr. Spencer stated that the data illustrates the performance as a school. The chart represents students who are proficient and above. She stated that each year the scores increased, and significant gains were made.
 - ii. **MAP:** Dr. Spencer shared the MAP data for the years 2022-2024. She states that she wanted to focus on the years she was a principal at Finch Elementary. Dr. Spencer shared that there has been a great increase in students in the proficient and distinguishing area in reading and math. She also stated that there has been a significant decrease in the beginning level for reading and math.
- c. **Discussion Item 3: Signature Program- STEAM**
 - i. Dr. Spencer reminded everyone of Finch signature program which is STEAM. She shared that STEAM day that was on August 16, 2024 and the different activities that took place on that day. Dr. Spencer stated that the STEAM goals are for the school to expose children, to continue build the STEAM program, and to move toward full certification. These goals are used so students can have full exposure to STEAM and for students to begin to choose careers that lead to choice filled lives. Dr. Spencer expressed that the school will move into full STEAM certification within the next two years.
- d. **Discussion Item 4: Readers are Leaders Programming**
 - i. Dr. Spencer conveyed that the State of Georgia adopted a house bill. This means that all educators in the state of Georgia will have training specifically in teaching students how to read and build foundational skills so students can become strong readers. Every staff member who is a certified teacher is completing professional learning centered around how to teach students how to read on Cox Campus.
- e. **Discussion Item 5: New Superintendent**
 - i. Atlanta Public Schools has a new superintendent. Dr. Spencer shared that the superintendent visited Finch on the first day after he was sworn in. He walked around the school and spoke to teachers and students. Also, he asked questions about the culture at Finch and the likes and issues that we may be having with Finch and Atlanta Public Schools. Superintendent Dr. Johnson also wanted to create a clear plan for his work in Atlanta Public Schools for the first 100 days. The plan is centered

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around academic acceleration and meeting the needs of students. His plan also focuses making sure students have equitable opportunities regardless of ability and background. Superintendent Dr. Johnson is focuses on student and stakeholder engagement. Dr. Spencer shared how he is particular focus on hearing the voice of the community, such has hearing from teachers, leaders, and students and see what their needs are and how can he make them better. Additionally, Superintendent Dr. Johnson has a strong focus on accountability for academic excellence and operational excellence. That looks like making sure that there is a strong academic framework happening in schools and a strong operational focus. So, students must ponder these questions: Are schools using their budget to align with what the school needs? Are schools running efficiently with facilities, transportation, nutrition, etc.? Dr. Spencer encouraged members and viewers to read Superintendent Johnson's 100 Day Plan.

V. Announcements

- a. 2024 Go Team G3 Summit
- b. New Go Team Member Training & Orientation
- c. APS Rocks 5K and Fund Run- H.J. Russell West End Academy on 9/7/2024 @ 8:30 AM
- d. Grandparents Read In Day- September 10, 2024

VI. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Edwina Lawrence](#); Seconded by: [Erin Gore](#)

Members Approving: Xiomara Bailey, Tayana Mcknight, Kashon Caldwell, Adriana Sola, Tesia Germain

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

ADJOURNED AT 4:22PM

Minutes Taken By: [Tesia Germain](#)

Position: [Secretary](#)

Date Approved: 10/2/24