

# Minutes for Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC Board Meeting March 15, 2024

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## Call to Order

A regular meeting of Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC, was held on March 15, 2024, in Westminster Hall, Banquet Room West. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. (EST) and was presided over by the president of the board, Joy Lavender.

## Attendees

Roll call of voting members in attendance included Dr. Dennis Gaerte, Paul Blair and Joy Lavender.

Staff in attendance included Dr. Tim Ziebarth and Beth Bessinger.

Guests in attendance were Corey Smith, Headmaster of Smith Academy, for Excellence and Rich Padgett, Headmaster of Otwell Miller Academy.

## Status of Quorum

Joy Lavender declared the status of quorum had been met for this public hearing.

## Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the Agenda as presented was made by Dr. Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Paul Blair. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Approval of Minutes

No additions or revisions were made to the December 06, 2023, minutes.

A motion to approve the December 06, 2023, meeting minutes was made by Paul Blair and seconded by Dr. Dennis Gaerte. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Director's Report

The Director's Report was provided by Dr. Tim Ziebarth.

## New Business

### A. Otwell Miller Academy- Renewal Application

#### 1. Presentation of staff recommendation

a) Dr. Tim Ziebarth provided an overview of the renewal application for Otwell Miller Academy.

b) The staff recommended Otwell Miller Academy for a 15-year renewal subject to being in compliance with Indiana Code 20-24-4-1.6a.

2. Presentation of renewal request by Otwell Miller Academy

a) Headmaster of Otwell Miller Academy, Rich Padgett, provided an overview of Otwell Miller Academy.

b) Interaction between the Board and Rich took place as it related to follow up questions regarding their enrollment targets, building plans, recruitment, and future plans/goals.

3. Board Decision

a) Board member Paul Blair made the motion to renew Otwell Miller Academy for a 15-year charter subject to being in compliance with Indiana Code 20-24-4-1.6a. Dr. Dennis Gaerte seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Smith Academy for Excellence- Renewal Application

1. Presentation of staff recommendation

a) Dr. Tim Ziebarth provided an overview of the renewal application for Smith Academy for Excellence.

b) The staff recommended Smith Academy for Excellence for a 15-year renewal subject to being in compliance with Indiana Code 20-24-4-1.6a.

2. Presentation of renewal request by Smith Academy for Excellence

a) Headmaster of Smith Academy for Excellence, Corey Smith, provided an overview of Smith Academy for Excellence.

b) Interaction between the Board and Corey took place as it related to follow up questions regarding their enrollment, building plans, recruitment, school pedagogy, and future plans/goals.

3. Board Decision

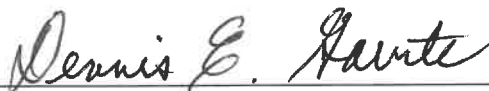
a) Board member Dr. Dennis Gaerte made the motion to renew Smith Academy for Excellence for a 15-year charter subject to being in compliance with Indiana Code 20-24-4-1.6a. Paul Blair seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## Announcements

No new announcements

## Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Dennis Gaerte and seconded by Joy Lavender. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m. (EST).



Dr. Dennis Gaerte, Secretary,  
Grace Schools Charter Authority, LLC



Date of Approval