

# **MEETING MINUTES**

August 14th, 2025, at 9:00 PM

Governing Board

Glen Canyon Outdoor Academy

GCOA Mission: GCOA is committed to providing an active student-centered environment through outdoor expeditionary learning, collaborative teachers, and family and community engagement that will develop inquisitive explorers, cultivate creative thinkers and empower resilient learners.

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Board of Directors of Glen Canyon Outdoor Academy and to the general public that the board will hold a meeting, open to the public as specified below. The Board of Directors reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings set for a specified time.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §§38-431.03.A.1-A.7, the Board of Directors may go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, concerning any item on the agenda for discussion, consideration or consultations: (1) of employment issues related to a public officer, appointee or employee; (2) of records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law; (3) for legal advice with attorneys; (4) with attorneys regarding contract negotiations, pending or contemplated litigation or settlement discussions; (5) regarding negotiations with employee organizations; (6) regarding international, interstate or tribal negotiations; or (7) regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property.

**Date/Time: August 14th, 2025, 9:00 AM MST**

**Agenda Available: GCOA Elementary School at 835 Newburn Road and at [www.gcoacademy.org](http://www.gcoacademy.org)**

**Virtual Meeting Access only to public**

**Virtual Meeting Access: Meeting ID: 954 1721 1816 Passcode: 203580**

## **ALL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA ARE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

**Board members are invited to attend the ribbon cutting for the new playground at 8:30 am on the Main Campus.**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

I. Board Annual Training - Training began at 9:30 AM

1. Roles, Responsibilities, and Open Meeting Laws- Jim Walker (45 minutes)
2. Review of charter application and charter contract with the state board
  - a. [Original Charter Application](#)
  - b. [School Dashboard](#)
  - c. [Logic Model](#)
3. Mission to Movement- creating vision to align with community values

4. Conflict of Interest
5. Succession Plan

## II. Opening of Meeting

- A. Call to Order- Meeting called to order at 1:01pm
- B. Roll Call - Determine Quorum/ Present - Erik Stanfield, Gwen Lasslo, Rachell French, Nancy Walker

- ☒ Gwen Lasslo
- ☒ Nancy Walker
- ☐ Rochelle Russell
- ☒ Erik Stanfield
- ☒ Rachell French
- Others Present:
- ☒ Susan Pilkington- Executive Director
- ☒ Hattie Williams- School Leader

- C. Approval of Agenda
  - Rachell motions to approve today's agenda. Nancy seconds the motion. All in favor.

## III. Announcements and Comments

- A. Statements Concerning Call to the Public
- B. Call to the Public

## IV. Reports:

- A. School Leadership Updates
  1. Finances
    - a. Monthly Reports:
  2. Facilities
  3. Enrollment- 199 enrollment- 189 ADM- slightly below budgeted amount.
  4. Staffing- need a few paraprofessionals but we are fully staffed besides that.
  5. Academic
- B. School Board Member Reports

IV. Consent agenda- all items on this agenda will be considered by a single motion with no discussion unless requested otherwise by a board member.

- Nancy motions to approve consent agenda, Rachell seconded, Gwen Lasslo abstained from voting based on item 4. All in favor.

1. Approval of Board Minutes for July 9, 2025
2. Consideration and possible action to approve the following new hires-

Name	Position	Date of Hire	Notes
------	----------	--------------	-------

Trudaisha Bitsoie	paraprofessional	7/22/2025	
Shania Whitehorse	paraprofessional	7/24/2025	
Marissa Begay	paraprofessional	7/21/2025	
Trulita Bitsoie	paraprofessional	TBD	Pending FCC

3. Consideration and possible action to approve the voluntary termination of the following-

Name	Position	Last day of work	Notes
Franchaska Yazzie	Paraprofessional	5/23/2025	resignation

4. Consideration, and possible action to approve continuation of or new contracts and/or Memorandum of Understanding for the following-

Name/ Organization	Purpose
Gwen Lasslo	Consultant for HR Services
Rae Kozlowski	OT Services
Lake Powell Groceries and Catering Services	Food Services
Domino's Pizza	Food Services

## VI. Business

1. Discussion, consideration and possible approval of candidates for board members for the 2025-2028 term - Susan Pilkington
  - a. Holly Phillips
  - b. Torie Redshirt- pending fingerprint clearance card
    - Gwen motioned to discuss, Nancy seconded, All in favor
    - Holly works with the Lechee Chapter house and has 3 children at GCOA. She will be replacing Rochelle Russell. She has a current fingerprint clearance card.
    - Torie has 4 children at GCOA, she has a degree in recreation and has been interested in connected with the school during the founding days. She has started the process of obtaining a fingerprint clearance card. Her approval is pending a valid FCC.
    - Both approvals are pending AZ State Board of Charter School Approval
    - Gwen motioned to approve both candidates for 25-28 term pending above mentioned, Erik seconded, all in favor.

2. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to elect all offices for governing board: - Susan Pilkington
  - Erik motioned to discuss, Nancy seconded, all in favor
  - The recommendations were made below
    - a. Rachell French- president
    - Erik motioned to approve Rachell as president, Nancy seconded, all in favor
    - b. Erik Stanfield- vice-president
    - Rachell motioned to approve Erik as VP, Nancy seconded, all in favor
    - c. Nancy Walker- secretary
    - Erik motioned to approve Nancy as secretary, Rachell seconded, all in favor
3. Discussion and consideration regarding a possible loan to pay off facilities debt and additional loan amount to add 2 buildings to the GCOA property- Susan Pilkington
  - Erik motioned to discuss, Rachell seconded, all in favor
  - Holly mentioned a potential grant opportunity with the Navajo Nation
  - Board discussion did not see any possible problems with looking into loan over continuing to lease.
4. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve the [Cell Phone Policy](#)- Susan Pilkington
  - Erik motioned to discuss, Rachell seconded, all in favor
  - Board suggested changes: prefer to not have phones turned off, wanted smartwatches added to list of items to be put away, add to parent handbook, have parent sign a contract
  - Erik motioned to table approval until next meeting to allow time to complete changes, Nancy seconded, all in favor
5. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve a \$25,000 donation from Lower Antelope Canyon- Dixie Ellis to support the GCOA lunch program for students in need- Nikki Jaborski
  - Erik motioned to discuss, Rachell seconded, all in favor
  - Nancy motioned to approve, Rachell seconded, all in favor
6. Discussion, consideration, and possible action to approve end terms for the following board members - Susan Pilkington
  - a. Rochelle Russell
  - b. Gwen Lasslo

- Erik motioned to discuss, Nancy seconded, all in favor
- Gwen abstained from voting
- Erik motioned to approve, Nancy seconded, all in favor

VII. Closing of Meeting - Erik motioned to adjourn at 1:55, Rachell seconded, all in favor

A. Next meeting - on September 3, 2025 at 5pm