

Georgia Cyber Academy (GCA)
Academic Oversight Committee Minutes
February 20, 2019 | 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Location: ROBBINS ROSS ALLOY BELINFANTE LITTLEFIELD LLC, 500
14th Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318
Conference Call: 1 (515) 739 – 1469, access code 675050 #

Academic Oversight Committee Chair: Juliann Serge McBrayer

Attendees: (phone) Kenneth Tennyson (Board Chair), (phone) Ben Brumfield, Juliann McBrayer (phone), Andrew Lewis, (phone)

Board Employees/Contractors: Angela Lassetter, (HOS) Michael Kooi (Executive Director), Alexa Ross (General Counsel)

Staff Attendees: Ahoba Arthur, (phone) Amina Ross, (phone) Michelda Watson, (phone) Maria Blencowe, Maria Waters, Julie Hawkins, Rosie Lowndes

Other: Julie Overholt (K12)

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS:

Motions- None

	REQUESTED BY	AGREED BY
Draft formal procedure & policy for university student research requests by March Committee meeting	Juliann McBrayer	Angela Lassetter
Discuss amended retention policy with commission before finalizing	Andrew Lewis	Michael Kooi

- I. Call to Order
- II. Update on Academic Performance Data – Angela Lassetter

- A. 4th & 7th grades concerning
 - B. MTS ramped up- Ahoba great support of those students
 - C. Weekly data updates
 - D. IA results in next months meeting
 - E. Everything else on trend
 - F. Diving into data to remediate
- III. Research projects and partnership with teacher preparation program – Michael Kooi
- A. Need expertise
 - B. People want to know what works and what doesn't, what is process, what does it look like, what can we do and want to do?
 - C. Juliann McBrayer - Need to make sure research projects are not being published
 - i. GA Southern University example- must agree that if something is found it won't be used against school
 - ii. All research projects must have formal request, written policy
 - D. Good to have partnership with universities
 - i. Staci Kimmons will oversee university partnerships
 - ii. Juliann McBrayer will assist with advice
 - iii. Ben Brumfield encouraged reaching out to GA Tech- extremely prolific outreach program, GA Tech is interested in cyber education
 - iv. Mike will follow-up with Ben
- IV. Retention Policy Discussion – Angela Lassetter
- A. Amended with help of legal counsel
 - B. Charter schools do not have to follow DOE standards
 - C. Changes made will better serve grades 3 – 8
 - D. Make a more stringent policy
 - E. Angela does not want to retain students under a certain grade level
 - F. Issue with students qualifying for HOPE scholarship
 - G. Please, discuss with commission before finalizing- requested by Andrew Lewis, agreed by Michael Kooi
 - H. Main goal is successful children
 - I. There will be unhappy parents due to children being held back but GCA must adhere to policy and have data to back up decisions
 - J. Will focus on teaching standards not just small groups according to grade but level

- i. Students not on grade level will be identified and placed in classes with like children

- V. Curriculum Discussion- Angela Lassetter
 - A. Calendar, staffing, testing
 - B. New curriculum proposal
 - i. K12 cost
 - ii. Poor Milestone results
 - iii. State Charter School Commission said we must align with GA standards
 - iv. Other major curriculums considered, most align with GA standards
 - v. Staci Kimmons in charge of finding new curriculum
 - vi. Previous K12 invoices show high cost- not to standard (\$30/student/course - \$70/student/course) \$415/K12
 - vii. Also pay for teachers to have materials
 - viii. GCA wants programs that offer more engagement and alignment with state standards
 - ix. Replacing K12 would save GCA \$18 million total, + \$500 student/
 - x. Could buy computers for \$200-\$300
 - xi. K12 seats nontransferable
 - C. Mike & Angela will meet February 28th- Board welcome to attend
 - i. Still under contract with K12
 - ii. Want to ensure GCA providing best quality service for students

- VI. Other items for consideration
 - A. None
 - I. Adjourn- Juliann McBrayer