



APPROVED MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Greater LA Education Foundation

Thursday, November 17, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Greater Los Angeles Education Foundation (GLA) was held on Thursday, November 17, 2022, via Zoom video conference.

Present: Gloria Rogers, Chris Steinhauser, David Sanford, Elizabeth Graswich,  
Debra Duardo, Monte Perez

Others Present: Kerry Franco, Kim Traynor, Daisy Esqueda, Kristina Romero, Sam Gelinas,  
Alex Halpern, Alexandra Roosa, Jessica Catalan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Monte Perez called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Candace acknowledged staff and additional guests.

**COMMUNICATIONS (PUBLIC COMMENTS)**

Kaivan Yuen, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services at Montebello Unified School District provided a written public comment:

I would like to thank the Greater LA Education Foundation for providing our district with grant writing services to help us apply for the Early Education Teacher Development Grant. With a focus on transitional kindergarten and servicing multilingual learners, our district was able to secure a little over \$1.8 million to help prepare for full Universal PreKindergarten implementation by increasing the number of highly qualified Transitional Kindergarten teachers and increasing multilingual competencies for TK teachers.

In addition, our grant writers will work with us to apply for the Classified School Employee Teacher Credentialing Program and the Teacher Residency Grant Program. We hope to bring you additional good news in the future.

Again, I would like to thank the Greater LA Education Foundation for providing us with the grant writing resource to enhance our services and programs for our community. We appreciate your support.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes for the meeting on August 17, 2022, Attachment A.



It was MOVED to approve the meeting minutes by Dr. Debra Duardo; SECONDED by Chris Steinhauser. All approved; none opposed.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Kerry Franco introduced Jessica Catalan as the newest member of the GLA team. Jessica was brought on as the Partnerships Specialist to provide critical support and essential leadership in building and managing relationships between LA County school districts and external organizations that can provide expanded learning opportunities for students.

Kerry acknowledged Matt Jaffke from LACOE's Grants Development Office and thanked him for his support.

Kerry shared her goal for the foundation to be recognized as the premiere philanthropic partner of LACOE and the school districts served throughout the county. She went on to share her plans for the organization:

- Define, Plan, and Implement Three Distinct Programs and Services:
  1. Current programming areas of focus
  2. Support for LACOE through scholarship, event sponsorship, and special projects
  3. Deepen relationships and services to provide to districts, especially those without extended philanthropic support.
- Strengthen Financial Management & Planning:
  1. Build sound financial management practices such as budget planning.
  2. Formalize a fiscal sponsorship program.
  3. Develop a grants management program.
  4. Engage in strategic fundraising.
- Support Organizational Development:
  1. Enhance the roles and responsibilities of GLA staff and the Board of Directors
  2. Cultivate marketing and communication.
  3. Increase outreach.

Dr. Perez commended Kerry for developing an infrastructure and actionable plans to get GLA to the outcomes it wants. He loves the idea of people understanding that GLA is not just an organization in support of LACOE but was also developed as an organization to support all 80 LA County districts.

### **PROGRAM UPDATE**

Kerry introduced Sam Gelinis to provide a program update. Sam shared that the LA Community Impact Hub will be selecting 6 priority locations for the initial expansion Teen Tech Centers, including the three community partners selected through first RFP, Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Weingart YMCA, and the Boys and Girls Club of the Antelope Valley. The next partners will be from Sylmar/Pacoima and Long Beach/Lynwood and will be chosen in the



first week of December. The final location will be Camp Kilpatrick with LACOE and Probation. Sam also shared that the grant agreements for the first three partners have been issued. GLA is currently working with the county CEO and their grants administration team to process funds from them going through the County Internal Services Division to LACOE. Go with that.

Dr. Duardo asked who is being invited to apply to host the teen tech centers – districts or nonprofits. She asked for clarification on the process. Sam shared that GLA started working with Best Buy in part to identify the communities that they wanted to prioritize for tech centers based on things like household income, household income, educational attainment, access to early childhood education, access to broadband Internet, etc. Using this information, we chose 5 priority areas to start with that we felt like were the highest need and so we reached out the school districts, county supervisors who reached out to the local city government to get recommendations on nonprofits that we felt like would be good hosts sites. The applicants through the process that they described are all independent CBOs. They're not school districts, and part of the thinking there is because we want the sites to be open to students and there are lots of restrictions around access per student safety reasons.

Sam went on to share that GLA Kicked off year two of the Los Angeles College Accelerator Network (LA-CAN) focused on implementation support and technical assistance to unlock available state funding for dual enrollment programs. GLA developed a brief to spark ideas for district leaders and educators as they seek to expand equitable access and success in dual enrollment programs. Currently, GLA is engaging a group of “Architects” to provide strategic guidance on developing a toolkit on strengthening and creating equitable dual enrollment programs and partnerships across the region.

Dr. Perez applauded the dual enrollment kick-off event and shared his excitement for the support the network is providing to local educational agencies to develop dual enrollment programs and apply for state funding.

Sam shared that GLA launched the 2023 Teachers of the Year Equitable Innovation Grant program to award \$75K in grants to LA County educators to support projects, programs, and services. Grantees will be selected and notified in February 2023. In 2022, GLA was able to sponsor 41 educator projects to reach over 21,000 LA County students across 22 different districts.

GLA is working with LACOE’s Multilingual Academic Support Unit and Education First to conduct research on the critical roles SEL and identity formation play in supporting multilingual students’ learning, growth, and development. GLA and Ed First are currently conducting interviews with educational partners and field experts and focus groups with Multilingual



students (long-term English Learners and new arrivals) and Educators that support ML students at school.

In September, GLA was a proud sponsor of the 2022-23 Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year Awards banquet, alongside CCU, Annenberg Learner, Pacific Oaks College, the LA84 Foundation, Arizona State University, Rams, and Chargers. In October, GLA was thrilled to join and sponsor the 2022 Superintendents' Professional Collaborative at the J. Paul Getty Museum. In early November, GLA worked alongside the Century Foundation's Bridges Collaborative, LAUSD, and other regional partners to plan an in-person conference focused on racial, ethnic, and economic segregation and inclusion challenges facing LA County today.

Sam and Kerry provided a fundraising and development update and shared that GLA was awarded a grant from the Sobrato Family Foundation for regional research on Multilingual learners and additional funding from the California Credit Union for the LACOE Signature Fund. GLA submitted proposals to Pritzker Family Foundation, Wallace Foundation, and the Chuck Lorre Foundation.

Kerry shared that GLA will be participating in Giving Tuesday, which is a day after Thanksgiving.

## **BOARD DEVELOPMENT**

### **BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION**

Dr. Perez shared that in October, Candace Bond McKeever submitted her resignation as a member of the board and Chair-elect. Candace was nominated by US President Joe Biden to serve as American Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago. She was officially sworn in this past Monday, November 14th, by Vice President Harris at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House complex in Washington D.C. Candace joined the Foundation's Board of Directors in 2020 and was set to serve as Board Chair in 2023. We are extremely grateful for Candace's positive impact on our programs and initiatives and the leadership she has provided during the organization's foundational years.

### **LEADERSHIP AND ALIGNMENT**

Dr. Perez moved on to the next item on the agenda, Leadership and Alignment. He shared that GLA staff will be working on enhancing the roles and responsibilities of our leadership, which will include this board. With Candace's departure the board will seek a nomination for GLA's next Board Chair. The board wants to align this transition with the development of board activities. Over the next few months, GLA staff will support the Board of Directors in a complete review of our Foundation Bylaws governance and engagement aimed at strengthening and improving our organization. For the board's reference, a copy of the Foundation Bylaws has been included in the agenda as Attachment C.



## **FINANCE**

Dr. Perez invited Board Treasurer, Gloria Rogers, to provide a finance update.

### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION NOTES:**

Gloria presented the Statement of Financial Position, Attachment D, and shared that the total assets decreased by \$4.4k in Q1. GLA received \$200k from College Futures Foundation and \$100k from Joseph Drown Foundation. These receipts were offset by spending for the LA College Accelerator and Educators of Color program areas. Gloria shared that liabilities decreased by \$64k, which is caused by a decrease in Accounts Payable in Q1, and that net income for Q1 was \$60.3k.

### **BUDGET VS ACTUALS**

Gloria presented the Budget vs. Actuals, Attachment E, and shared that revenue is tracking just slightly under budget for Q1. This is primarily due to timing; revenue is on track and is expected to come in on budget. She also shared that expenses finished Q1 with a favorable budget variance of \$255k. This variance can be attributed to 1) Professional Services: Community Schools reimbursement timing is running slightly behind schedule but will catch up in Q2; and 2) CBO grant disbursements are imminent and will occur in Q2.

### **PROJECTED CASH FLOW**

Gloria presented Attachment F, Projected Cash Flow, and shared that GLA received some large grants at the end of FY22 that will be spent down in FY23. Of the \$4.52M beginning cash balance, \$3.3M are restricted for purpose. She also shared that GLA anticipates a cash spend-down of \$944k in FY23. This spend-down has been adjusted for timing; this includes an ARPA reimbursement that may not be received until FY24. Since this is the first time that GLA has had the opportunity to participate in such a program, the timing estimate on reimbursement has been planned conservatively. Since GLA has such a large cash reserve, this should not pose any issues. Lastly, Gloria shared a projected ending cash balance of \$3.57M.

### **FY23 BUDGET**

Gloria shared that GLA is beginning FY23 with a significant balance of \$4.52M, of which \$3.3M are restricted. The FY23 budget plans a spend-down of various grant funds received in FY22, specifically \$1M received from the Best Buy Foundation and \$1M from Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund (Ballmer Foundation).

Total projected revenue is \$2.3M, with a new \$1M grant expected from Ballmer, approximately \$450k in ARPA funds and a few general operating support grants. Total projected expenditures for FY23 are \$2.8M. The most significant area of expenditure is approximately \$1M in grant disbursements, primarily to community-based organizations. Other expenditures include \$450k for Community Schools positions, \$200k in educational consultants, and \$100k in event sponsorships. GLA has also planned and hired one additional



staff position in Q2. GLA has purchased and will be implementing a CRM system in FY23 to better support GLA's FY23 planned fundraising efforts.

The net spend-down of restricted net assets in FY23 is projected to be \$491k. This is the first time GLA submitted a budget for approval. In keeping with the organization's continued commitment to professionalizing and building out operational infrastructure, Gloria asked for the formal approval of the FY23 budget.

Dr. Perez asked for a motion to approve the FY23 budget. David Sanford moved. Dr. Duardo seconded. All in favor; none opposed.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS

Dr. Perez followed with a request to approve the Acceptance of Funds for the period of July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022. It was MOVED to approve the Acceptance of Funds by Dr. Debra Duardo; SECONDED by David Sanford. All in favor; none opposed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

##### LACOE UPDATE

Dr. Duardo provided an update on LACOE initiatives and shared the following:

- After three years since the start of the pandemic, LACOE is still supporting districts with PPE, vaccinations, and town halls.
- LACOE is currently responding to the fentanyl crisis by working closely with the Department of Public Health on training, town halls, and informing and ensuring that all districts have access to Narcan to make sure that we can save lives of children. LACOE is doing a lot of work with superintendents, school administrators, counselors, and school nurses.
- LACOE is still working closely on closing the digital divide and really pushing that internet access is free and widely available to low-income children throughout LA County to be used for schoolwork and to supplement Telehealth.
- The state has invested \$4.1 billion dollars to expand Community Schools. In response to the huge crisis in mental health, LACOE has been awarded the grant to provide technical support for the region. LACOE is working with all districts to try to get as many districts as possible access to the Community Schools program.
- LACOE is working on expanding its data, improving its communication, and trying to address the shortage of teachers.

Dr. Duardo also emphasized the importance of having the President of the foundation sit on LACOE's cabinet, which allows Kerry to be a part of the strategic plan to ensure alignment, integration, and collaboration.

#### BOARD MEMBER UPDATES



Chris Steinhauser shared that the budgets are shrinking and there is a great need for support for folks on how to forecast and how to budget. He encourages the county and/or the foundation to think forward about that to provide support. Chris also highlighted the issue of mathematics because we can go backwards with the loss of mathematics statewide and nationally. He shared that, as a trustee of the university system, he is really concerned with our young people struggling with math they are not going to be able to be compliant.

### **BOARD MEETING CALENDAR**

Dr. Perez shared that the Board would reconvene on February 15 at 1:00 PM. and the Executive Committee meeting will be on Monday, January 30 at 1:00 PM.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was MOVED to adjourn at 2:52 PM by Gloria Rogers; SECONDED by Chris Steinhauser. All in favor; none opposed.