

GREAT NECK TEACHER CENTER
349 LAKEVILLE ROAD
GREAT NECK, NEW YORK 11020

ELENA C.T. GIANNONE
DIRECTOR

MARIA GIANNPOULOS HARTOFILIS
POLICY BOARD CHAIRPERSON

GREAT NECK TEACHER CENTER POLICY BOARD
MINUTES FROM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023
4:00 PM, GREAT NECK TEACHER CENTER
GREAT NECK SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL, ROOM 218

Policy Board Members (20): Samantha Bindrim, Leslie Blank, Loren Borgese, Leslie Chou, Nathan Cohn, Ron Gimondo, Maria Giannopolis Hartofilis (Chairperson), Dr. Stephen Lando, Susanne Marcus, Norine Nagle, Doug Okin, Arielle Panzarino, Heather Peretz, Adina Raso, Jesse Sabino, Ellen Siegel, Rosemary Sloggett, Manoj Thadhani, Angela Valli, and Sandi Yarow

Teachers Present at This Meeting (7): Leslie Blank, Nathan Cohn, Maria Giannopolis Hartofilis, Adina Raso, Ellen Siegel, Angela Valli and Sandi Yarow

Other Members Present (5): Leslie Chou, Ron Gimondo, Dr. Stephen Lando, Susanne Marcus, and Doug Okin

Quorum present: Yes (12/20 present, 7 teachers)

Others Present (non-voting): Elena C.T. Giannone (Director)

This meeting was held in person at the Great Neck Teacher Center and was called to order at 4:05pm.

- **Approval of the Minutes from May 30, 2023**
After board review, Leslie Blank moved to approve the minutes; Douglas Okin seconded. A vote was taken: 12 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain. The May 30th Minutes are unanimously approved.
- **Adoption of the Agenda**
Stephen Lando moved to adopt the agenda; Susanne Marcus seconded. A vote was taken: 12 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain. The Agenda is unanimously adopted.
- **Open Meeting Law Training & Media Notice**
 - Elena Giannone led the Policy Board through the principles of the Open Meeting Law. As stewards of public funds, it is a fiduciary responsibility of Teacher Centers to hold open meetings. This gives members of the public an opportunity to hear, appreciate, and give input on decisions made regarding the expenditures of public funds, in our case our grant from the New York State Education Department.
 - A Media Notice with meeting dates was sent to the Great Neck Record and Great Neck News for publication in the local papers. It will also be sent to Great Neck Public Schools Public Relations for dissemination and addition to the district calendar.
- **Director's Report**
 1. *Welcome Leslie Chou! Support Staff*

- We welcome Leslie Chou back to the Policy Board in a new capacity as support staff due to the departure of Joanne Dominguez. Leslie previously served on the policy board during her teaching tenure at Parkville School.
2. *2023-2024 Policy Board Meeting Dates*
 - The Policy Board will hold meetings on January 23, April 16, and May 28, 2024. Please make every effort to attend all meetings so quorum can be reached.
 3. *New York State Grant Approval Status*
 - The Teacher Center grant for 2023 - 2024 was officially approved by NYSED.
 4. *Mentor Trainings & Mentor List Update*
 - The Fall Mentor Training course was held on September 30th. Mentors were selected and orientation will be in October. The district mentor list was updated with these newly trained teachers, and the link has been shared with each school building. Another mentor training course will be offered in the spring (May 28 and June 4, 2024) for teachers to be eligible to mentor next year.
 5. *Fall Courses & Calendar*
 - The ENL course “Engaging ELLs in the Content Classroom, K-12” was well attended, especially because many teachers want to fulfill their CTLE requirements. We will look into running this course again in the spring as it was “sold out” this fall.
 - “Restorative Practices in the Classroom” was also very popular. Elena will ask the instructor to facilitate the course in the spring again.
 6. **Vote: FS-10A Budget Amendment #1**
 - Elena presented the FS-10A Budget Amendment. This amendment has become necessary to move funds from Code 16- Support Staff due to the change in support staff hourly rates with the hiring of Leslie Chou. We will move these funds into Code 15- Professional Salaries to be able to offer more CTLE-granting workshops to Great Neck Staff. Additionally, the change in indirect cost rate for 2023-2024 from the anticipated 2.8% to 2.7% has caused an excess of \$61 in Code 90- Indirect Cost. This \$61 will be moved to our Code 45-Supplies to purchase additional books being used as texts for upcoming courses.
 - A motion was made to approve the FS-10A. Ellen Siegel moved to approve and Doug Okin seconded the motion. A vote was taken on the FS-10A: 12 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain. The Policy Board unanimously approved this FS-10A.

The meeting adjourned at 4:34pm.

Next Policy Board Meeting: January 23, 2024

Respectfully submitted by,

Leslie Chou
Teacher Center Support Staff