

**Oglethorpe Charter School  
Governing Board Meeting  
Agenda  
April 22, 2019**

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Open Session</b>                           | <b>5:00 p.m.</b>   |
| <b>1. Welcome</b>                             | <b>Lisa Grooms</b> |
| <b>2. Approve Agenda</b>                      |                    |
| <b>3. Approval of March Meeting Minutes</b>   |                    |
| <b>4. Financial Report</b>                    | <b>Henry Perry</b> |
| <b>5. Presidents Report</b>                   | <b>Lisa Grooms</b> |
| <b>6. Administrators Report</b>               | <b>Kevin Wall</b>  |
| <b>7. Nomination Committee Report</b>         | <b>Jon Cohen</b>   |
| • <b>Results of Parent Rep ballot</b>         |                    |
| • <b>Community Rep Ballot</b>                 |                    |
| • <b>Officer Nominations</b>                  |                    |
| • <b>Personnel Resignation &amp; New Hire</b> |                    |

# OGLETHORPE CHARTER SCHOOL

## Governing Board Meeting

March 25, 2019

**Board Members Present:** Lisa Reavis, Henry Perry, Jon Cohen, Tracy Kennedy, Felix Hamza-Lup, Katie Balthrop, Emad Afifi

**Board Members Absent:** Patrick Dean, Kathleen Fabrikant, Chris Hintz, Terri Keldie

**Principal Present:** Kevin Wall

**Others Present:** None

**Open Session:** Called to order at 5:04 pm by Lisa Grooms.

**Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda: Katie Balthrop

Motion to second: Jon Cohen

Motion was unanimously passed

**Approval of February meeting minutes:**

Motion to approve: Emad Afifi

Motion to second: Katie Balthrop

Motion was unanimously passed

**Financial Report:** The monthly financial report through January, 2018 was presented by Henry Perry.

**President's Report:** Lisa Grooms has changed her name to Lisa Reavis, and will be referred to as Lisa Reavis in all board business.

**Principal's Report:** (See attached memo to Board taken from Principal notes.)

Congratulations Karla Miranda and Emmanuel Kennerly for being selected to represent OCS as the March students of the month.

Mr. Wall requested Board approval for the purchase of a 16 unit laptop cart for use in the art classes for a total cost of \$13,207.60.

Motion to approve purchase: Henry Perry

Motion to second: Jon Cohen

Motion was unanimously passed

**Committee Reports**

**Governance and Accountability:** Chair, Patrick Dean with members Jon Cohen, Henry Perry, Tavares Brown, Dr. Kolman, Carli Shehane, and Mark Case.

Jon Cohen presented the resignation of Terri Keldie from the OCS Governing Board to accept a position with OCS to perform counselor clerk duties to replace retired Donna Baxter.

Motion to accept resignation and new hire: Henry Perry

Motion to second: Tracy Kennedy

**Nomination Committee:** Chair, Jon Cohen with members Henry Perry and Kathleen Fabrikant. None.

Jon Cohen presented the bio of Matt Dowling for a community member to replace the community member position previously held by Terri Keldie. It was made clear Mr. Dowling will finish the existing term for this school year left vacant by Mrs. Keldie. Mr. Dowling will be available to run for election for the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion to approve: Henry Perry

Motion to second: Katie Balthrop

**Academic Committee:** Chair, Kathleen Fabrikant with members Chris Hintz, Patrick Dean, Kevin Wall, Tavares Brown, Monica Roland, and Kerry Crain - none.

**Other Business:** None.

**Parent, Guest, Teacher, and Staff Comments:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm. The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held April 22, 2019 at 5pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cathy Vogel  
Oglethorpe Charter School

To: OCS Governing Board  
From: Kevin Wall  
Date: March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**NJHS Community Service:** Members of Oglethorpe's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society spent time last week preparing meals for families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Students, with help from faculty members and parent volunteers, planned and executed Fajita Friday on February 8<sup>th</sup> and a baked potato bar on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Ronald McDonald House Charities© of the Coastal Empire is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that provides a home away from home for children and their families while receiving medical treatment at Savannah area hospitals. Special thanks to the following individuals for volunteering their time to support this NJHS community service project and the efforts of the Ronald McDonald House:

| <b>NJHS Members</b>  | <b>Faculty</b>          | <b>Volunteers</b>           |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Isabella Castellanos | Raven Davis             | Jillian Layser              |
| Emmanuel Kennerly    | Gwen Robbins            | Vincent Nguyen (OCS Alumni) |
| Sheila Nguyen        | Monica Roland (Adviser) | Brandy Rowland (Parent)     |
| Kelsi Nicholson      |                         | Carson Rowland (OCS Alumni) |
| Ansley Rowland       |                         | Greg Rowland (Parent)       |
| Ella Zipperer        |                         |                             |

**Titan Chorus:** The Singing Titans performed at the Yamacraw Performing Arts Center as part of the Savannah Sings 2019 on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. As students walked on stage the following was read about our students:

Oglethorpe Charter School prides itself on being the first start-up charter school in the state of Georgia. Founded in 1999, the school has received numerous academic and performance achievements. Students involved with the OCS Singing Titans continually perform in many community engagements inspiring people of all ages. Under the direction of Mrs. Brittany Woods, the Singing Titans have consistently received superior ratings in performance at the GMEA District 1 LGPE and also perform at other GMEA sanctioned events. Many of these student performers are active in Titan sports, band, theatre arts, BETA club, FBLA, National Junior Honor Society, and TRI-M Music Honor Society. Oglethorpe Charter School continues to partner with parents and the community to inspire students to achieve personal and academic excellence. At the conclusion of the event, Mrs. Woods stated that OCS received many compliments from parents, other choir directors, and Francisco Nunez who was the invited clinician.  
**Great Job Singing Titans!**

**AR Update:** The AR Point Club list on the AR Wall of Fame has been updated to reflect AR totals through mid-term of the 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 week marking period.

**500 Club:** Vendredi Godfrey with 511 points

|                        |               |                |                   |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>250-point club:</b> | Andrew Chiver | Kylan Daniels  | Kenzie Kurdys     |
|                        | Sheila Nguyen | Ryland Summers | Hayden Washington |

OCS now has 20 students in the 100-point club, 111 students in the 50-point club and 189 students in the 25-point club. OCS students have now read 163,960,837 words through AR! Students that meet their 9-week AR goal will receive a FREE DRESS DOWN PASS for Tuesday, March 12th. Congratulations and keep up the great job Reading!!

**Congratulations Emmanuel Kennerly:** Emmanuel has been selected to represent the 8<sup>th</sup> grade traditional team as the March Student of the Month. Emmanuel is taking 3 high school classes as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader (9<sup>th</sup> Math, 9<sup>th</sup> Comp Lit, and 9<sup>th</sup> Physical Science). Emmanuel serves as the secretary for the BETA Club, and he is also a member of the National Junior Honor Society. Emmanuel has given back to the community by helping feed families at the Ronald McDonald House and by also working the Rock N Roll Marathon. Emmanuel hopes to use his visual art skills to audition for Savannah Arts Academy. He would like to attend the University of Georgia and major in architecture. Emmanuel is inspired by his older sister Dominique because of her work ethic and being able to get a good job right out of college. Emmanuel had 2 older sisters that also attended Oglethorpe. We will greatly miss the Kennerly family after this year. **Great Kid!**

**Congratulation Karla Miranda:** Karla has been selected to represent the 8<sup>th</sup> grade looping team as the March Student of the Month. Karla is taking 3 high school classes as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader (9<sup>th</sup> Math, 9<sup>th</sup> Comp Lit, and 9<sup>th</sup> Physical Science). Karla is a straight A student, and she has one of the highest grade point averages in Oglethorpe. Karla is the Vice president of the BETA Club, and she participates in orchestra and volleyball. Karla has given back to the community by working the Rock N Roll Marathon. Karla hopes to be able to attend Woodville Tompkins High School and focus on something in the medical field. She would like to attend Emory University and major in a medical related field. Karla is inspired by her older brother because he is able to play sports and still make good grades. Karla had 2 older brothers that also attended Oglethorpe. We will greatly miss the Miranda family after this year. **Great Kid!**

**Summer Camp Dates:** Oglethorpe Charter School will once again partner with Savannah State and the Flying Classroom to offer the following summer camps:

- June 3<sup>rd</sup> – June 7<sup>th</sup> Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders Camp (OCS students only)
- June 10<sup>th</sup> – June 14<sup>th</sup> Rising 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Camp
- June 17<sup>th</sup> – June 21<sup>st</sup> Rising 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Camp
- Summer Camp Registration Window: March 25<sup>th</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup> (Online)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation: March 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 (OCS)
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation: May 1<sup>st</sup> @ 6:00 (OCS)

The rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp for new OCS students is focused on getting our students acclimated to middle school. All of the summer camps including the rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders camp will also have a STEM academic focus. Tavares Brown (OCS Director of Instruction) and Patrick Dean (Savannah State STEM 360) are the point people for all of our summer camps.

**Basketball Update:** The OCS girls basketball team completed the regular season undefeated advancing to the first round of the playoffs. The OCS boy's basketball team will also advance to the playoffs after a very successful winning season. The quarter final games will be hosted at Oglethorpe on February 25<sup>th</sup> (girls) and February 26<sup>th</sup> (boys). The semifinals are slated for February 27<sup>th</sup> (girls) and February 28<sup>th</sup> (boys) with the championship game slated for March 5<sup>th</sup>. **Great job players and Coaches!**

**Looping African American History Event Rescheduled:** This event will now be taking place on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Congratulations OCS Orchestra:** The following OCS 8<sup>th</sup> grade orchestra students scored Superior ratings in musical reading and playing at the annual Large Group Performance Evaluation (LGPE) held at Garrison K-8 on Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>:

|                   |                  |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Azaria Brown      | Kalia Davia      | Nubia Gilliard  |
| Elizabeth Hondrix | David Jackson    | Courtney Kortes |
| Savannah Martin   | Hannah Middleton | Karla Miranda   |
| Sheila Nguyen     | Hailee Nix       | Jada Polite     |
| Jonathan Santana  | Karmelo Smith    | Taliyah Thomas  |
| Mariah Wall       | Jade Brathwaite  | Kentavius Brown |
| Donovan Coles     | Cameron Davis    | Taylor Dawsey   |
| Magnolia Poeling  | Paris Worthen    |                 |

Luis Branch started the OCS orchestra as an after school program with two students four years ago. The program grew so fast and big that we made it a part time related arts program. Mr. Branch taught both Spanish and Orchestra as a related arts class for 3 years. Mr. Branch is now teaching orchestra only as a related arts class. 51 students at OCS are now involved with the Orchestra program. **Great Job Mr. Branch!**

**Car Pool Reminders:** Oglethorpe Charter School requires a yellow card stock sign to be placed on the dash board of all cars picking students up during car pool after school. For safety reasons, we ask that cars without passes park in our parking lot and report to the office to show identification and retrieve a new card if the card has been lost or misplaced.

**Black History Month:** On Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, Oglethorpe Charter School celebrated Black History Month with a school wide assembly and some incredibly good food that was prepared by the faculty and staff. As a culminating activity in celebration of Black History Month, the looping 8<sup>th</sup> grade team and students will be presenting their Significant Figures in African American History Wax Museum tomorrow night from 5:30 – 7:00. Please try to make every effort to attend this event. It is the largest event that we hold at Oglethorpe with all 150 looping students and teachers participating.

**Governing Board Members Needed:** The nomination and election process for serving on the Governing Board takes place during the month of March. If you are interested in serving on the Oglethorpe Charter School Governing Board, please send a very short Bio (something about yourself). This Bio does not need to be over 5 -8 sentences. You simply need to state who you are, where you work, and just very general information. Note – We have had parent reps in the past that are stay at home moms and stay at home dads. Once we receive your Bio, we create a ballot that goes home in the weekly Wednesday hand out that goes home with your child. We give all OCS parents a few weeks to cast their votes and then we count the votes at the April Governing Board Meeting. Please send your Bio information to Kevin Wall at [kevin.wall@sccpss.com](mailto:kevin.wall@sccpss.com)

**Family Engagement Event.** The SCCPSS annual family engagement day event will be taking place on Saturday, April 13 at Daffin Park. The theme for the event this year is Books, Blankets and Family Fun. There will be lots to do for the entire family (games/activities, super heroes, story book mascots, entertainment, face painting and more). Food trucks will also be on site along with baked treats from various vendors. The school with the highest number of registered participants will receive 10 chromebooks. The school with the second highest number of participants will receive a poster maker. The school with the third highest participants will receive a 60 inch TV monitor. We are encouraging all of our OCS families to make every effort to attend this event.

**OCS Basketball Winning Season:** On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, we would like to thank both of our basketball teams and coaches for an exciting season. Both teams won their respective division to allow OCS to host the first round of the playoffs. Both teams won the first round of the quarter final playoffs and advanced to the semifinal round of competition with the boys team losing a nail biter to Southwest Middle School while the girls won a nail biter against Charles Ellis to advance to the finals. The girls came up short in the championship game but had an excellent season winning all of their games but the last final one. The OCS cheerleaders at OCS really stood out at every basketball venue and helped promote the high intensity play of the players on the court. **Great Season Players and Coaches!**

**GMAS Readiness:** The Georgia Department of Education provides the following parent resources at the following link: <http://www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/Assessment/Pages/Georgia-Milestones-Assessment-System.aspx>

**Parent Resources**

- Georgia Milestones EOG Study/Resource Guides
- Parent's Guide to EOG Student Report
- Georgia Milestones EOC Study/Resource Guides
- Parents' Guide to EOC Student Report
- Georgia Milestones Parent Q&A Brochure
- Lexile Framework for Reading

Understanding the Milestones Achievement Levels

Kevin Wall

[Kevin.Wall@savannah.chatham.k12.ga.us](mailto:Kevin.Wall@savannah.chatham.k12.ga.us)

To: OCS Governing Board  
From: Kevin Wall  
Date: April 24, 2019

**Happy Retirement:** Donna Baxter will be greatly missed by the entire Oglethorpe School family. Donna is one of our last original staff members that helped start Oglethorpe Charter School in 1999. Her original job title was Super Sub, but she basically do any job in the building. Donna could take over any classroom at Oglethorpe when one of our teachers was out and run the classroom with a high degree of quality and efficiency. Donna worked at Oglethorpe for 19 years and received many accolades over the years. She was nominated several times over the years by the faculty and staff to represent Oglethorpe Charter School as the instructional support person of the year. Donna was a mother and grandmother figure to many OCS students over the years. She wanted to keep her retirement quiet and spent her last day working at Oglethorpe on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Donna's main goal in retirement is to spend as much time as possible with her grandchildren and family. It is very easy for me to say the following: **Job Well Done Donna Baxter!**

**OCS Baseball:** The following student athletes will be representing Oglethorpe Charter School this year in baseball:

|                       |                      |                       |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Carson Kurdys</b>  | <b>Shane Dyal</b>    | <b>Jeremy Thomas</b>  |
| <b>Jeremiah Brown</b> | <b>Grant Dean</b>    | <b>Brannon Jacobs</b> |
| <b>Micah Futch</b>    | <b>Michael Tuck</b>  | <b>Jordon Scott</b>   |
| <b>Jeremiah James</b> | <b>Jamori Taylor</b> |                       |
| <b>Kylan Daniels</b>  |                      |                       |

Ron Morgan, Chris Jones and Matt Finley will be coaching the OCS Baseball Team this year. **Good Luck Players and Coaches!**

**OCS Girls Soccer:** The following student athletes will be representing Oglethorpe Charter School in soccer:

|                       |                  |                   |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Alauna Nevels         | Aniya Roberts    | Catherine Costner |
| Chelsea Smalls        | Denise Ruiz-Vega | Eva Aguilar       |
| Karla Miranda         | Zekira Hall      | Lauren Whiteford  |
| Madeline Mogel-Larios | Mariana Puc      | Mylea Ellison     |
| Nooran Hunter         | Olivia Zuken     | Paris Washington  |
| Stella Snyder         |                  |                   |



**OCS Boys Soccer:** The following student athletes will be representing Oglethorpe Charter School in soccer:

|                 |                   |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Michael Becton  | Jack Candline     | Cesar Castro     |
| Chris Cruz      | Xion Dean         | Nelson Diaz      |
| Gael Diaz       | Jack Dorminey     | Caleb Fyall      |
| Graig Janhrette | Emmanuel Konnorly | Moses Malwal     |
| Liam McDaniel   | Lyle Paquette     | Jonathan Santana |
| Ashor Sigmon    | Jackson Smith     | Ryland Summers   |
| Theron White    | Ben Wright        | Damien Wright    |

Rebecca Greenbush and Chardae Clayton will be coaching the girls team this year, and Jay Shehane will be coaching the boys team. **Good Luck Players and Coaches!**

**Congratulations Kelsi Nicholson:** Kelsi has been selected to represent the 8<sup>th</sup> grade traditional team as the April Student of the Month. Kelsi is one of the highest performing students academically at Oglethorpe Charter School. She is taking 3 high school classes as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader (9<sup>th</sup> Science, 9<sup>th</sup> Math and 9<sup>th</sup> Comp Lit). Kelsi is involved in school leadership serving as the President of Student Council, and she is also a member of the BETA Club and National Junior honor Society. Kelsi used her theatre skill set to audition for Savannah Arts Academy this year and recently learned that she has been accepted. Kelsi would like to attend Harvard and double major in political science and law. Kelsi likes to read, play the guitar and write during her free time. She is inspired by her chorus teacher (Mrs. Woods), because Mrs. Woods is always happy and has been a big supporter of Kelsi while at Oglethorpe. **Great Kid!**

**Congratulations William Mitchell:** William has been selected to represent the looping 8<sup>th</sup> grade team as the April Student of the Month. William is taking 3 high school classes as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader (9<sup>th</sup> Science, 9<sup>th</sup> Math and 9<sup>th</sup> Comp Lit). William is a member of the BETA Club and has given back to the community with his community service helping with the annual canned food drive. William made application to Woodville Tompkins High School and was recently accepted. William plans on following the aviation pathway at Woodville and hopes to attend Georgia Tech and major in aerospace engineering. During his free time, William enjoys listening to hip hop and jazz music. William is inspired by his mother because of her work ethic with Gulf Stream. He is also inspired by his brother for his accolades in the United States Air Force. William is humble student that leads by example. **Great Kid!**

**STEM 360 Summer Camp 2019:** The Savannah State University STEM 360 Summer Enrichment Camp is a phenomenal annual camp that keeps getting better and better every year. This annual camp was put in place to give students an alternative summer experience through STEM enrichment. Students will participate in sessions that enhance their knowledge and appreciation for STEM subjects. The activities that are offered during camp also support the SECME and First LEGO League competitions that STEM 360 activity hosts every year. If you would like for your child to be a part of this

thrilling experience, please plan on attending the mandatory Summer enrichment orientation at Oglethorpe Charter School on Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm. All participants must attend and complete the orientation session. **You must register your child for camp prior to April 24<sup>th</sup>. The registration link is on the OCS website under the student life drop down menu.**

**Happy Retirement:** At the conclusion of this school year, we will be saying goodbye to a great friend. Mrs. Gardner turned everything into a master piece of fine art that she was associated with at Oglethorpe Charter School. When you drive up on the OCS campus, you see 3 large orange planters. Those particular planters were being thrown away by the Oglethorpe Mall. They were faded pink and looked hideous. Mrs. Gardner was able to convince her husband to go to the mall so that she could get her hands on the planters and display them at OCS. When you drop off your child or pick your child up in car pool, you see these planters every day. Mrs. Gardner made the main hallway look like an art gallery, and she displayed some of the coolest art pieces created by our OCS students in the display cases in the main hallway. If a student truly wanted to get into Savannah Arts, Mrs. Gardner was able to guide them in the right direction with their art portfolio for the auditioning requirement to get into Savannah Arts Academy. Mrs. Gardner helped the entire school. She continuously provided support to the theatre department helping with the stage sets on many of the plays. Mrs. Gardner was also in charge of the year book at Oglethorpe, and she attended every event hosted by Oglethorpe with camera in hand. Mrs. Gardner worked Hard every day and treated every student with dignity and respect. She had a winning attitude and a positive demeanor at all times. There are people that retire on the job well before their retirement date. That has not been the case with Katherine Gardner. During her last year of service this year, Mrs. Gardner never took days off. The quality of the student work that was displayed during her last year was better than all previous years. Mrs. Gardner did everything the right way every day. Mrs. Gardner plans on spending time with her husband and doing those bucket list things that both of them planned on doing in retirement. On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I want to say Thank you for being an amazing example for me and our school. Your dedication and hard work has been really inspiring! We will never forget you for that! Enjoy your retirement! Job well done Katherine Gardner!

**SECME Competition:** The OCS Tech team had two first place finishes at the SECME competition held at Savannah State University on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Titan Tech students earned a first place in the Mouse Trap Car competition and the Vex Robot competition. **Great job Titan Tech students and Mrs. Luciano!**

SECME's goal is to increase the pool of students and prepare them to enter and complete post-secondary studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), thus creating a diverse and globally competitive workforce.

**Peachjar:** The Savannah Chatham County School System has placed the Peach Jar Application (App) on the OCS website. What is Peach Jar?

# **Peachjar unites schools, parents and communities in their joint mission to elevate student outcomes and increase parent engagement.**

The cloud-based communication platform streamlines school-to-home communication by distributing vital school updates and community resources directly to parents as digital flyers. On average, each school saves 740 hours in labor and 84,000 sheets of paper annually. More than 14,000 schools in 600 school districts, 20,000 community organizations and 10 million parents in 40 states rely on Peachjar to deliver life-changing resources critical to student achievement and social-emotional health.

Note: If you open up the home page on the OCS web site, simply click on the Peachjar app and you will see the flyers that have been posted.

Kevin Wall  
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