

**Gettysburg Montessori Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday - February 26, 2026**

Board Members Present

Rose Thornberry, President
Traci Elligson, Vice President
Jeffrey Sours, Secretary
Amy Brown, Treasure
Greg Colosimo, Member at Large

Others Present

Faye Pleso, CEO/Principal
Tammy Hogan, Assistant Principal

Call meeting to order

Meeting called to order by Rose Thornberry at 6:30 pm

Introduction of Members and Guests

N/A

Public Comment on Agenda Items

N/A

Old Business

Website - finance committee minutes are included into the regular board minutes
AI policy - research continuing on what is needed in this policy

Administrator's Report

Enrollment:

August 274,
September 274,
October 274,
November 276,
December 273,
January 270

February Enrollment

K - 50
1st - 42
2nd - 48
3rd - 33
4th - 42

5th - 36

6th - 20

Total Enrollment - 271

-Personnel Report: Vote to approve:

Riley Gross: Long-Term Sub RTI Full-Time \$25 an hour

Jessica Houtz: Teacher Assistant for Behavior Intervention Room \$17 an hour, under 30 hours a week.

Motion to accept - Rose Thornberry

2nd - Traci Elligson

Jeffrey Sours - In favor

Amy Brown - In favor

Greg Colosimo - In favor

-Construction Update

From Jay Appleton - Owners representative

Construction started last Monday - Feb. 16. Currently work is ahead of schedule. By March 2 the foundation wall and concrete slab will be started. Completion date is expected to be April 23.

-Safety Training and Tabletop Exercise

On February 16, 2026, Gettysburg Montessori Charter School conducted a comprehensive school safety training and tabletop exercise in collaboration with multiple agencies. A significant portion of the afternoon was dedicated to a full reunification tabletop exercise based on a simulated emergency scenario. Staff were assigned real-time responsibilities within the scenario, allowing staff to practice coordinated response, decision-making, communication flow, and student release procedures. The school's continued focus remains on prevention, preparedness, and clear communication to ensure the safety of every student and staff member.

-Comprehensive Plan

The 2026-2029 Comprehensive Plan has been completed.

The plan will be posted for 28 days and will be brought to the approval of the board at the next board meeting.

-School Updates

Past Events

-Open House - 2/16 - 34 Families attended

-National School Choice Week - 1/26 to 1/30

-2/3 - 100 days of school

-GMCS Valentine's Grams Fundraiser - \$455.00

-Fundraisers to date - \$11,232.00

Upcoming Events

- Open House March 5, 2026 - open enrollment
- Career Day - Please help us spread the word on 3/20
- Book Blast and Read Across America
- Upcoming Fundraisers - Yearbook, Hershey Park, Gertrude Hawk, Bookfair. -Re-enrollment is open

Consent Agenda ACTION

- Motion to accept - Rose Thornberry
- Second -Traci Elligson
- Jeffrey Sours - In favor
- Amy Brown - In favor
- Greg Colosimo - In favor

Chair's Report-Rose Thornberry

Governance Committee - board member search closes March 15th

Personnel Committee-Greg Colosimo

N/A

Finance Committee-Amy Brown

Total Current Assets are \$1.85m, a decrease of \$104k since the end of the prior fiscal year. This is driven primarily by a \$217k reduction to cash balances (currently at \$1.5m) and an increase of \$99k to school district receivables (now at \$278k). Total Current Liabilities at January 31st are \$379k, and the school's long-term debt is \$3.51m. The school's Key Performance (financial health) Indicators remain stable, with short-term data points such as Current Ratio (4.9) and Days COH (104.9), as well as long-term figures such as Fund Balance (\$1.59m, 31.7% of Revenues) and Debt Ratio (51.4%) exceeding benchmarks. The cash balance looks good as of January 31.

Income Statement: Budget vs. Actual

After 7 months of 25-26 budget activity, District Revenues of \$2.73m are over budget by \$25k. YTD Operating Expenses of \$2.89m are over budget by \$41k at 1/31, with largely offsetting variances on Personnel Expense (+\$158k), due to medical insurance being higher than budgeted and new hires that were not budgeted. Other Purchased Services (-\$22k), Property Services (-\$50k) and Property furniture and equipment (-\$29k).

GMCS shows a YTD operating deficit of \$38k through 7 months compared to a budgeted surplus of \$18k. Due to the projected reduction in school district revenue of \$32k (due to GASD not coming in as high as we budgeted) and an increase in personnel of \$158k, we are tracking a year end deficit of \$256k.

Finance Meetings will be moved to the third Wednesday of the month at
6:00pm.

New Business; For the good of the order

New PA Cursive Writing Law discussion, school has already been teaching cursive writing.

Public Comment

N/A

Adjourn

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47pm by Rose Thornberry.
Board members went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter.