

Board Meeting Minutes			
School		The Genius School	
Mission & Vision		<p><i>VISION</i></p> <p><i>The Genius School (TGS) vision is to enhance, engage, and elevate the community through unleashing the inner genius.</i></p>	<p><i>MISSION</i></p> <p><i>The mission of TGS is to provide the community with a responsive learning institution that propels scholars academically, socio-emotionally, and culturally by utilizing a holistic curriculum that provides rich opportunities for enrichment, achievement, and increasing degrees of impact in every field of endeavor.</i></p>
Board Members	<p><i>3.2 A. The Board is comprised of all essential skill sets and all members are contributing</i></p>	<p>Roll Call Present: Alicia Ramsey Autumn Smith Todd Finnell Kellee Weston (virtual) Angela Dabney Ramon Morrison</p>	<p>Absent: Terri Anderson Delano Robinson</p>
		<p>Total Board Members Serving on Board: 8</p>	
School Staff Present		<p>NaTanza Bratcher, Director of School Compliance April Hubbard, Business Operations Manager Mark Cassoday, Assistant Principal of Instruction</p>	
Members of the Public/Guests Present			
Date		9-28-2023	

Call to Order		6:16 p.m.
HeartMath		
Meeting Items		
Voting/Actions Items		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● August Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ Ramsey called for motion to accept; Morrison moved; Finnell 2nd; Unanimous approval ● August General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ Ramsey called for motion to accept; Dabney moved; Smith 2nd; Unanimous approval ● Cassoday and Finnell will both follow up on tutoring resources provided by The Mind Trust. ● Dabney will reach out to her contact at the Indiana State Museum to try and secure a tour for TGS' upcoming field trip. ● The Fundraising Committee will provide meeting notes or minutes to the Chief of Operations. ● Board is to email Mrs. Dabney 3 names of individuals or private foundations to go on potential donor list.
Reporting	<p><i>3.1 A. Relentless focus on student academic outcomes</i></p> <p><i>3.2 B. Evidence of progress monitoring systems in place</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Head of School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dashboard Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Currently there are 138 students on the TGS roster. ADM count day is Monday, October 2. There are a few conflicts with students who have recently enrolled that are being reconciled with other schools. ○ General Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ New Authorizer Application updates provided by Ms. Bratcher - All requirements and attachments have been uploaded for the charter application. The team feels that we are in a good place already having a lot of the required policies in place, we only had to refine most information instead of developing it from the start. Compiling the information in the specified format was a heavy lift, but gratifying. The application will close tomorrow and the authorizer will follow up in a couple of weeks with feedback. After TGS receives the feedback, there will be a one-week turnaround to respond or make updates to the application.
Budget/Finance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Financial Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Checking Account Balance: \$87,568.85 decrease of \$76,954.12 since August

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Savings Account Balance: \$619,066.73 increase of \$656.53 ○ Escrow Account Balance: \$30,110.00 decrease of \$5.00 ○ Total bank balance is \$736,745.58 decrease of \$76,302.59 since August ○ Reimbursements & Deposits received and included in the total bank balance is \$103,898.51 ○ Expecting reimbursements in the amount of \$97,928.28 ○ TGS is still awaiting one ERC payment area of \$307,635.00. Three payments have been received so far.
<p>Chief of Operations</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no updates at this time from the Chief of Operations. ● The meeting minutes or notes from the last Fundraising Committee are requested from the committee as well as for the board as a whole to review the Head of School’s recent evaluation and salary.
<p>Building Leader & Compliance</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Academic Updates presented by M. Cassoday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Academic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ NWEA Data is complete and baselines have been set to track mid and end of year data. ■ Based on the data collected, ILEARN projected proficiency levels in Reading are currently 18.3%. There are 10 scholars who are within the 5-point window of passing. ILEARN projected proficiency levels in Math are 8.5% with 6 scholars within the 5-point window of passing. ■ Cassoday is working to identify Students of Need (SONS), starting with the scholars who have been identified at proficiency and those who are within the 5-point window of meeting proficiency. ■ Genius Groups are being finalized for grades K-2 and scholar rotations will begin in the next couple of weeks. ■ As one of the cohorts for grades 3 through 6, scholars are utilizing Brainware Safari, a software program that provides cognitive skills training. The program is set up in a gaming format and as scholars progress each level becomes more difficult. The program boasts 2-4 years cognitive growth and 1-2 years academic growth after 12 weeks of engagement. Scholars are using the program for approximately 30 minutes during the class in rotation with IXL. Mr. Cassoday is creating baseline data and will assess data again mid year. The board is pleased with the school’s focus on the data and strategy for getting those scholars close to proficiency over the hump. ■ Ramsey and Dabney both received information regarding free tutoring resources through The Mind Trust. The Academic Committee will follow up to get additional information and brief Mr. Ely. ■ Ms. Latorsha Mitchell has been selected as Staff Member of the Month by Aysia McCrary (last year’s Teacher of the Year) because she has a positive attitude and is always

		<p>willing to do whatever it takes for the school to succeed. At the beginning of the year, Ms. Mitchell was new to the team but willing to do whatever was asked of her.</p>
<p>Committees</p>	<p><i>3.1 B. Evidence of committees with clear goals</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Executive Committee will meet either 30 minutes prior to each board meeting or 30 minutes directly after each board meeting. ○ The first item of discussion will be the Head of School’s salary and evaluation. ○ The committee will also discuss leads on potential properties for rent for the school’s new location. Ramsey has a couple of leads that she will update the committee on. ○ The board is still in search of additional board members with backgrounds in marketing, law, and community/networking to increase the board’s diversity and effectiveness. ● Fundraising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Fundraising Committee has set a \$200,000 goal for the capital campaign in support of the new building. There is flexibility to allocate some of the funds to help offset other operational costs of the school. ○ Tasks have been assigned amongst members. ○ Dabney is developing a fundraising plan. ○ Weston has volunteered to draft the case for support. ○ Part of the overall marketing plan is to create fundraising tools. The focus is to increase visibility of the school through media presence, QR codes, “Give Now” buttons, fundraising events, and videos depicting what the school does to elevate its scholars. ○ The board will rely on the school to help with the narrative and compiling pictures and videos for the board’s use. ○ The board will work together to create a fundraising donor list. ○ Ramsey will work with the Fundraising Committee to get in kind donations to raise both funds and resources for the school. ○ Dabney has a contact for educational tours at The State Museum will reach out to see if a tour can be arranged for October 13 when TGS will be visiting the museum. Smith will accompany the school to capture video and take pictures of the scholars. ○ The Board raised a vote to approve the \$200,000 capital gains goal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dabney made a motion to approve; Ramsey 1st; Smith 2nd with unanimous approval. ● Academic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cassoday and Finnell have met and are looking for additional members for the Academic Committee. They are working to recharter the Academic Committee to ensure everyone is aware of what the committee’s purpose and focus is and what the group will be working on. ○ The committee will be meeting each Monday in the week prior to the board meeting @ 6:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams. Cassoday will send an invite to all interested committee members. ○ Ramsey and Weston will participate on the Academic Committee.

<p>Other Business</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bylaws <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposal to update bylaws to reflect the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ New school address of 4010 N. Sherman Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46226. ■ Entity name to The Genius School, Inc. ■ Electronic participation will be updated in bylaws to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members joining virtually will be counted as present and can vote on official business. ● Each board member is allowed 3 occurrences of virtual participation per year. ● Must meet quorum for members meeting in person. ● If a member is requesting virtual attendance or is unable to attend a meeting, the Chair should be notified at least 24 hours in advance when possible. ■ Finnell made a motion to approve bylaws as proposed. Board voted unanimously.
<p>Chair's Comments</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board is working to finalize the Holiday Celebration for school on Friday, December 15. Invite will be sent electronically. ● Board would also like to host celebration for scholars on the last day of school before closing out for winter break. More details to come.
<p>Public Comments</p>		
<p>Meeting Adjournment</p>		<p>7:14 p.m.</p>