



## BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS – OCTOBER 2019

**Audit Committee Report: Pam Fornero - Chair**

Nothing to report

**Board Designated Reserve Fund (BDRF) Committee Report: Mario Forlini - Chair**

The BDRF Committee will be meeting with Brown Advisory prior to their presentation at the October board meeting.

**Community Planning Council (CPC) Committee Report: Joui Hessel - Chair**

The September 2019 presentation covered topics on future plans for the district, the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, and the complex education landscape that educators and administrators are working in every day, to meet the needs of its students.

Greenwich Public Schools Profile:

- 9,042 students enrolled as of September 2019
- GPS is the 8<sup>th</sup> largest school district in CT
- 1,392 total certified and non-certified staff
- 5,500 students eligible for transportation
- 17 schools and programs
- \$163 million approximate annual budget

The district continues to focus on making learning personal, strengthening academic capacities, personal capacities and interpersonal capacities. New areas of focus for 2019-20 include: The Wellness and Academic Center for GHS, increased preschool sections, behavior support team, a newly designed budget book, new playgrounds and new windows.

The district is preparing to start the conversation on developing a new Strategic Plan and would like to hear from the community on: sustainability and the environment, cultural responsiveness, social justice, school space redesign, future of work and future of school.

Dr. Jones noted the quick pace that the education and work field is moving in and mentioned that educators must embrace the future of change. Educators can support his movement by: believing in the capacity of students, personalizing how they communicate (some children take longer to respond), personalizing encouragement (what works for one doesn't always work for another), supporting our colleagues and growing together.

**Next Community Planning Council Meeting:**

Thursday 10/24/19 at 8:30 am, Greenwich YMCA, Topic: Mental Health and Substance Abuse



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**Direct Impact (DI) Programs Committee Report:      Nancy Weissler - Chair**

Reporting Period: September 2019

The DI Programs Committee continues to meet regularly to discuss program topics for the Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) program, Human Services Technology Solutions (HSTS) program and expanding/enhancing Youth Impact (YIP) programs. The committee met once in September to discuss project timelines, staffing, event planning, research and program data, fiscal monitoring, ongoing implementation strategies and partner relations.

**I. Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions Update:**

Program Development: A screening of Resilience, with support from Horizons at Brunswick and Kids in Crisis, was held on 9/14. Over 20 practitioners, educators, and community members attended.

Staffing: The program is fully staffed. The new Parent Educator, who replaced the Educator who resigned, completed Parents as Teachers training at the end of September, in New Britain, CT.

Data and Measurements: The G UW received achievement gap data from Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) in August. With help from the DI committee, follow-up questions and comments were submitted to GPS. The responses from GPS are in progress.

Fiscal: G UW staff continues to review all invoices and supporting documentation to ensure accurate payment. G UW staff received and reviewed the August invoice in October. In addition, G UW staff coordinated audit reports for certain months of the program.

**Greenwich Parents as Teachers (GPAT)**

Program Updates: Overall, GPAT is operating smoothly and FC program staff completed all program reports on time. Currently, there are 28 families enrolled in the program. In October, there is an event, in partnership with La Leche League, to support mothers. Future parenting workshops are being scheduled and will focus on cultural differences, child safety and discipline. G UW staff continues to meet with FC staff for their monthly GPAT team meeting. The new Parent Educator will build up her caseload slowly, starting out with a few families and each month gradually adding more families as she becomes more familiar with the program.

Data and Measurements: G UW continues to review and analyze data for accuracy and make program improvements. G UW staff reviewed client surveys from participants. G UW staff and the ECE are still in the process of gathering all the information to develop an updated YR1 Program Summary Report.



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### **Pre-School Instructional Coach (PSIC)**

Program Updates: Overall, instructional coaching is going well and the PSIC and Early Childhood Expert (ECE) continue to meet weekly to discuss program barriers and make improvements. The

PSIC is setting coaching goals with teachers for the new school year. She is utilizing the *Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool* (TPOT) for pre-school classrooms in YR2. TPOT is an instrument designed to measure practitioners' implementation of teaching and behavior support practices associated with the *Pyramid Model for Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children*. It is a multitiered framework that organizes empirically supported teaching practices for promoting social-emotional competence and addressing challenging behavior of preschool children.

G UW staff, including the ECE, are organizing and analyzing data from the school year and are still in the process of creating end-of-year reports. For this academic year, enrollment is down from the prior year, for both the Y and FC programs, and staff is working to understand the factors leading to that decline.

The PSIC continues to work with YMCA staff on their school improvement plan for 2019-20.

Data and Measurements: G UW staff continues to review and analyze data for accuracy and make program improvements. Staff continues to collect site demographic information and student information. The PSIC continues to record coaching sessions with teachers.

G UW will continue to work with program staff on timely and accurate reports and data requests.

### **II. Human Services Technology Solutions Update:**

G UW continues to work with CCI leadership and VisionLink to implement the program. G UW renamed the program, Community Connections, and is on track to relaunch the public facing side of the database in October.

G UW staff and leadership continued to meet internally to discuss changes to the program timeline, budget, cost projections and development.

### **III. Youth Impact Programs Update:**

Champions: G UW program staff is continually looking at ways to strengthen and expand the program. An overview of the programs is outlined below.

Reading Champions (RC): G UW staff held a program launch event on 9/18, at Town Hall. Over the last month staff has recruited over 30 volunteers. Additional training dates are scheduled for October to train volunteers on the new program materials.



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Finance Champions: GUW staff, Boys and Girls Club staff and DI committee member, Nancy Kail, kicked off the program on September 25<sup>th</sup>. There were 9 volunteers and over 10 students who participated on the first day.

Greenwich Junior United Way (GJrUW): GJrUW continued leadership building activities. They supported therapeutic recreation activities at the Nathaniel Witherell and are currently planning for

the November 3on3 Basketball Tournament to raise funds and collect food prior to the holiday season.

### **Fund Development & Marketing Committee Report: Diane Viton - Chair**

#### **Sole Sisters Luncheon – Update from Kirsten Riemer**

The speaker for the luncheon, Candace Bushnell, was announced at the first all committee meeting for Sole Sisters on October 1st. The public announcement was made on October 4<sup>th</sup> with social media teasers leading up to it. One fun additional tidbit is that Candace Bushnell has agreed to do a meet and greet/book signing with patron level ticket holders.

#### **Brew Ha Ha – Update from Nicole Kwasniewski**

We had a great night on September 27 with a total of 248 tickets sold. 204 of those were patron level tickets, with a number of new attendees.

The final numbers are being crunched, but we raised over \$87,000 vs. the goal of \$75,000. Our 3 live auction items did particularly well, raising ~\$14,000 (vs~\$8000 2 years ago).

Thus far, we have received positive feedback on the comedians and food trucks as well as the tequila, gin, and craft beer tastings. We will have a debrief on October 17, 2019 to review the night and discuss any constructive criticism to improve for next year.

We wanted to thank the Board for the support with wine donations, ticket purchases, etc.!

#### **Annual Campaign – Update from Jaime Eisenberg**

Prospected leadership mailing is going out end of week. This mailing's results will determine the exact date for the next.

Past Leadership donor letters mailing going out this week

Dena accepted to chair residential cabinet for the second year.

Looking into new board class to discuss asking an individual to chair Leadership cabinet.



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David and Jeremy have recently met with Sabrina, Chair of Tocqueville for next steps.

Marketing – Update from Karen Hopp of Bazini Hopp

**Finance Champions:** Planning to announce official launch and success of last year’s pilot program (this week or next TBD)

**Community Connections:** Press release drafted but waiting on further details and public launch date

**2020 Sole Sisters Luncheon:** Publicity/promotions underway

**2020 Needs Assessment Program (Fairfield Univ.):** Discussing PR for this following meeting on October 22, 2019

**Social Media:** Calendar in full swing with multiple posts slated for each week

Direct Impact Programs – Update from Ken Mifflin

In process of organizing a meeting to discuss the next phase of DIP fundraising

**Governance Committee Report:** **Bill Finger - Chair**

Nothing to report

**Grants Committee Report:** **Erin McCall - Chair**

The grant writing application workshop was completed with all but 2 agencies participating. Feedback was very positive:

**Mother for Others:** *Hi Robert - I am so thrilled I attended today’s event. It was incredibly informative and very well executed. I am looking forward to meeting with my team to share my learnings. Thank you to the UWG for providing a wonderful workshop. Best, Lisa Executive Director*

**Boys and Girls Club:** *Hi Rob, I just wanted to take a minute to say “thank you” for organizing the event. As I’m new to the grant-writing world, I couldn’t have asked for a better workshop. Judith gave a lot of helpful advice, and I now have a solid understanding of the process, along with some solid examples. Again, thank you for offering the workshop. Best, Laura*

- Applications placed online September 23, 2019 and instructions emailed to agencies
- Volunteer Trainings on 9/25, 9/27 and 9/30 completed.
- Board members signed up to assist Volunteers on site-visits, reading application.
- In November, committee meets with volunteers to review site visits and recommendations



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- Committee meets again to decide funding amounts for each agency
- January-committee submits final grant recommendations to Executive Committee
- January Board Meeting-Board votes on Grants Committee recommendations

***Human Resources Committee Report:                   Eva Maria Janerus – Chair***

Nothing to report

***Nominating/Officers Nominating Committee Report:                   Frank Carpenteri - Chair***

Nothing to report

***Strategic Initiatives Committee Report:                   Brook Urban - Chair***

Nothing to report