

MINUTES

South Carolina Public Charter School District Board of Trustees Meeting

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August 14, 2025

10:00 a.m.

APPROVED

BY:  DATE: 8/14/2025

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Cyndi C Mosteller called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Invocation

Chair Cyndi C Mosteller offered the Invocation.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Jonathan Butcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Position and Mission Statement

Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis read the Position and Mission Statements.

V. Roll Call

Secretary Jonathan Butcher recorded Roll Call.

Board Members in attendance were Chair Cyndi C Mosteller, Secretary Dexter WJ Davis, Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope, Trustee Jonathan Butcher, Trustee Billy Strickland, and Trustee Stephen Gilchrist, Trustee Kip Miller, and Trustee Craig Plank. A quorum was present.

Staff present were Mr. Chris Neeley, Mrs. Emalee Baker, Mrs. Emily Paul, Mr. John R. Payne, Mr. Brad Henry, Mr. Erik Norton, Mr. John S. Payne, Mrs. Nicole Templar, Ms. Dawn Knapper, Mrs. Becky Huggins, Mrs. Ariel Eaves, Mrs. Dee Drayton, Dr. Laurie Lee, Mr. Patrick Bowers, Mrs. Betty Freeman, Mrs. Tracie Sweet, Mrs. Susan Howard, Mrs. Jackie Snell, Mrs. Kristin Farmer, Mrs. Bridget Cueno, Mrs. Sarah Boria, Mr. Josh Findlay, Mr. Erron McKinney, Ms. Tina Scott, Ms. Lisa Santiago, Ms. Chi-Chi Abando, Mrs. Marlene Sellars, Mr. Chad Higgins, Ms. Crystal Dennis, and Mrs. Teresa Etheredge.

Guests present were Ms. Tamela Brown, Learn4Life High School, Mr. Bill Kennedy, Heartwood Community School, and RCSD Officer, T. Perry.

VI. Consent Agenda

A) Approval of the Agenda for the August 14, 2025, meeting.

Trustee Stephen Gilchrist offered a motion to approve the Agenda for August 14, 2025. Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

B) Approval of the Minutes for the June 12, 2025, meeting.

Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope offered a motion to approve the Minutes, June 12, 2025. Trustee Kip Miller seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

VII. Public Comments

The official meeting of the Board is by law a public meeting and the Board values citizen input; however, in order to protect the integrity of the adopted agenda, public dialogue will be restricted to the 'Public Comments' section of the agenda or as directed by the Board chairman.

- Each speaker has two minutes.
- Speakers may not ask questions of Board Members.
- Board Members may not engage speakers in discussion.
- Disruptive behavior is not permitted.
- Personal attacks aimed at students or staff are not permitted.
- Scurrilous, obscene, or recklessly defamatory language aimed at any Board Member is not permitted.

VIII. Informational Items

A) Employee Service Awards Emalee Baker
Deputy Superintendent, Support & Implementation

Trustee Craig Plank offered a motion to adjourn into Executive Session. Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m. and returned to open session at 11:17 a.m. with no actions noted.

IX. Executive Session

A) Palmetto Excel MOU Discussion Erik T. Norton
Harrell Martin & Peace, PA

B) Legal Updates - All Pending Matters Erik T. Norton
Harrell Martin & Peace, PA

X. Action Items

A) Heartwood Community School Bylaws Amendment Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Trustee Craig Plank offered a motion to approve Heartwood Community School Bylaws Amendment as recommended by the staff. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B) Learn4Life High School - Charleston MOU Amendment Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope offered a motion to approve the Learn4Life High School - Charleston MOU Amendment as recommended by the staff. Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

- C) May and June 2025 Financial Reports/Audit Update Nick Michael
Deputy Superintendent of Financial Services

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to accept the May 2025 Financial Report as recommended by the staff. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland offered a motion to accept the June 2025 Financial Report as recommended by the staff. Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

XI. Superintendent's Report

- A) Sponsor Performance Update John R. Payne
Deputy Superintendent, Sponsor Performance
- B) Support and Implementation Update Emalee Baker
Deputy Superintendent, Support & Implementation
- C) External Affairs Update Brad Henry
Executive Director, External Affairs
- D) Strategic Plan Update Emily Paul
Chief Deputy Superintendent
- E) Superintendent's Comments Chris G. Neeley
Superintendent

XII. Adjournment

Trustee Stephen Gilchrist offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:41p.m.