

MINUTES

South Carolina Public Charter School District Board of Trustees Meeting

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**March 19, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

APPROVED

BY: *[Signature]* DATE: 4/23/2026

I. Call to Order and Introductions

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

II. Invocation

Trustee Stephen Gilchrist led the Invocation.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Position and Mission Statements

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

V. Roll Call

Trustee Jonathan Butcher recorded the Roll Call.

Board Members present were Chair Cyndi Mosteller, Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis (left the meeting at 12:38 p.m.), Secretary Jonathan Butcher left the meeting at 12:38 p.m.), Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope, Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland, Trustee Stephen Gilchrist, and Trustee Kip Miller. Trustee Craig Plank was absent. A quorum was present.

Staff present were Mr. Chris Neeley, Mrs. Emalee Baker, Mrs. Emily Paul, Mr. John R. Payne, Mr. Nick Michael, Mr. Brad Henry, Mr. Erik Norton, Mr. John S. Payne, Ms. Dawn Knapper, Mrs. Becky Huggins, Mrs. Carla Dowey, Ms. Andrea Green, Dr. Laurie Lee, Ms. Cori Rebman, Ms. Sydney Arsenault, Mrs. Tracie Sweet, Mrs. Susan Howard, Ms. Diana Kingsbury, Mrs. Rianna Smith, Mrs. Jackie Snell, Mrs. Kristin Farmer, Dr. Perry Mills, Mrs. Bridget Cueno, Mrs. Dana Abbott, Mrs. Sarah Boria, Mr. Josh Findlay, Mr. Erron McKinney, Mrs. Tina Scott, Ms. Lisa Santiago, Ms. Chi-Chi Abando, Mrs. Marlene Sellars, Mr. Chad Higgins, Mrs. Crystal Boyce, and Mrs. Teresa Etheredge.

Guests present were Cynthia Guinn, Dr. Sherell Benders, Dr. Adonis Blue, New Dawn Preparatory Academy, Mary Ann Bunch, David Bunch, Terra Carney, Robert Compton, Riverwalk Academy; Cailyn Remington, Jessica Hollingsworth, GREEN Charter; Katie Huggins and Kelli Carlisle, and Dr. Trevor Ivey, Liberty STEAM, and Deputy Phillip Frye, Richland County Sheriff Department.

VI. Consent Agenda

- A) Approval of the Agenda for the March 19, 2026, meeting.

Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis offered a motion to approve the Agenda for March 19, 2026. Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- B) Approval of the Minutes for the February 12, 2026, meeting.

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to approve the Agenda for February 12, 2026. Dr. Teresa Pope seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

VII. Public Comments - Public comment was given by parent, Ms. Cailyn Remington of GREEN Charter School Simpsonville

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) Eagle Scout RecognitionEmalee Baker
Deputy Superintendent, Support & Implementation
B) National Board-Certified Teacher Recognition Emalee Baker
Deputy Superintendent, Support & Implementation
C) PCSD Employee Core Value Award Emily Paul
Chief Deputy Superintendent

IX. Action Items

- A) Inclement Weather Waiver Emalee Baker
Deputy Superintendent, Support & Implementation

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve the Inclement Weather Waiver. Trustee Kip Miller seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- B) Tall Pines STEM Academy Renewal Contract Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis offered a motion to approve the Tall Pines STEM Academy Renewal Contract. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- C) PCSD Charter School Applicant Withdrawals Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to approve the PCSD Charter School Applicant Withdrawals as recommended by staff. Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- D) New Dawn Preparatory Academy Charter Application Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve the denial of the New Dawn Preparatory Academy Charter Application as recommended by staff. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a 6 Yes and 1 No vote.

- E) The McCullough School of Science, Technology, and Music Charter Application Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to approve the denial of The McCullough School of Sciences, Technology, and Music Charter Application as recommended by staff. Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- F) Carolina Justice and Cyber Academy Charter Application Kristin Farmer
Chief of Authorization and Development

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve the denial of the Carolina Justice and Cyber Academy Charter Application as recommended by staff. Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- G) Diploma Pathways Application Susan Howard
Chief of Support of Implementation

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve Diploma Pathways Application as recommended by staff. Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- H) January 2026 and February 2026 Financial Reports Nick Michael
Deputy Superintendent of Financial Services

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to approve the January 2026 Financial Report as recommended by staff. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Trustee Stephen Gilchrist offered a motion to approve the February 2026 Financial Report as recommended by staff. Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to adjourn into Executive Session. Trustee Teresa Pope seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

X. Executive Session

- A) Walker Chief Strategies Contract Cyndi C Mosteller
Board Chair
- B) Superintendent's Performance Evaluation/Contract Review.... Cyndi C Mosteller
Board Chair

Vice Chair Dexter WJ Davis offered a motion to move back into open session. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Moved into open session at 12:36 p.m.

XI. Actions on Executive Session Items

- A) Walker Chief Strategies Contract Cyndi C Mosteller
Board Chair

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve the Walker Chief Strategies Contract as recommended by staff. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

- B) Superintendent's Performance Evaluation/Contract Review..... Cyndi C Mosteller
Board Chair

Trustee Kip Miller offered a motion to approve the Superintendent's Performance Evaluation. Trustee Dr. Teresa Pope seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Secretary Jonathan Butcher offered a motion to approve the Amendment to the Superintendent's Contract. Trustee Stephen Gilchrist seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

XII. Superintendent's Report

- A) Sponsor Performance Update John R. Payne
Deputy Superintendent, Sponsor Performance
- B) Support and Implementation Update Susan Howard
Chief of Support of Implementation
- C) External Affairs Update Brad Henry
Vice President, External Affairs
- D) Strategic Plan Update Emily Paul
Chief Deputy Superintendent
- E) Superintendent's Comments Chris G. Neeley
Superintendent

XIII. Adjournment

Trustee Stephen Gilchrist offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Dr. Billy Strickland seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.