State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

State Charter School Commission of Georgia Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday November 4, 2026 at 10:00 AM EST

Location

SCSC Board Room
1356B Twin Towers East,
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334

Virtual Access:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84427916648?pwd=Sb7CtaC1vb3hWrKWFyQFAa4GCXIlh2.1
Meeting ID: 844 2791 6648
Passcode: 965938
Phone Access: 646-931-3860

Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter
I.	**Opening Items**		
A.	Call the Meeting to Order		
B.	Record Attendance		
C.	Approve Agenda	Vote	Cayanna Good

		Purpose	Presenter
D.	Approve Minutes - September 29, 2026	Approve Minutes	Cayanna Good
E.	Approve Minutes - September 30, 2026	Approve Minutes	Cayanna Good

II. State Charter School Spotlight

A.	School Presentation: Resurgence Hall	FYI	External Speaker

Tori Jackson-Hines, Founder and Executive Director, and students will share information about Resurgence Hall.

III. Division Reports

A.	Executive Director	FYI	Donovan Head
B.	Finance Division	FYI	Carmen Freemire and Annie Chen

- Audit update
- October FTE Collection update

IV. Action Items

A.	2027 Regular Meeting Calendar	Vote	Cayanna Good
B.	Revised Expansion Policy	Vote	Katie Manthey

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve the amendments to the Expansion Policy as presented.

C.	Revised Replication Policy	Vote	Katie Manthey

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve the amendments to the Replication Policy as presented.

D.	Charter Contract Amendment - Resurgence Hall Middle (1-yr extension)	Vote	Katie Manthey

Purpose Presenter

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve an amendment to the Resurgence Hall Middle Academy charter contract to extend the charter term by one year.

V. Public Comment

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting Vote Cayanna Good

Coversheet

Approve Minutes - September 29, 2026

Section: I. Opening Items
Item: D. Approve Minutes - September 29, 2026
Purpose: Approve Minutes
Submitted by:
Related Material:
Minutes for State Charter School Commission of Georgia on September 29, 2026

APPROVED

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Minutes

State Charter School Commission of Georgia

September 29 Governance & Policy Retreat

Date and Time
Tuesday September 29, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Location
Technical College System of Georgia
1800 Century Place NE, Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

Technical College System of Georgia
1800 Century Place NE, Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

Directors Present
B. Brockway, B. Scafidi, C. Good, M. Dudgeon, T. Lowden

Directors Absent
L. Millan

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Good called a meeting to order on Tuesday Sep 29, 2026 at 9:08 AM.

II. Aligning Renewal Terms for Networks

A. Discussion

SCSC staff proposed extension of charter contracts meeting certain criteria to align schools within a network.

III. Expansion and Replication Criteria

A. Discussion

SCSC staff proposed revisions to expansion and replication criteria.

IV. School Relocation Policy Discussion

A. Discussion

Commissioners discussed policy considerations related to school relocations to another school district.

V. Zest Debrief

A. Discussion

Commissioners considered lessons learned and policy implications from a closed school.

VI. LLC Network Structure (SB 369) Update

A. Discussion

SCSC staff updated Commissioners on changes to school governance structures following SB 369.

VII. Looking Ahead- Considering CSP Priorities and Charter School Trends

A. Discussion

SCSC staff reviewed the current SCSC strategic plan, discussed the evolving public education landscape and national charter schools trends, and considered how the Charter Schools Program grant fits in.

VIII. Legislative Priorities

A. UNUSED SCHOOL FACILITIES DISCUSSION

Commissioners discussed the current state of unused school facilities in Georgia and explored options for increasing their availability for state charter schools.

B. CHARTER SYSTEMS AND OCSC NAME CHANGES

SCSC staff proposed changes to names to clarify functions and use of terms.

C. MAINTENANCE OF CLOSED SCHOOL RECORDS

SCSC staff discussed the SCSC's responsibility and associated administrative burden for maintenance of closed school records and possible legislative solutions.

IX. Assessing the Impact of Unwaivable Laws on Charter Schools

A. Discussion

SCSC staff presented an overview of education laws that charter schools cannot waive and feedback from schools on the impact of those laws.

X. Epicenter Scorecard Preview

A. Discussion

SCSC staff presented on the functionality of scorecard in the Epicenter platform.

XI. Best Practices Research Phase 1 Report

A. Discussion

SCSC staff presented on information learned from research on charter school best practices.

XII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Good

Coversheet

Approve Minutes - September 30, 2026

Section: I. Opening Items
Item: E. Approve Minutes - September 30, 2026
Purpose: Approve Minutes
Submitted by:
Related Material:
Minutes for State Charter School Commission of Georgia Board Meeting on September 30, 2026

APPROVED

State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

Minutes

State Charter School Commission of Georgia Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 30, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Location
SCSC Board Room
1356B Twin Towers East,
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE
Atlanta, GA 30334

Virtual Access:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84427916648?pwd=Sb7CtaC1vb3hWrKWFyQFAa4GCXIlh2.1
Meeting ID: 844 2791 6648
Passcode: 965938
Phone Access: 646-931-3860

Directors Present
B. Brockway, B. Scafidi, L. Millan (remote), M. Dudgeon, T. Lowden

Directors Absent
C. Good

I. Opening Items

A.

Call the Meeting to Order

B. Brockway called a meeting of the board of directors of State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia to order on Wednesday Sep 30, 2026 at 10:08 AM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve Agenda

M. Dudgeon made a motion to approve the agenda for the September 30, 2026 board meeting.
T. Lowden seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes

T. Lowden made a motion to approve the minutes from State Charter School Commission of Georgia Board Meeting on 07-29-26.
M. Dudgeon seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. State Charter School Spotlight

A. School Presentation: Ethos Classical Charter School

Representatives from Ethos Classical Charter School presented on the school's recent achievements.

Commissioners commended the school on its progress and accomplishments.

III. Division Reports

A. Executive Director

The SCSC Executive Director provided the office updates below:
- Erica Acha-Morfaw's, SCSC Communications Specialist, last day with the SCSC will be October 2.
- The SCSC hosted a facility roundtable to discuss how charter schools can use unused school-district-owned facilities.

B. Research & Evaluation Division

The SCSC Research and Evaluation Division presented on the SCSC annual authorizer evaluation that was conducted by the National Association for Charter School Authorizers.

Commissioners commended the SCSC staff for their hard work in achieving its exemplary rating.

Additionally, the division presented on the preliminary Georgia Milestones Assessment results.

Commissioners commended the schools' progress and performance.

IV. Action Items

A. CSP SE Subgrant Awards for CTAE and High-Impact Tutoring Programs

B. Scafidi made a motion to approve the SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve CSP SE subgrant awards to support the implementation of high-impact tutoring programs and CTAE programs as presented (CSP SE Grant PR/award S282A250014).
T. Lowden seconded the motion.

CSP Award Recommendations Sep 30 2026 (002).pdf

Representatives from the following schools provided comment on their respective recommendations:

Barry Williams, Chief Executive Officer of Cirrus Academy Charter School (recommended for Tutoring)

Dr. Matthew Stone, Head of School of Cherokee Classical Academy (recommended for Tutoring)

Brian King, Executive Director/Principal at Liberation Academy (recommended for Tutoring)

Jocelyn Alter, Co-founder / Head of School at DeKalb Brilliance Academy (recommended for Tutoring)

Charlie Harper, Director of External Affairs, and Dr. Deirdre Daniels, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Director, of Georgia Cyber Academy (recommended for CTAE)

Dr. Kelly Gunn, Executive Director of The Kindezi Schools (recommended for Tutoring)

Kolt Bloxson Pitts, Executive Director of Miles Ahead Charter School (recommended for Tutoring)

Aranya Knox, Principal of Hapeville Charter Career Academy (recommended for CTAE AND Tutoring)

Amanda Miller, Superintendent at Scintilla Charter Academy (recommended for CTAE)

Kelly Rucker, Superintendent, and Wendy Courtney, CTAE Director, of Baconton Community Charter School (recommended for CTAE)

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School provided a written statement (recommended for CTAE)

Commissioners commended SCSC staff and Sr. Director of School Support and Outreach Michele Neely for securing this grant and distributing the subgrant to schools.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Charter Contract Amendment - Baconton Community Charter School

M. Dudgeon made a motion to approve the SCSC staff recommendation that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve an amendment to the Baconton Community Charter School charter contract to increase its enrollment maximum.
T. Lowden seconded the motion.
Representatives from the school provided comment in support of the recommendation

Baconton Charter Amendment Recommendation.Enrollment Maximum.pdf
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Charter Contract Surrender - Dominion Purpose Academy

T. Lowden made a motion to approve the SCSC staff recommendation that the SCSC Board of Commissioners accept the surrender of the Dominion Purpose Academy charter contract, as requested by the Dominion Purpose Academy governing board.
M. Dudgeon seconded the motion.
Commissioners expressed condolences over the school's surrender and noted that this underscores the need for unused facilities reform.

DPA Charter Surrender.pdf
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Public Comment

A. Trent Kramer - Classical Learning Test (CLT)

Mr. Kramer spoke in favor of a new standardized test, the Classical Learning Test (CLT).

VI. Additional Items from Commissioners

A. Liberty Classical Schools

Commissioner Scafidi asked representatives from Liberty Classical Schools about their waitlist and acceptance rate.

B. General Comments

Commissioner Lowden stated that over the next few years, the Georgia charter school movement will be under more scrutiny. It is unclear what the state education budget will be as the state administration changes, so SCSC schools must perform well.
Commissioner Brockway further commented that Ethos Classical proves why we work so hard.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

T. Lowden made a motion to adjorn the meeting.
B. Scafidi seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
B. Brockway

Coversheet

2027 Regular Meeting Calendar

Section: IV. Action Items
Item: A. 2027 Regular Meeting Calendar
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: 2027 board meeting dates.pdf

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION of GEORGIA

2027 BOARD MEETING DATES

FEBRUARY
24 WEDNESDAY

APRIL
21 WEDNESDAY

JUNE
23 WEDNESDAY

JULY
28 WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER
29 WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER
08 WEDNESDAY

Coversheet

Revised Expansion Policy

Section: IV. Action Items
Item: B. Revised Expansion Policy
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: SCSC_ExpansionPolicy_REC_Oct2026.pdf
Expansion Policy_REVISED_Oct2026_R2.pdf

State Charter Schools Commission *of* Georgia

November 4, 2026, Board Meeting

1356 Twin Towers East, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334

Board Action Item | Staff Recommendation

Item Summary

Amend the SCSC Expansion Policy

Recommendation

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve the amendments to the Expansion Policy as presented.

Rationale

SCSC staff recommend the following amendments to the SCSC Expansion Policy:

1. Replace the current expansion definition with two new definitions delineated by type.
   - Enrollment Limit Expansion – increased student enrollment above the enrollment limit
   - Grade Band Expansion – growth through the addition of new grade bands

2. Define "significant" Enrollment Limit Expansion as:
   - More than 28 students for schools serving grades K-8, and
   - More than 32 students for schools serving grades 9-12.

3. Update eligibly criteria to distinguish between expansion type.
   - Higher thresholds of performance are required for Grade Band Expansion than Enrollment Limit Expansion.

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION OF GEORGIA
CHARTER EXPANSION POLICY

Article I
Purpose

This charter expansion policy aims to expand access to high-quality charter school options by establishing eligibility criteria for requesting a charter amendment to ~~significantly~~ increase student enrollment.

Article II
Definitions

1. **Existing state charter school.** For purposes of this policy, an existing state charter school shall mean a public school that meets the definition of "charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2062(3) and the definition of "state charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2081(5).

2. **Enrollment Limit Expansion.** For purposes of this policy, enrollment limit expansion shall mean the growth of an existing state charter school by ~~significantly~~ increasing student enrollment above the enrollment limit in the charter through the addition of seats ~~grades~~ or classes. Enrollment limit e~~E~~xpansion shall occur by amendment of an existing charter contract.

3. **Significant.** For the purposes of this policy, significant enrollment expansions are requests to increase the enrollment limit by 28 students for a school serving grades K-8 or 32 students for a school serving grades 9-12. If a school serves across grade bands the higher number serves as the threshold. These numbers are derived from the regular and core subject class maximum size requirements according to SBOE Rule 160-5-1-.08 and shall be automatically amended consistent with amendments to that rule.

4. **Grade Band Expansion.** For purposes of this policy, grade band expansion shall mean the growth of an existing state charter school through the addition of new grades in a grade band not currently in the charter. Grade band expansion shall occur by amendment of an existing charter contract. Grade band expansions may or may not also require enrollment limit expansion.
~~2.~~

~~3.~~5. **Eligibility/Eligible.** For purposes of this policy, eligibility and eligible shall mean an opportunity to submit a request for expansion upon meeting identified criteria. Eligibility does not guarantee approval by the State Charter School Commission's (SCSC) Board of Commissioners.

Article III
Eligibility Criteria

1. Only existing state charter schools are eligible to request charter expansion.

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2. SCSC staff will assess a state charter school's eligibility to request charter enrollment limit and grade band expansion based on the three most recent years of complete academic, financial, and operational performance on the SCSC's Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF).

3. Requests for significant enrollment expansion require that certain school performance expectations be met. The governing board for a state charter school is eligible to submit a request for ~~charter~~ significant enrollment limit expansion to the SCSC if the performance data for the state charter school demonstrates that the state charter school has:

   a. Exceeded, met or approached the academic standards on the SCSC's CPF for a majority of the three most recent years and earned a Meets or Exceeds designation in the most recent year; and,

   ~~b. Has M~~met or approached the financial and operational performance standards of the CPF for a majority of the three most recent consecutive years and in the most recent year.

4. The governing board for a state charter school is eligible to submit a request for charter grade band expansion to the SCSC if the performance data for the state charter school demonstrates that the state charter school has:

   a. met or exceeded the academic standards on the SCSC's CPF for the three most recent consecutive years; and,

   b. has met or approached the financial and operational performance standards of the CPF in the three most recent consecutive years.

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Article IV
Procedures

1. To initiate SCSC review of a request for charter expansion, the governing board chairperson or designee shall submit a written request to the SCSC Executive Director, or their designee, that meets the requirements in SCSC Rule 691-2-.08(2). The request shall be accompanied by documentation showing that a majority of the state charter school's governing board voted to request the charter expansion. A request for charter enrollment limit or grade band expansion does not guarantee SCSC approval.

2. SCSC staff will review the request and seek any information necessary to develop a recommendation to present to the SCSC Board of Commissioners. The SCSC Board of Commissioners will determine whether the SCSC agrees to the charter school's requested amendment, consistent with SCSC Rule 691-2-.04.

3. The eligibility criteria in Article III of this policy shall apply to existing charter schools that request enrollment limit or grade band expansion as a part of the charter renewal petition process.

Article V
Designees

The SCSC General Counsel shall be the Executive Director's designee for purposes of requests made pursuant to the provisions of this policy.

Coversheet

Revised Replication Policy

Section:	IV. Action Items
Item:	C. Revised Replication Policy
Purpose:	Vote
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	SCSC_ReplicationPolicy_REC_Oct2026.pdf Replication Policy_REVISED_Oct2026.pdf

State Charter Schools Commission *of* Georgia

November 4, 2026, Board Meeting

1356 Twin Towers East, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334

Board Action Item | Staff Recommendation

Item Summary

Amend the SCSC Replication Policy

Recommendation

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve the amendments to the Replication Policy as presented.

Rationale

SCSC staff recommend the following amendments to the SCSC Replication Policy:

1. Update the definition to clarify that the new school shall serve the same grade band(s) as the existing school that is being replicated.

2. Update the eligibility requirements to ensure high levels of performance across all three performance domains: academics, finances and operations.
    - The school is not designated as Does Not Meet in any of the three most recent years

STATE CHARTER SCHOOLS COMMISSION OF GEORGIA
CHARTER SCHOOL REPLICATION POLICY

Article I
Purpose

This charter school replication policy aims to encourage access to high-quality charter school options by establishing eligibility criteria for petitioning to replicate an existing charter school.

Article II
Definitions

1. **Existing local charter school.** For purposes of this policy, an existing local charter school shall mean a public school that meets the definition of "charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2062(3) and the definition of "local charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2062(7).

2. **Existing state charter school.** For purposes of this policy, an existing state charter school shall mean a public school that meets the definition of "charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2061(3) and the definition of "state charter school" in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2081(5).

3. **Replication.** For purposes of this policy, replication shall mean the creation of a second (or subsequent) charter school that utilizes the instructional program and/or academic model and serves the same grade band(s) of an existing charter school but operates under a separate and independent charter contract.

4. **Eligibility/Eligible.** For purposes of this policy, eligibility and eligible shall mean an opportunity to submit a replication petition to the State Charter Schools Commission (SCSC) upon meeting identified criteria. Eligibility does not guarantee approval by the SCSC Board of Commissioners.

Article III
Eligibility Criteria

1. SCSC staff will assess an existing local charter school or existing state charter school's eligibility to submit a replication petition based on the three most recent years of complete academic, financial, and operational performance data.

2. The governing board of an existing state charter school is eligible to submit a replication petition to the SCSC if the performance data for the existing state charter school demonstrates that:

    a. the existing state charter school has met the academic performance standards on the SCSC's Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) for the three most recent years; and,
    b. the existing state charter school has met the financial and operational performance standards on the CPF in two of the three most recent years, including the most recent year.

3. The governing board of an existing local charter school must make a written request to the SCSC Executive Director or designee for a written determination that the performance data for the existing local charter school demonstrates that:

    a. the existing local charter school would have met or exceeded the academic performance standards on the CPF for the three most recent years; and,
    b. the existing local charter school would have met the financial and operational performance standards on the CPF in two of the three most recent years, including the most recent year, and is not designated as Does Not Meet in any of the three most recent years.

    The existing local charter school may submit a replication petition if the governing board receives a written determination from the SCSC confirming that the school meets the eligibility criteria in this policy.

Article IV
Petition Review

1. Replication petitions must meet the submission requirements in O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2084, including O.C.G.A. § 20-2-2084(c), which requires charter schools petitioning for authorization from the SCSC to submit petitions concurrently to local boards of education.

2. The SCSC will conduct accelerated petition reviews for charter replication based on the existing charter school's record of performance in academics, financial management, governance, and operational compliance. The SCSC's petition review will comply with the procedural and review standards in SCSC Rule 691-2-.02.

3. For governing boards that operate more than one existing state or local charter school, the SCSC will consider the performance data of all existing charter schools when evaluating the replication petition.

Article V
Designees

The SCSC General Counsel shall be the Executive Director's designee for purposes of notices or requests made pursuant to the provisions of this policy.

Coversheet

Charter Contract Amendment - Resurgence Hall Middle (1-yr extension)

Section: IV. Action Items
Item: D. Charter Contract Amendment - Resurgence Hall Middle (1-yr extension)
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: ResurgenceHallMiddle_1YrTermExtension_ActionItem_Nov2026.pdf

State Charter Schools Commission *of* Georgia

November 4, 2026, Board Meeting

1356 Twin Towers East, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334

Board Action Item | Staff Recommendation

Item Summary

Charter Amendment – Resurgence Hall Middle Academy – one-year term extension

Recommendation

SCSC staff recommend that the SCSC Board of Commissioners approve an amendment to Resurgence Hall Middle Academy's charter contract (Charter) to extend the charter term by one year from June 30, 2027 to June 30, 2028.

Rationale

Resurgence Hall Middle Academy and Resurgence Hall Elementary Academy operate under the same Governing Board, and their current charter contract terms expire one year apart (June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028, respectively). Based on its current performance and standing, Resurgence Hall Middle Academy meets the SCSC's stated criterion of being on track for consideration of a five-year charter renewal. As such, aligning the two schools' contract term expiration dates reduces duplicative administrative review while maintaining accountability for each academy.