

APPROVED



# State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

## Minutes

### May Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 10:00 AM

#### Location

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

**Virtual Access:** <https://meet.goto.com/SCSCGA/2023mayboardmeeting>

**Phone:** +1 (872) 240-3412 **Access Code:** 878-135-941

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#### State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

May 2023 Board Meeting

May 31, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

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#### Directors Present

B. Brockway, B. Scafidi, C. Good, L. Millan

#### Directors Absent

J. Cole, M. Dudgeon, T. Lowden

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#### I. Opening Items

##### A. Record Attendance

## **B. 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 May 31, 2023 at 10:01 AM. Chairman Brockway introduced the new SCSC Director of School Finance, Carmen Freemire, and new SCSC Summer interns Molly Gassman, Val Tchoute, and Tina Novelli.

## **II. Approval of SCSC Meeting Minutes**

### **A. April 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

L. Millan made a motion to approve the minutes from April Board Meeting on 04-26-23.  
C. Good seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **III. Executive Session**

### **A. Personnel**

L. Millan made a motion to enter executive session for personnel discussion.  
B. Scafidi seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.  
L. Millan made a motion to exit executive session.  
C. Good seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **IV. Commissioner School Visits**

### **A. Commissioner School Visits**

SCSC Commissioners discussed their recent visit to Ethos Classical.

## **V. Organizational Development**

### **A. Past & Upcoming Trainings**

Schools are reminded to complete governance training for FY24.

Additionally, the LEA Reporting Training is upcoming. Please visit the [SCSC Training Opportunities](#) page for more information.

## **VI. Pre-Opening Schools**

### **A. Pre-Opening Schools**

There are currently 7 new schools and 2 replication schools in the pre-opening pipeline. To date, two schools have elected to defer their opening until Fall 2024. At this point, all schools remain on track to open this fall.

## **VII. Petition Update**

### **A. Petition Update**

The SCSC received 12 petitions this year for start-up charter schools. One school withdrew its petition from consideration during this cycle. Ten capacity interviews were completed during the week of May 15. There will be an interview in June.

Due to local school district timelines, the SCSC will have to alter its petition timeline to wait for district decisions.

July 14th is the deadline for existing charter schools to submit a replication petition.

## **VIII. Accountability**

### **A. Academic**

The SCSC presented the Academic Accountability Report and the Value Added & Student Growth Percentile Report.

- [2021-22 Academic Accountability Report](#)
- [2021-22 Value Added & Student Growth Percentile Report](#)

The Georgia Department of Education has not yet received a response from the US Department of Education on the recent ESSA amendment request.

### **B. Unified Enrollment System**

The SCSC will share a survey with schools regarding developing the State Charter Unified Enrollment System.

The survey, along with an information and FAQ document detailing the State Charter Unified enrollment system, will be shared with all schools shortly after today's board meeting. Schools will have until June 21st to submit their responses.

Additionally, the SCSC will be contracting with a consultant to conduct "listening sessions" which will then inform a steering committee process to tackle particular issues or concerns raised by schools or families.

### **C. Operations**

All state charter schools are encouraged to share feedback with the SCSC regarding the FY23 monitoring process by completing the monitoring survey. The survey opened on May 1, 2023, and will close today, May 31, 2023.

Registration is now open for the 2023 Georgia School Safety and Homeland Security Conference hosted by the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) on June 19-21 in Athens, Georgia, at the Classic Center.

Registration Link: <https://www.gaschoolsafety.com/>

The Office of Whole Child Supports, in collaboration with the Office of Special Education and the Office of Teaching and Learning, is facilitating a series on discipline and school safety. The series will feature relevant topics such as vaping, discipline laws, and alternatives to suspension, focusing on prevention and intervention. Separate sessions will be offered for elementary and secondary administrators at the district or school level.

#### **D. Finance**

All FY22 school audits have now been submitted to the SCSC.

Schools have selected auditors for FY23. There are two schools that will not be using one of the SCSC's approved auditors.

### **IX. Comprehensive Performance Framework Revisions & Process**

#### **A. Section Revisions**

SCSC staff presented proposed changes to the SCSC's Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) academics, finance, and operations sections. View the presentation [here](#).

Additional information and public comment submissions is available on the SCSC website: <https://scsc.georgia.gov/school-performance/2023-proposed-cpf-updates>.

### **X. Action Items**

#### **A. Spring Creek Grade Band Amendment**

L. Millan made a motion to approve an amendment to the Spring Creek Charter Academy contract to permit the school to serve students in grades K-12, in alignment with the SCSC's Grade Band Policy.

B. Scafidi seconded the motion.

View the recommendation [here](#).

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **B. RISE Transfer Petition**

B. Scafidi made a motion to approve the transfer application for the RISE schools, authorizing the SCSC Chairman to execute a three-year charter contract to authorize the RISE schools as a state charter school.

C. Good seconded the motion.

View the recommendation [here](#).

RISE Schools representatives thanked the SCSC for its consideration.

Commissioner Scafidi voiced his support for the school.

Chairman Brockway read a statement of support from Commissioner Dudgeon.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **XI. Additional Items from Commissioners**

### **A. None**

No additional comment.

## **XII. Public Comment**

### **A. Public Comment**

Niya Robinson, Dirk Engram, Keri Sartin, and Ashley Barnes provided public comment in support of Liberty Leadership Academy.

James Bumpus provided public comment in support of Cirrus Academy Charter School.

## **XIII. 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 11:43 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

B. Brockway