



The Anchor School

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

Agenda posted by: January 15

Date and Time

Wednesday January 22, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Location

<https://meet.google.com/dnn-vbfr-vvh>

Directors Present

A. Pressey, C. Humphrey (remote), E. Desprez Isbell (remote), J. Burton (remote), J. Whittington (remote), N. LeBlanc (remote), S. Birch (remote), S. Kollu (remote), V. Thompson (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

A. Pressey

Ex Officio Members Present

J. Pinto Taylor (remote)

Non Voting Members Present

J. Pinto Taylor (remote)

Guests Present

M. Felts (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Desprez Isbell called a meeting of the board of directors of The Anchor School to order on Wednesday Jan 22, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors Meeting on 11-20-24.

J. Whittington seconded the motion.

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

D. Public Comment

No Public Comment

A. Pressey arrived at 7:05 PM.

II. Executive Director Report

A. Executive Director Report

- Fire drill will be completed next week rather than this week (due to snow days).

III. Academic Achievement

A. Academic Dashboard Review

- January update: 113 applications
- MAP mid-year data is available on the Academic Dashboard
 - Dr. Pinto Taylor shared multiple achievement and growth graphs for MAP Reading data.
 - MAP math was postponed from this week to next week based on winter weather cancellations.

IV. Community Engagement Adhoc

A. Community Engagement Updates

- PTO was officially launched in Nov 2024.
- As of Jan 14, there are 15 TAS parents interested in being in the PTO.

- 6 want to be in the Operations Committee (Focuses on engaging the TAS village in volunteer activities and adding operational capacity to TAS.)
- 5 want to be in the Communications and Outreach Committee (Supports enhancing communication with current families, staff, and leadership, and recruitment of prospective families.)
- 4 want to be in the Sponsorship Committee (Focuses on securing sponsorships/in-kind donations for upcoming TAS events like the ball and teacher appreciation day with the goal of become the fundraising committee next school year)

V. Finance

A. Vote: Proposed Budget Calendar

TAS must develop and approve a budget for each fiscal year. The proposed budget calendar and milestones will provide direction to the school level team on expectations and transparency to our stakeholders on the budget process. The Finance Committee will work with the school team, CFO, and EdTec during monthly committee meetings to ensure milestones are achieved.

- Board reviewed the proposed fiscal year 2026 budget calendar

Action Item: Add times to May 28 and June 11 and add items to Board on Track with calendar invites sent to the board.

V. Thompson made a motion to approve The Anchor School (TAS) Governing Board approve the fiscal year 2026 budget calendar and milestones.

J. Whittington seconded the motion.

- Conditional vote with a need to add the specific time to the May 28 and June 11
- Head of School and Board mini-sessions would be optional for full board members, board members could also provide input during the Finance Committee meetings

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

B. December Financials

- CSGF grant drives \$102K projected operating income increase
- Ended Dec with \$72K; projected to end FY25 with \$390K, or 38 DCOH
- Accomplishments:
 - Received \$13K encumbrance payment Charter School Program (CSP)
 - Title budgets are being drawn down monthly, with next reimbursement, \$19,500 expected
 - CSGF
- Next Step:
 - Monitor spending and intramonth cash flow
 - Focus on CSP grant drawdowns

- Goals:
 - Review MYP and begin FY26 budget planning

C. Mid-Year Financial Review

Finance Committee will bring this to the next board meeting.

VI. Governance

A. Item for Action: Field Trip Excursion Policy

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to Approve the Field Trip Excursion Policy.

C. Humphrey seconded the motion.

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

B. Item for Action: Scholar Fees, Fines, & Charges Policy

N. LeBlanc made a motion to Scholar, Fees, Fines and Charges.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

Action Item: Update HoS to read "Head of School" on first mention

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

C. Item for Action: Volunteer Policy

N. LeBlanc made a motion to Approve the Volunteer Policy with the conditional update.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

Action Items:

- In the "Additional Volunteer Requirements" add the word "All" before "Volunteers", and add the requirement to be annually
- Look into the difference between background check and criminal history check.

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

D. Item for Action: Work from Home Policy (Eligible TAS Directors)

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to Approve Work from Home Policy (Eligible TAS Directors).

N. LeBlanc seconded the motion.

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

E. Item for Action: TAS Student Enrollment & Lottery Policies

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to Approve TAS Student Enrollment & Lottery Policies.

A. Pressey seconded the motion.

Removed preference for board of director's children's enrollment, 3 years in length, not in compliance with the CSGF Grant

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

F. Item for Action: TAS High School Credit Earning Requirement Policy

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to Approve TAS High School Credit Earning Requirement Policy.

N. LeBlanc seconded the motion.

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

G. Item for Action: TAS Course Acceleration Policy

N. LeBlanc made a motion to Approve TAS Course Acceleration Policy conditional on the action item below.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

Action Item: Update the HOPE GPA section to read "may not" instead of "will not" if allowable under the HOPE Scholarship policies

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

H. Item for Action: TAS High School Course Commitment Date Policy

N. LeBlanc made a motion to Approve TAS High School Course Commitment Date Policy.

E. Desprez Isbell seconded the motion.

Action Item: Update numerical or spelled out 15

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

I. Item for Action: Conflict of Interest Policy

E. Desprez Isbell made a motion to Approve the Governing Board Conflict of Interest Policy.

V. Thompson seconded the motion.

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

J. Facilities Updates

This item was covered through the Executive Director Report at the start of the meeting.

K. SCSC Monitoring Results

This item was covered through the Executive Director Report at the start of the meeting.

VII. Other Business

A. Item for Action: 21Cobalt Limited Proposal

N. LeBlanc made a motion to Approve the 21Cobalt Limited Proposal.

J. Burton seconded the motion.

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

VIII. 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 9:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
N. LeBlanc

The Anchor School is a village of educators, families, and community members that partners with 6th through 12th-grade students* who are developing the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to thrive in school and beyond. Through our commitment to excellent instruction, community partnerships, and holistic student development, we cultivate anchors that build a more just and equitable future.

**In August 2022, the SCSC authorized TAS as a GA Charter School with approval to enroll students who will be in the 6th grade in the fall of 2023.*