APPROVED

Brookfield Engineering Science Technology Academy

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday June 3, 2026 at 11:00 AM

Location
Barker Blue Dog Office
6360 El Cajon Blvd #101
San Diego, CA 92115

BROOKFIELD ENGINEERING SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY
College and Career Pathways with Guidance and Support
1704 Cape Horn, Julian, CA 92036
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' PROPOSED AGENDA
Wednesday, June 3, 2026
11:00 a.m. Board Meeting
LOCATION

Barker Blue Dog Office
6360 El Cajon Blvd #101
San Diego, CA 92115

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83363729882

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Before the meeting, please submit a Request to Speak to the Board of Directors for any agenda or non-agenda items to the Executive Director. At most, three (3) minutes are to be allotted to any one (1) speaker, and at most twenty (20) minutes on the same subject. This portion of the agenda is for comments, recognition, and reports to the Board and is not intended to be a question-and-answer period. If you have Action questions for the Board, please provide the Board President with a written copy, and an administrator will provide answers later.

MISSION STATEMENT

Brookfield Engineering Science & Technology Academy will harness the power of a flexible learning environment and modern educational technology to serve learners with diverse backgrounds and goals, seeking an educational alternative that stimulates and supports independent learning, provides a strong social-emotional approach, and supports STEM college and career readiness.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE: Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY. The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure the agenda is completed.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY
Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting Brookfield Engineering Science and Technology Academy at 833-619-2378.

Directors Present
C. Bolden (remote), D. Webb, G. McCloskey, G. McGuire (remote), M. Nino

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
A. Corder (remote), A. Soriano, C. Cavanah, C. Danner (remote), Chad Leptich, J. Hummel (remote), J. Manwarren (remote), J. Mays, M. Threadgill (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance / Roll Call

B. Call the Meeting to Order

G. McCloskey called a meeting of the board of directors of Brookfield Engineering Science Technology Academy to order on Wednesday Jun 3, 2026 at 11:24 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

M. Nino made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 05-06-26.
G. McGuire seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. McCloskey	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye

II. CORRESPONDENCE / PROPOSALS / REPORTS / INFORMATION

A. BUDGET / SCHOOL UPDATE

Cory Cavanah presented the 2026–2027 budget preview, updating revenues following the Governor’s May Revise. Highlights include a 4.3% "Super COLA" for LCFF and Special Education revenues, alongside an extra 8.8% for Special Education to offset historical deficits.
The Student Support and Professional Development Block Grant doubled to $900 per student, yielding an estimated $850,000 for BEST Academy. Though labeled for professional development, the funding includes a discretionary clause. Management

plans to divide it over three years to fund previously unbudgeted personnel roles, including testing, MTSS support, and literacy intervention, requiring the hire of at least two new full-time teachers.
Three-year projections show a $463,000 surplus for 2026–2027. While a break-even year is expected by 2028–2029, strong liquid reserves will easily support any required deficit spending. Unduplicated student counts shifted downwards from 70% to 30%, decreasing supplemental funding from $1.7 million to $600,000. Additionally, the board discussed a 20% spike in healthcare costs and potential mitigation strategies using block grant funds.
James Mays presented an enrollment update, noting a 52.3% year-over-year increase with 367 families showing interest, including 115 for TK alone. The school is currently staffed for 950 students but anticipates actual attendance between 1,100 and 1,200. To accommodate early elementary growth without overloading staff, interviews are underway to hire at least two new full-time teachers, a second counselor, and fund support roles for testing, MTSS, and literacy.

III. APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED MOTION FOR CONSENT CALENDAR

A. CONSENT AGENDA

During the review of the consent agenda expense reports, Board Member Debra Webb questioned a receipt totaling $587.08 for a two-night Airbnb stay ($300/night) during graduation. Management clarified that the higher rate was due to fluctuations in local event pricing and the logistical need for a secure garage to protect school testing and event materials stored in the vehicle. The Board discussed the merit of establishing lodging cost limits while balancing employee safety and logistical needs.
Management will remain mindful of lodging costs.
M. Nino made a motion to Approve the consent agenda.
G. McGuire seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. McGuire	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Special Education Services Contracts Renewal

D. Webb made a motion to Approve the Special Education services contract bundle.
M. Nino seconded the motion.
Special Education Director Celeste Danner presented the annual non-public agency contract renewals, noting that Oxford Consulting remains the primary vendor, handling roughly 98% of student assessments.

Board Member Marcella Nino questioned the high volume of initial Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)—noting 28 initials and 8 to 10 triennials conducted over the year—and asked if the administration had considered hiring an internal school psychologist. Ms. Danner clarified that the spike was primarily driven by parent requests rather than school-based Student Success Teams (SSTs), with all but four students ultimately qualifying for services. She noted that while they highly value their current contracted psychologist from Oxford Consulting, management had recently discussed the possibility of bringing a full-time school psychologist on board in the future to streamline services as enrollment continues to scale toward 1,200 to 1,500 students.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Nino	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye

B. Board Policy: 5145.13 Immigration Enforcement Activity

C. Bolden made a motion to Approve the updated Board Policy, Immigration Enforcement Activity.
G. McGuire seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Webb	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye

C. Board Policy Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy Update

D. Webb made a motion to Approve the updated Freedom of Speech Policy.
M. Nino seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Webb	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
M. Nino	Aye

D. Adoption of the 2026-2027 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

The LCAP Approval was moved to the June 9th meeting to comply with at least one day between review and approval of the LCAP plan.

G. McGuire made a motion to Table to LCAP approval and schedule a June 9th Regular Board Meeting.
C. Bolden seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

C. Bolden	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye

E. Adoption of the 2026-2027 Proposed School Budget

G. McGuire made a motion to Table the budget approval and establish a June 9th Regular Board meeting to approve the LCAP.
C. Bolden seconded the motion.
The Budget Approval was moved to the June 9th meeting to ensure at least one day between the review and approval of the LCAP plan.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. McCloskey	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye

F. July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030 (spanning 4 fiscal years)Creative Back Office (CBO) Contract Renewal

D. Webb made a motion to Approve the renewal of the Creative Back Office 4 year contract.
M. Nino seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. McGuire	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye

G. 2025-26 EPA Expenditure Resolution - Final

G. McGuire made a motion to Approve. the 25-26 Final Expenditure Resolution.
C. Bolden seconded the motion.
Cory Cavanah presented the final Education Protection Account (EPA) expenditure resolution for the 2025–2026 school year, totaling $191,558. In alignment with the

school's historical practice, the Board approved allocating 100% of these unrestricted Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) state aid dollars directly toward teacher salaries. Mr. Cavanah noted that while this resolution requires a formal board vote and website posting annually for compliance purposes, it represents standard, routine business for the school. He recommended that future iterations of both the preliminary and final EPA resolutions be moved to the Consent Calendar to streamline future agendas.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. McGuire	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye

H. 2026-2027 Education Protection Account Resolution - Preliminary

M. Nino made a motion to Approve the 26-27 Education Protection Account Resolution - Preliminary.
D. Webb seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

C. Bolden	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
D. Webb	Aye
M. Nino	Aye

I. Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26

G. McGuire made a motion to Approve the Prop 28 Funding annual report.
M. Nino seconded the motion.
Cory Cavanah presented the annual report and certification for Proposition 28 funding. The school received approximately $80,000 for the fiscal year to support its ongoing art and music programs.
Compliance & Staffing: Because enrollment exceeds 500 students, state regulations mandate that these funds be directed toward a credentialed teacher. BEST Academy meets this with two full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers providing K–12 art instruction. Mr. Cavanah noted the allocation does not fully cover salaries, requiring general fund encroachment.
Program Growth: James Mays highlighted upcoming arts expansions, including "Arts in the Park" for early elementary, high school clay sculpting courses working toward A–G approval, and a music production program. A portion of the funds will purchase high-spec computers to support the technical needs of the music program.

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

Roll Call	
G. McCloskey	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
D. Webb	Aye

J. Board Policy 3430: Investment Policy and Guidelines

C. Bolden made a motion to Approve Board Policy 3430.
D. Webb seconded the motion.
Cory Cavanah presented a new investment policy to optimize returns on the school's liquid financial reserves, currently held primarily in the County Treasury.
Strategy & Safety: The policy establishes strict guidelines to protect public funds, focusing on low-risk, highly liquid options like money market accounts and index funds (e.g., the S&P 500) while explicitly prohibiting volatile options like junk bonds. It mandates diversification and reflects a commitment to socially responsible investing by avoiding funds associated with military equipment manufacturing.
Inter-Charter Opportunity: Mr. Cavanah highlighted a low-risk growth opportunity to purchase guaranteed state revenue receivables at a discount from another growing charter school that his office supports. This keeps interest earnings within the charter ecosystem to directly benefit BEST Academy and its students.
Fiscal Health: James Mays noted that yielding returns slightly above the inflation rate preserves the purchasing power of the school's four-to-six-month operating reserves as enrollment continues to scale.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
D. Webb	Aye
G. McCloskey	Aye
M. Nino	Aye
C. Bolden	Aye
G. McGuire	Aye

V. Closing Items

A. Regular Board Meetings

The next board meeting is on June 9th at the Chula Vista library, following the Graduation.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. McCloskey

Documents used during the meeting

- 2026-27 Adopted Budget Review.pptx
- 2026_05_06_board_meeting_minutes (2).pdf
- JMays May 15 2026 Exp Report.pdf
- BEST Academy May 2026 Check Register.pdf
- ASoriano XP 06-26.pdf
- SmallTalk Rate Sheet.pdf
- SmallTalk NPA Certificate.pdf
- Oxford Consulting NPA Certificate.pdf
- Oxford Rates 26-27.pdf
- Oxford Draft Contract.pdf
- Infinity Kids NPA Certificate.pdf
- Infinity Kids Rate Sheet.pdf
- Stepping Stones Rate Sheet.pdf
- Professional Tutors NPA Certificate.pdf
- Professional Tutors Rate Sheet.pdf
- Professional Tutors-Contract .pdf
- Policy Regarding Immigration Enforcement Activity (4922-8818-0628.v1) (2).docx
- Student Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy (4938-4302-2228.v1) (3).docx
- 2026_Local_Control_and_Accountability_Plan_BEST_Academy_20260529.pdf
- 2026-27 Adopted Budget Review.pptx
- 2026-27 BEST Academy Adopted Budget Alt Form & MYP.pdf
- 060326 - B.E.S.T. Academy Back Office Services Proposal (1).pdf
- EPA Resolution BEST FY26 - Final.docx
- EPA Resolution BEST FY27 - Preliminary.docx
- 2025-26 BEST Academy Prop 28 AnnualReport (1).pdf
- 2025-26 BEST Academy Prop 28 Annual Certification (1).pdf
- BP 3430 Investment Policy and Guidelines (1).docx

Recording