Adelante Schools

Minutes

Adelante Schools Board Meeting

Date and Time
Friday August 21, 2026 at 8:30 AM

Location
Adelante Schools at Emma Donnan Elementary & Middle School
1202 E. Troy Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Goals:

1. Approve organizational foundational tools and policies to govern our school and operate effectively.
2. Deepen our understanding of Adelante's Emma Donnan operational state and provide any necessary support and guidance.

Directors Present
A. St John, C. Tello, L. Aguayo, M. Meer, M. Staten, N. Frech, R. Scott

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
B. Chandler, C. Franz, J. Habayeb, K. Gavin, M. Rooney

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

B. Record Attendance

C. Public Comment

D. Approve Minutes

M. Staten made a motion to approve the minutes from Adelante Schools Board Meeting on 06-12-26.
N. Frech seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Scott	Aye
N. Frech	Aye
C. Tello	Aye
L. Aguayo	Aye
M. Staten	Aye
A. St John	Aye
M. Meer	Aye

E. Vote on New Board Member - Donneisha Baker

N. Frech made a motion to Approve Donneisha Baker as a member of the Board.
M. Staten seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

C. Tello	Aye
N. Frech	Aye
A. St John	Aye
M. Staten	Aye
R. Scott	Aye
L. Aguayo	Aye
M. Meer	Aye

F. Vote on New Board Member - Luke Lennon

N. Frech made a motion to Approve Luke Lennon as a member of the Board.
L. Aguayo seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Staten	Aye
R. Scott	Aye
L. Aguayo	Aye
A. St John	Aye

Roll Call

C. Tello	Aye
M. Meer	Aye
N. Frech	Aye

II. CEO Report

A. Spotlight & Executive Updates

M Rooney: We celebrate joy (ebulience) each and every day. We bring our staff together for three weeks over the summer. This continues with our Back to School Bash.

Our school year is won or lost in the first two weeks. We are now two weeks in, and we are celebrating our operational wins. We have had some of the best, fastest dismissals. Our teachers are happy and excited to build culture and jump right into learning.

Indiana has a new school accountability framework. It's not perfect, and it will be challenging. But we can use this framework to track and drive our progress.

The goal for students is meeting grade-level standards. The new framework takes into account both current-level testing scores and progress towards goals. MLL growth on WIDA is reflected in the accountability model.

We are excited about our current average daily attendance, IREAD scores, and our pass rates in our special populations.

Our challenges are our science and social studies ILEARN scores. We have addressed this with increased science team members.

As a charter school, we have three accountability models: IDOE, IPEC, and OEI.

III. Finance & Operations

A. Metrics

J Habayeb: We have closed our fiscal year meeting and exceeding standards from our OEI goals.

We have already surpassed our minimum enrollment goals. We have waitlists in three grades.

B. Lilly Updates

J Habayeb: We are full steam ahead on the physical space updates - Adding space for a nurse, conducting telehealth, a stage, an updated cafeteria, and spaces for staff collaboration.

C. Finance Board Goal

J Habayeb: As income begins to drop over the next few years and levy sharing, some of our extra cash on hand may be depleted. In 2031, the increased revenue may not be enough to cover our expenses.

IPEC will be working on transportation and facilities - We need a clear idea of what those expenses will look like.

With levy sharing, we need more transparency and we need updated guidance.

M Meer: How stable is that current attendance and enrollment?

JH: It has been more stable this year than in past years. If we see an uptick, it will be in October and January as families look to make moves.

M Meer: What do you need from the board?

JH: In the next finance committee meeting, we have a good roll-up from AT Financial.

D. Transactions

N. Frech made a motion to Approve the May & June Transactions.
M. Meer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. St John	Aye
M. Staten	Aye
L. Aguayo	Aye
C. Tello	Aye
N. Frech	Aye
R. Scott	Aye
M. Meer	Aye

IV. Board Engagement

A. OSOS: Core Values

R Scott: As a board, it is really easy for us to sit back and approve, but these values are a great place for us to find a deeper way to engage.

B. Board Discussion

M Rooney: Optimism is how we rebranded Ebbulience. We are giving energy everywhere we go. And we genuinely believe in the potential.

Swing is the idea that we all move together, and when we all move together, we move further.

J Habayeb: The core values were created in our work with Advisa, based on data from staff members about what makes them excited to come to work.

L Aguayo: I think we could have more Swing - Something like a retreat or time to come together to align.

M Staten: Ownership and Solidarity - Coming on to the board, I felt very comfortable coming on, saying what I needed to say. It took a while to learn about what needed to happen and what our roles were. Hopefully we can come together to learn and grow.

R Scott - To that point, Mary, you can be a new member buddy to folks who are coming on.
We will also look for committees for all members to serve on.

V. Committee Updates

A. Academic Excellence

C Franz:
DIBELS - K-3 Literacy - While we experienced growth during each of the three testing periods, we think we can do better.
4th - 8th DIBELS - Our data only reflects students who receive intervention. Now, we will assess every student 4th-8th. So every teacher, regardless of subject, was trained on DIBELS strategies.

MCLASS Math - K-5 - Middle school data was delayed due to being in the pilot study.

IREAD 3 - We have been averaging pass rates in the 80s, so we think that goal of 90% is achievable. We see high pass rate achievement given our free and reduced lunch rate.

The population that we need to lean into more is our students with special needs & IEPs.

Our shifts based on data: For literacy, focusing on automaticity and fluency earlier in the year.
For math, adopting a new screener and refining our intervention structure to address individual gaps. For science, refining our instruction and coaching with the new STEM Director.

R Scott: New members: Amy St John and Carmen Tello will join the committee

B. Finance & Development

M Meer: No additional updates at this moment.

L Aguayo: I can join the finance committee

L Lennon: Has there been discussion of what happens with referendum money?

J Habayeb: It depends on what happens with the IPEC transportation pilot.

C. Governance

N French: Main goal has been build the board membership. Our goal is 11, and now we are at 9. If you have anybody you think might be interested in joining to supportive, I would be happy to reach out on your behalf.

R Scott: My proposal is that we set forth an executive committee to replace the governance to help build the leadership.

VI. Board Chair Update

A. Board Updates

B. Board Goals Dashboard

R Scott: Goals as presented in the board packet and put forth by the committees.

C. Upcoming OEI Reports & Due Dates

VII. 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 10:25 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
B. Chandler

We unite in solidarity with our families and community to create a joyous neighborhood school, preparing all scholars to graduate from college and lead lives of leadership and service to Indianapolis