

APPROVED



## Scholarship Prep

# Minutes

## Regular Board Meeting

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### **Date and Time**

Thursday April 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM

### **Location**

4070 Mission Ave.

Oceanside, CA, 92057

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### **Zoom Meeting Information:**

**Meeting ID: 847 7579 6164**

**Passcode: 212359**

Scholarship Prep Orange County (17th Street) - 1010 West 17th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706  
Legacy Room

Scholarship Prep Orange County (Grand Ave) - 1821 N Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Admin Office

Scholarship Prep Oceanside - 4070 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92057  
Room 233

Scholarship Prep South Bay- 24910 S. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744  
First-floor Kindergarten Classroom

Scholarship Prep Riverside County - 9707 Magnolia Ave. Riverside, CA 92503  
Front Office

Scholarship Prep San Bernardino County - 20 W. 7th St. Upland, CA 91786

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Admin Office

Additional Teleconference Location: 800 W. 6th St. Suite 1605 Los Angeles, CA 90017

Additional Teleconference Location: 384 Armstrong Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07305

The meeting will be accessible via teleconference using the information listed above and at the locations above.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The public is invited to address the Board during the meeting using the Zoom meeting information above, or from any of the teleconference locations. Alternatively, public comments can also be submitted via email to [comments@scholarshipschools.org](mailto:comments@scholarshipschools.org) with “Public Comment for Board Meeting (on date of the Board Meeting)” in the subject line. The comment should include the name of the commenter, the Agenda Item number, and the topic that is to be discussed. Comments must be received by 12:30pm of the day before the scheduled Board Meeting and will be read during the meeting based upon time limitations. If the statement is not read online due to time limitations, the comments will be provided to the board members.

Members of the public may address the Board at regular meetings on agenda or non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, and at special meetings on agenda items only. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, with speakers attending the meeting called prior to reading written comments submitted by email, or may be grouped by subject area. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. . The Board may not take any action on matters discussed during the public testimony period that are not listed on the agenda.

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**Directors Present**

B. George (remote), C. Friedrichs (remote), J. Ing (remote), M. Toan (remote), S. Thomas (remote)

**Directors Absent**

*None*

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Quorum Check**

**B. Call the Meeting to Order**

C. Friedrichs called a meeting of the board of directors of Scholarship Prep to order on Thursday Apr 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

**D. Reading of the Scholarship Prep Mission Statement**

**E. Approval of the Agenda**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to Approve the agenda without actions item H. Approve the Scholarship Prep Contract with BambooHR in the amount of \$61,580.48, and without consent calendar item K. Approve the Updated Attendance Policy.

J. Ing seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Friedrichs Aye

S. Thomas Abstain

J. Ing Aye

B. George Aye

M. Toan Aye

**F. Invitation to Address the Board on Items on the Agenda**

**G. Invitation to Address the Board on Items Not on the Agenda**

**II. Information Section**

**A. Brown Act Training Presentation from Procopio**

Kevin Davis from Procopio provided an overview of the Brown Act training presentation which included the following topics:

- What constitutes a meeting under the Brown Act
- Types of meetings and required public notice
- Participation guidelines for board members and the public
- Overview of closed sessions
- Requirements related to agendas and meeting minutes

**B. Financial Update by Charter Impact**

David Olson from Charter Impact provided the March Financial Update. Overall, all Scholarship Prep schools are financially stable, with minimal changes compared to the January Second Interim report.

- Oceanside, Orange County, and South Bay continue to show healthy fiscal performance, with slight revenue increases.

- Expenses across sites increased slightly, mainly due to substitute teacher costs and special education services. All increases remain under 1% and are not material.
- Riverside (first-year school) is performing well. Revenue increased due to higher-than-anticipated Title I funding tied to enrollment growth.
- Upland continues to face early-stage challenges. There have been no material changes since January and improvement is projected in future years.
- Cash Flow:
  - All schools are in a stable position
  - Orange County is supporting Riverside and Upland through intercompany loans
  - Riverside cash flow is improving
  - Upland is being closely monitored but is projected to end the year with a positive balance
- Bond Covenants:
  - Orange County and South Bay are meeting or exceeding requirements for:
    - Base rent coverage
    - Days cash on hand (liquidity)

Charles Friedrichs ask if the money market rate increased, resulting in higher earnings Jason Sitomer from Charter Impact explained that the increase is due to the timing of interest recognition. Interest is recorded when the investment reaches maturity, not because of changes in interest rates. Funds are reinvested along with earned interest.

### **C. Scholarship Prep - Orange County Campus Update**

Principal Nicholas Sessions provided the Orange County Campus Update.

He started by discussing the proposed playground for TK/Kindergarten students, which incorporates structured play and sensory elements based on parent feedback and collaboration with Newsong. Charles asked if there be a fence around the playground, and Dr. Sessions confirmed that the playground will be located in a separate area from the soccer field and will include a fenced structure. He notes that the rendering shows is not the final design.

#### Campus Culture & Events Highlights

- March Movie Night with strong family turnout and free pizza
- Open House and STEM Night featuring student-led activities
- Expanded student leadership opportunities, including pep rallies
- Growth of extracurriculars such as Film Club and Cheer Team
- Library renovations and campus improvements

#### Community Partnerships & Programs

- Culinary Club in partnership with Lunch Bunch
- STEM collaboration with Samueli Academy
- LA Sparks partnership for social-emotional learning
- Monthly free haircuts provided by volunteer barbers
- Foster and Kinship Care Education (FKCE) classes through Saddleback College
- “Teddy Bear Hospital” program with UCI medical students
- Mentorship opportunities with Sage Hill School

Charles also asked how this variety of programs and resources is being communicated to families? Dr. Sessions explained that communication is ongoing and multi-faceted, including ClassDojo, direct outreach (calls and messages), word of mouth, and staff engagement. Additional outreach includes social media and broader community messaging. Social media is used primarily for community awareness and external audiences; direct parent communication relies more heavily on platforms like ClassDojo.

#### **D. Scholarship Prep - Oceanside Campus Update**

Principal Charity Grieshaber provided the Oceanside Campus Update and spoke about the following topics:

- First semester performances included *Nutcracker* (dance and music); second semester will feature *Retrograde*
- The SOS Dance Team participated in their first competition, earning four trophies. One additional competition is planned this year.
- Open House was successfully held.
- The school completed both WASC accreditation and a county oversight visit in the same week. WASC accreditation was reaffirmed through June 30, 2029.
- A new family literacy event, “PJs and Pages,” was introduced, featuring a local author, a book walk with donated books, a coffee cart, and karaoke. The event was well received.
- Additional family engagement events are planned, including an upcoming Family Game Night.
- The semester includes upcoming awards ceremonies and two promotion events.

Charles asked what types of games are offered during Family Game Night, and Charity answered that the event will include bingo and various board/card games such as Uno and Spoons. There are also donated prizes (e.g., movie tickets and popcorn from Regal) that will be available.

#### **E. Organization Update**

Executive Director Jason Watts provided the organization update.

The Scholarship Prep Community Foundation received a \$50,000 donation to support students, families, and staff. Recognition was given to Kristen, Victor, and Marissa for building trust with families and identifying needs.

**Grand Avenue Campus Consolidation - The families** have been notified of the Grand Avenue campus sale and the transition is underway to consolidate all students to the 17th Street campus.

- Charles asked if we have a sense of whether families will remain and transition to the 17th Street campus? Jason answered that yes, the majority of families already have students at the 17th Street campus and we have hosted events to support the transition, and feedback has been positive.
- Charles also asked if families expressed concerns about the new playground? Jason said that no concerns have been raised and it is expected to be a positive addition.

**South Bay Charter Renewal Update** - submission is planned for June or July, and we expect a decision in late fall. Ongoing monitoring of LAUSD trends and renewal decisions as well as continued engagement with board members, including visits from Tanya Ortiz Franklin.

**CalSTRS Legislative Update (AB 2519)** - Increased scrutiny on charter school participation in CalSTRS, particularly for non-site-based staff. AB 2519 is proposed to maintain eligibility for all charter school employees.

- **Key Points:** If AB 2519 passes: eligibility continues for all staff. If not: non-site-based administrators may lose eligibility starting July 1, 2027. There are limited and uncertain alternative options (e.g., grandfathering).
- Charles asked if site-based principals still covered, how does this impact multi-site administrators, how will this affect recruitment and retention of administrators, and what about existing employees—can they be grandfathered in? Jason Watts stated that site-based personnel remain eligible while non-site-based roles may be impacted, this may create complications for multi-site administrators depending on role structure. Jason also explained that this could make it more difficult to attract and retain qualified candidates, especially for non-site-based roles. It may be a possibility for existing employees to be grandfathered in, but details are unclear and evolving.
- Lastly, Charles asked about the current status of AB 2519?, and Jason said that it is scheduled to be heard soon; updates are expected following upcoming discussions and committee actions.

### III. Actions Items

#### A.

### **Approve the Nomination of Steve Thomas to the Scholarship Prep Board of Directors**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

M. Toan seconded the motion.

Charles asked if Steve Thomas could introduce himself and provide his reasoning for why he would like to join the board. Steve shared that he has 34 years of experience in public education (elementary and middle school) and, after several years in retirement, is seeking opportunities to re-engage in education. He expressed interest in supporting staff and contributing to the organization's mission of serving underserved students.

He noted a potential scheduling conflict for an upcoming meeting due to international travel and raised a question regarding compliance with Brown Act requirements if participating remotely from out of the country. Staff indicated they would seek clarification from legal counsel to ensure compliance.

Jason Watts shared that Steve was recommended by former board member Pete Watson and brings relevant experience aligned with the organization's needs, including expertise in district-level leadership, facilities, and human resources. His background and mission alignment were highlighted as strong assets to the board.

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

#### **Roll Call**

B. George Aye

S. Thomas Abstain

C. Friedrichs Aye

M. Toan Aye

J. Ing Aye

### **B. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Orange County 2026-27 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

J. Ing seconded the motion.

Charles asked to clarify what these items are for. Deputy Director, Andrew Crowe, explained that the declaration is required in California due to unique state credentialing requirements. It serves two primary purposes:

1. To support hiring educators from out of state who may not yet have the required English Learner (EL) authorization specific to California. The declaration allows the organization to work with county offices of education to submit necessary documentation to the state on behalf of these educators.
2. To provide flexibility in hiring amid a shrinking educator workforce by allowing the organization to employ individuals with intern credentials or those currently in teacher preparation programs, including requesting applicable waivers or allowances.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Friedrichs Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
B. George Aye  
S. Thomas Aye  
J. Ing Aye

**C. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Oceanside 2026-27 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

B. George seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Thomas Aye  
J. Ing Aye  
C. Friedrichs Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
B. George Aye

**D. Approve the Scholarship Prep - South Bay 2026-27 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

B. George seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. George Aye  
J. Ing Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
C. Friedrichs Aye  
S. Thomas Aye

**E. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Riverside County 2026-27 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

M. Toan seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. George Aye  
C. Friedrichs Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
S. Thomas Aye

**Roll Call**

J. Ing            Aye

**F. Approve the Scholarship Prep - San Bernardino County 2026-27 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve.

B. George seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

B. George    Aye

C. Friedrichs    Aye

M. Toan        Aye

J. Ing            Aye

S. Thomas    Aye

**G. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Orange County Contract with Coast Recreation, Inc. for the TK-K Playground Installation in the amount not to exceed \$150,000**

B. George made a motion to approve.

J. Ing seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Thomas    Aye

M. Toan        Abstain

J. Ing            Aye

C. Friedrichs    Aye

B. George    Aye

**H. Approve the Scholarship Prep Contract with BambooHR in the amount of \$61,580.48**

This item was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. No action was taken on this item.

**IV. Consent Calendar**

**A. Approve the March 31st Special Meeting Minutes**

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 03-31-26.

S. Thomas seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Ing            Aye

B. George    Aye

**Roll Call**

C. Friedrichs Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
S. Thomas Aye

- B. Approve the March Financials and Check Register**
  - C. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Orange County 2026-27 Annual Calendar**
  - D. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Oceanside 2026-27 Annual Calendar**
  - E. Approve the Scholarship Prep - South Bay 2026-27 Annual Calendar**
  - F. Approve the Scholarship Prep - Riverside County 2026-27 Annual Calendar**
  - G. Approve the Scholarship Prep - San Bernardino County 2026-27 Annual Calendar**
  - H. Approve the Dean of Student Services Job Description**
  - I. Approve the Head of School Job Description**
  - J. Approve the Revised Assistant Principal Job Description**
  - K. Approve the Updated Attendance Policy**
- L. Approve the Agreement for Municipal Advisory Services with Karl Yoder, Key Charter Advisors, LLC**
- M. Approval of Consent Calendar**

This item was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. No action was taken on this item.

C. Friedrichs made a motion to approve the consent calendar without item K. Approve the Updated Attendance Policy.  
S. Thomas seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

S. Thomas Aye  
M. Toan Aye  
J. Ing Aye  
B. George Aye  
C. Friedrichs Aye

**V. Closed Session**

- A.**

**Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code § 54957) Title: Executive Director**

The Board entered the closed session at 3:04 pm.

**VI. Return to Open Session**

**A. Report Out of Closed Session, if any**

Board President, Charles Friedrichs, reported out of close session at 3:29 pm. There was nothing to report out of closed session.

**VII. Closing Items**

**A. Board Comments and Future Agenda Items**

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
C. Friedrichs

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**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.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION MAY BE MADE**

Notice is hereby given that, consistent with the requirements of the Brown Act, special presentations not mentioned in the agenda may be made at this meeting. However, any such presentation will be for information only.

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITY**

Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 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 Jason Watts. Email: [jwatts@scholarshipschools.org](mailto:jwatts@scholarshipschools.org)

**BOARD DOCUMENTS**

Agenda documents that have been distributed to members of the Board are available for inspection online by requesting from Jason Watts at [jwatts@scholarshipschools.org](mailto:jwatts@scholarshipschools.org) "during normal school business hours Mon- Friday" or at any of the Scholarship Prep School Offices during regular business hours.

Scholarship Prep Orange County (17th Street) - 1010 West 17th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Scholarship Prep Orange County (Grand Ave) - 1821 N Grand Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Scholarship Prep Oceanside - 4070 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92057  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Scholarship Prep South Bay- 24910 S. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Scholarship Prep Riverside County - 9707 Magnolia Ave. Riverside, CA 92503  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Scholarship Prep San Bernardino County - 20 W. 7th St. Upland, CA 91786  
7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information concerning this agenda, please contact Jason Watts at:  
**[jwatts@scholarshipschools.org](mailto:jwatts@scholarshipschools.org)**