APPROVED

Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence

Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday May 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Location
Board Of Trustees is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic: Board Of Trustees' Monthly Meeting
Time: Jan 21, 2025 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Every month on the Third Tue, until Jul 15, 2025, 7 occurrence(s)
Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.
Monthly: https://mlkcs-org.zoom.us/meeting/tZUtceuspj4rE9EDOb1Jb9cCQnlV6cB4xnsU/ics?icsToken=DJg3TIA-lP3MTwL-RAAALAAAALtkhqUJuIdSD2TC0FFQDNrxO54voBrhE0rGost3OL_O-FTjFMSLn9mjXej4pWBwWPmEgr1A5b8VBI76-zAwMDAwMQ&meetingMasterEventId=eppMBExJSECSI11CdoIQ9Q
Join Zoom Meeting
https://mlkcs-org.zoom.us/j/81062485195?pwd=DKrpa7OhazdCK8mmnDJ1C0fLlgoVVy.1
Meeting ID: 810 6248 5195
Passcode: 422412

One tap mobile
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• +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
• +1 360 209 5623 US
• +1 386 347 5053 US
• +1 507 473 4847 US
• +1 564 217 2000 US
• +1 669 444 9171 US
• +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
• +1 689 278 1000 US
• +1 719 359 4580 US
• +1 253 205 0468 US
Meeting ID: 810 6248 5195
Passcode: 422412
Find your local number: https://mlkcs-org.zoom.us/u/kezWTFztIm

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Trustees Present
Alton Jones (remote), Bertha Wecher (remote), Darren James (remote), Diana Foskett (remote), Donna Carroll (remote), James Lightfoot (remote), Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez (remote)

Trustees Absent
Denise Pagan-Vega, Kiyota Garcia

Guests Present
Kendra Salvador (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Diana Foskett called a meeting of the board of trustees of Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence to order on Tuesday May 20, 2025 at 5:43 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Donna Carroll made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting on 04-15-25.

Bertha Wecher seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Kiyota Garcia	Absent
Denise Pagan-Vega	Absent
Bertha Wecher	Aye
Donna Carroll	Aye
Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez	Aye
Alton Jones	Aye
James Lightfoot	Aye
Darren James	Aye
Diana Foskett	Aye

II. Executive Director's Report to the Board

A. Executive Director's Report to the Board

- **Principal Hiring Update:** Two of three Round 2 interviews completed. One strong candidate identified. Teacher panels are involved and leading Q&A. Third interview scheduled later that week.
- **Director of Student Support:** Internal candidate formally accepted the offer.
- **Employee Handbook Review:** Kendra requested more time be allocated during the June 6 meeting due to the number of proposed updates.
- **Parking Lot Expansion Project:**
  - Original $207K bid has ballooned to $500–600K due to new engineering requirements
  - Issues included regrading, underground drainage, and Public Works compliance
  - Kendra will review contract language and consult DESE to explore rebidding
  - Board encouraged soliciting new bids now that engineering plans are owned

B. Vote: Budget

Donna Carroll made a motion to Approve FY 2025–2026 Budget.
Bertha Wecher seconded the motion.

- **Discussion**: Kendra Salvador reviewed updates since the last meeting:
  - Per-pupil tuition estimate increased due to Senate Ways & Means projections
  - One line item (data dashboard) came in $14K over the placeholder
  - Overall budget remains conservative; projected revenue still supports operating needs
  - Teremar remained on the call to vote on this item

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

Roll Call	
Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez	Aye
James Lightfoot	Aye
Donna Carroll	Aye
Alton Jones	Aye
Denise Pagan-Vega	Absent
Kiyota Garcia	Absent
Darren James	Aye
Bertha Wecher	Aye
Diana Foskett	Aye

III. Committee Updates

A. Academic Excellence

Presenter: Kendra Salvador (on behalf of Kiyota Garcia)
Discussion Summary:

- **Student Outcomes:** 75% of students met DESE proficiency targets
- **Multilingual Learners:** All but 5 exited ESL services
- **Summer School 2025:** Scheduled for July 7–25, with morning academics and afternoon enrichment (music, dance, art, outdoor games)
- **Compliance Alert:** Diana reminded committees that **agendas and minutes must be posted publicly** via BoardOnTrack, especially with charter renewal on the horizon

B. Finance Committee

Presenter: Diana Foskett and Kendra Salvador
Discussion Summary:

- **Strong Financial Standing:** Continued surplus and conservative budgeting
- **Banking Issues:** Concern raised about low-interest returns from Berkshire Bank
- **Action Items:**
  - Kendra to retrieve loan documents
  - Reach out to Berkshire for better investment options
  - Compare offers from Monson Savings and Peoples Bank
- **Commentary:** Darren James highlighted the stronger community presence and partnership interest shown by Peoples and Monson over Berkshire

C. HR Committee

Presenter: Kendra Salvador

- **Summary:** No formal meeting. One teacher conflict resulted in a resignation and was resolved.

D.

FY 2025 Vote

IV. Board Chair Updates

A. Motion to Appoint Donna Carroll as the new Clerk

Darren James made a motion to Appoint Donna Carroll as the new Clerk.
Alton Jones seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Darren James	Aye
James Lightfoot	Aye
Kiyota Garcia	Absent
Denise Pagan-Vega	Absent
Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez	Absent
Bertha Wecher	Aye
Donna Carroll	Abstain
Alton Jones	Aye
Diana Foskett	Aye

B. Motion to add Sherard as a new Board Member

Darren James made a motion to Add Sherard Johnson as a New Board Member.
James Lightfoot seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

James Lightfoot	Aye
Donna Carroll	Aye
Diana Foskett	Aye
Kiyota Garcia	Absent
Denise Pagan-Vega	Absent
Bertha Wecher	Aye
Alton Jones	Aye
Darren James	Aye
Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez	Absent

C. Motion to add Nealon as Board Member

Donna Carroll made a motion to Add Nealon Lewis as a New Board Member.
Darren James seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Donna Carroll	Aye
Denise Pagan-Vega	Absent
Darren James	Aye
Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez	Absent

Roll Call

Diana Foskett	Aye
Alton Jones	Aye
Bertha Wecher	Aye
Kiyota Garcia	Absent
James Lightfoot	Aye

V. 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 6:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Carroll