Atlanta SMART Academy

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday June 15, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location
Meeting Password: HJ9SS0

Directors Present
A. Bruce (remote), E. Ross (remote), I. Lee (remote), L. Cofield (remote), S. Scott (remote), V. Williams (remote), W. Brasher (remote), W. Newman-Johnson (remote)

Directors Absent
A. Kennedy, B. Williams

Guests Present
P. Meadows (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

V. Williams called a meeting of the board of directors of Atlanta SMART Academy to order on Monday Jun 15, 2026 at 5:38 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

W. Newman-Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 05-18-26.
E. Ross seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic Oversight and Governance Committee

A. Updates

The academic committee update was provided by Sandra. The committee meeting focused on two main items: legislative policy updates and the upcoming board retreat.

For the policy updates, Wanda reminded committee members to review and update any highlighted policies in the shared document, with particular attention to those due after July 1st which will be discussed at the off-site meeting.

The board retreat was confirmed to be held at Inspiredu (1550 Southland Circle, Northeast Suite 200, Atlanta, Georgia) with a half-day on Friday 6/26 from 1-5 PM and full day on Saturday, 6/27 from 9 AM-4 PM, featuring a facilitated session with Lisa McDonald from the Georgia Charter School Association on Day 2.

Veronica announced that all board members must complete their virtual trainings by June 30th.
The deadline for training completion is June 30th, and board members were instructed to contact Nikita Smith and Michelle Neely at SCSC if they haven't received confirmation of completion.

B. Legislative Updates / Policy Handbook Status

The Academic Oversight and Governance Committee discussed the status of policy updates and highlighted policies in the shared document with particular attention to those due after July 1st which will be discussed at the board retreat.

For the policy updates, Veronica shared the link to the tracking document for the policy updates. Wanda reminded committee members to review and update any highlighted policies in the shared document.

III. Finance, Facility, Development, and Strategic Partnership Committee

A.

Finance Update

Ivan presented the financial statements showing the organization is performing well with revenues at 6.78% and expenses at 7.68% of budget remaining.

The board will vote on a $12,600 teacher bonus to be paid in July, with Veronica tasked to draft a communication letter explaining the bonus is being provided due to the school's strong financial position despite not receiving state funding.

The board will also review the new teacher compensation pay scale for approval and the FY27 budget totaling $3.98 million.

B. Vote for Teacher Bonus

W. Newman-Johnson made a motion to Approve Teacher Bonus.
S. Scott seconded the motion.
The board approved a $12,600 teacher bonus payout which included $700 for eligible teachers. The State did not provide the total $2,000 bonus they had original stated they would provide. In an effort to make the teachers whole that were returning the board voted to provide the additional bonus amount. Payout in July timeframe.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Vote for New Teacher Compensation Pay Scale

L. Cofield made a motion to Approve new teacher payscale.
E. Ross seconded the motion.
The board approved the new teacher payscale for the FY 27 year which was included in the budget.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Vote to Approve FY27 Budget

L. Cofield made a motion to Approve the FY27 Budget.
A. Bruce seconded the motion.
The board reviewed and formally approve to adopt the FY27 budget with a total revenue projection of $3.98 million.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Executive Director Updates

A. Highlights

- 8th grade prom & promotion
- Hosted Senator Rashaun Kemp as guest speaker for the graduation
- 5th grade promotion on campus

Upcoming

- Summer Bash Sat. June 20, 1-2pm
- Back to School Fair July 25, 12-3pm (Goal to give out 100 book bags with school supplies)

B. Academic Updates

Patrice provided comprehensive updates on academic performance showing increases in math and science proficiency:

- 6th grade math +14%, +12% proficiency from 2025
- HS algebra +36% increase proficiency from 2025
- 8th grade science +12% developing and above from 2025
- 8th grade social studies +13% increase developing and above from 2025

Analysis and Action

- Update ELA standards
- Improve MTSS program to increase student literacy and foundational math skills
- Add after school tutoring to budget
- Adopt new science curriculum
- Science professional development

C. Operations

Enrollment 2026-2027
Goal is to fill 125 seats for new students

	Returning	**New**
5th grade	N/A	31
6th grade	15	61
7th grade	39	15
8th grade	37	16
Total	91	
	In progress	+14

Action Plan

- Social Media
- Summer tours

Grants & Fundraising

- $100,000 goal revising plan and will review and retreat

- SCSC Expansion cohort to assist with expansion submitting
- Eligible CSP Grant and high dosage tutoring grant

V. Other Business

A. Emory Grant

Lauren was able to secure a grant for Atlanta Smart Academy and shared details about the new $1,000 Emory grant project focused on developing a student micro-enterprise involving hydroponic plants and chickens for seventh grade students.

Lauren will work directly with Patrice and the 7th grade Science teacher to review the project and establish and plan for the developing the student micro enterprise.

VI. 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 6:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Newman-Johnson