APPROVED

Atlanta SMART Academy

Minutes

ASA Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday October 19, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87648689251?pwd=fIqDlNx25s76t5vZbVDOj0QYRbShFa.1

Meeting ID: 876 4868 9251

Passcode: 933469

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

Directors Absent
A. Bruce, B. Williams

Guests Present
Bambo Sonaike (remote), Lisa McDonald (remote), P. Meadows (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

W. Newman-Johnson called a meeting of the board of directors of Atlanta SMART Academy to order on Monday Oct 19, 2026 at 5:36 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

W. Brasher made a motion to approve the minutes from ASA Board Meeting on 09-21-26.
L. Cofield seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic Oversight and Governance Committee

A. Academics and Governance Updates

SCSC Monitoring - began in Sep, WNJ meets weekly with Director Patrice for status updates
● 2 links SCSC said they did not see, Patrice actioned it with the webmaster team and it was corrected. No points deducted unless edits/info are not provided in the Spring deadline
● The requirements for the Group 1, 10/19/26 due dates were met per Director Meadows
● Group 4 due 10/30/26
● October 21, registration opens for the mandatory SCSC annual training to be held on Feb 9-10 and Apr 13-14
● Lauren Cofield will partner with WNJ for ownership/assignment of the SCSC monitoring deliverables

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

A. Finance Update

● Bambo Sonaike presented 2-stage audit results for FY26. Loan was paid down to $0 as of June 2026. The audit did not find any deficiencies in the internal controls. Audit also found compliance with materials for financial statements and reporting.
● ASA is navigating reduced head count for the FY27 school year.. We projected a $466K
loss, however with grant awards the loss is now at $394K. Board Members are encouraged to engage with community members to reduce the remaining deficit. Grant Awards include:
○ Security Grant
○ Admin Fee Reduction Grant
● CPF Fiscal Dashboard gives projected insight on the school’s monitored performance for
the annual CPF monitoring. ASA is currently projected at 49 against a total score of 65. Note: 5 points of that does not apply to ASA because the facility is leased, not owned.
● Board to monitor the ‘Telecommunications’ and ‘Communications: web-based subscriptions and licenses’ line items to confirm annual or quarterly subscription times as well as confirm if taxes are being waived for large purchases. ASA should qualify for tax

exemption.

B. FY26 Audit Review

I. Lee made a motion to approve finance audit.
V. Williams seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
L. Cofield	Aye
I. Lee	Aye
W. Brasher	Aye
B. Williams	Absent
A. Kennedy	Aye
E. Ross	Aye
V. Williams	Aye
W. Newman-Johnson	Aye
A. Bruce	Absent

IV. Executive Director Updates

A. ED Updates

● Community Update: ASA hosted 2 engagement events - Curriculum Night and World Cultures Night. Over 60% of parents attended 1 or both nights. Food was provided from sponsors as students led presentations. Overview of curriculum and 6th-7th grade social studies projects.
● Academic Updates: Q1 benchmark tests happen in Oct and will be presented at the November board meeting. Board Members asked to review the new dashboard to improve communication of progress toward goals, align internal processes with board info needs, identify key areas of improvement and make timely pivots.
○ WNJ recommended student attendance and absentee rates
○ Students achievement to grade level goals
○ Comparison to other schools benchmarks
● Operations Updates: Total 165 students, will be 169. Numbers are locked in for Oct data
count. 2nd data collection is March 2027. Enrollment will still be pushed throughout the year since there is space. TBD discussion on 5th grade enrollment efforts.
○ Ongoing Action Plan for enrollment = social media, following up with leads, current family and staff referral, community events, and canvassing apartment complex and shopping plazas
○ Enrollment 2027-2028 school year opens on Nov 1st, once per month school shadowing allowed for prospective families
○ School choice fairs were recommended by WNJ
○ Veronica Williams suggested a mini-workshop or camp to allow kids to be a temp ASA student during their standard fall break. Meadows confirmed there a

plans in place with partners to host a STEAM camp and separate camp for the performing arts
○ Marketing effort from ASA's first students who are currently high school seniors will conduct interviews about their matriculation after ASA curriculum.
○ ASA successfully submitted Groups 1 - 3 for SCSC monitoring. Group 4 in progress. The finance monitoring was due and submitted today, 10/19
○ Corrective Actions: Finding on Health and Safety visit about ceiling tiles being painted and the fire extinguisher inspection have been completed
● Finance: Did not receive the High Dosage Tutoring grant (did not receive since our grade
performance was in the green), Applied for the school expansion grant which is for $750K, expected to hear back in November
○ Giving Tuesday is slated for December 1, 2026. Board Members encouraged to partner with employers to do employer matching
○ Key strengths identified in SCSC Expansion Cohort
■ Increased from Does Not Meet to Exceeds in SCSC academic performance and increased operational score from 50 to 90. In SY24-25, ASA was among 16 of 48 charter schools meeting or exceeding standards.
○ Areas identified to strengthen and prepare for growth
■ Strengthen math instruction and strengthen recruitment to support headcount during student enrollment declines

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 7:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Ross