APPROVED

Liberty STEAM Charter

Minutes

LSC Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Friday April 25, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Location
100 N Main Street
Sumter, SC 29150

This meeting is held in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. A copy of the agenda has been made available to the local media & general public.

Mission: Liberty STEAM Charter (LSC) works to provide all students equal access to a world-class K-12 education in an academically rigorous & student-centered learning environment, creating graduates to be thoughtful & engaged citizens prepared to take on the leadership challenges of the 21st century.

Vision: In partnership with our families & the community, Liberty STEAM Charter (LSC) will provide interdisciplinary, real-world, personalized, and project-based learning experiences through a STEAM-based academic program where graduates become the next generation of leaders, employers, and employees who contribute to the economic well-being of their communities and families.

Committee Members Present
(Tajma) LaShea Davis, Cameron Chandler (remote), Greg Thompson

Committee Members Absent

Rodney Thompson

Ex Officio Members Present
Trevor Ivey

Guests Present
Amy Hansen

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Greg Thompson called a meeting of the Executive Committee Committee of Liberty STEAM Charter to order on Friday Apr 25, 2025 at 9:30 AM.

C. Invocation

Ms. Davis provided an invocation.

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. Reading of the Mission Statement

F. Reading of the Vision Statement

G. Approval of Consent Agenda

Cameron Chandler made a motion to approve the consent agenda that consisted of the meeting agenda and minutes from BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING on 03-07-25.
(Tajma) LaShea Davis seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Committee Updates

A. Committee Updates

Development Committee:

- Dr. Ivey reported that the committee reviewed several past and upcoming student field trips aligned with workforce development partnerships. These included visits

to EMS Chemie, Central Carolina Technical College, City of Sumter Waste Water Management, and Nephron.

Finance Committee:

- Dr. Ivey stated that finances are on track to exceed the FY25 budget by approximately $250,000.
  - A $200,000 grant from the SC Department of Education (SCDE) is expected soon.
  - An additional $200,000 in potential grant funds from SCDE appears promising based on recent communication.
  - $500,000 in federal reimbursements are currently pending receipt.
- Engagement with Afton Partners to reach 60 days cash on hand. A new line of credit will provide 30 days cash on hand.
- The construction loan has been paid down to $3.7 million but has since increased to slightly over $4 million.
- The FY26 budget is conservative, projecting a year-end profit of $733,000.

The committee recommends second reading approval of the FY26 budget at the May Board of Directors Meeting. Third reading is anticipated at the June meeting.

Academic Committee:

- The committee received updates on the upcoming Report Card rating, which will include:
  - Academic achievement at 18.96%
  - Parent/guardian surveys completed (worth 10 points)
  - Student and staff surveys to be completed in June/July

Governance Committee:

- Ms. Chandler shared that updated committee assignments will be presented for board approval in May and policy discussions on board director term limits are scheduled for the summer board retreat.

Dr. Ivey also reported on:

- Team assessments and personal commitments reviewed since the mid-year off-site.
- Leadership recruitment and selection progress, noting a strong candidate pool.

Executive Committee discussion included information from Dr. Ivey:

- Title I funds will support interventionists.

- $250,000 from the general fund supports the second classroom teacher model at the primary level.
- All grade levels are strong, with promising outlooks for FY26 second grade.
- Liberty continues to attract high-quality talent.
- One special education position remains open, with strong candidates and a backup plan in place.
- SC READY rallies are underway; testing begins in two weeks.
- Attendance is on track, with full data to be shared at year-end.
- Policy changes regarding special education and the grading system will be presented for board approval for the next academic year.

Additional discussion included the correlation of the decline in public education outcomes and the increased crime rate in Sumter.

III. Other Business

A. Agenda Items from Committee Members

There were no agenda items from committee members.

B. *Selection of Auditor

The Board of Directors at its March 24 meeting gave full authority to the executive committee to vet all financial audit bids and make a selection for audit services.

IV. Executive Session

A. Purposes of Discussion of Negotiations Incident to Proposed Contractual Agreements and Discussion of Personnel Matters

Ms. Chandler made a motion to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual agreements and discussion of personnel matters. Ms. Davis seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
Upon Consensus, the committee returned to open session.

V. Committee Action

A. Any Action Related to Executive Session Item(s)

B. Selection of Auditor

Cameron Chandler made a motion to select and approve Martin Smith and Company for audit services.
(Tajma) LaShea Davis seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Closing Items

A. Next Steps

- Ms. Hansen will register board directors for the May 21 board orientation in Columbia.
- Dr. Ivey will blast the attendance rate and attendance policy at the end of the school year
- Dr. Ivey will send Chairman Thompson data/talking points regarding military students and include Superintendent Chris Neely's recent Op Ed.
- Dr. Ivey will reach out to the Charter School Growth Fund.

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B. Good of the Order

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Hansen