APPROVED

Liberty STEAM Charter

Minutes

LSC Board of Directors Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday November 20, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Location
LSC Network Office
108 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.

Committee Members Present
(Tajma) LaShea Davis (remote), Cameron Chandler, Jenny Knopf, Shafara Douglas

Committee Members Absent
None

Ex Officio Members Present
Trevor Ivey

Guests Present
Amy Hansen

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Jenny Knopf called a meeting of the Academic Committee Committee of Liberty STEAM Charter to order on Thursday Nov 20, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

C. Invocation

Shafara Douglas gave an invocation.

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Jenny Knopf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. Reading of Vision and Mission Statements

Cameron Chandler read the vision statement.
Jenny Knopf read the mission statement.

F. Consent Agenda Approval of Meeting Agenda and Previous Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from LSC Board of Directors Academic Committee Meeting on 10-23-25.
With no objections, the consent agenda consisting of the meeting agenda and previous meeting's minutes was approved.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic Excellence Topics for Discussion

A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director's Report

1. Committee Liaison Report Dr. Michelle McDonald:
    1. November Report Out (Presentations Attached):
        1. Refining our Approach to Science Instruction (Presentation by Lauren Horn attached including the SDE Grade Four Assessment Specifications for the State Assessment of the SC Career and College Ready Science Standards 2021 for 2025-26)
        2. Current State of the Achievement Gap at LSC
        3. Updates to Pursuit of Cognia
2. ED’s Academy Best Practices Task Force (Uniform Philosophy is being reviewed for a recommendation to the Board to accept at the December 1 meeting.)

3. 2025 Eagle Giving Tree (Flyers Provided for Each Director to Share)
4. 2026-2027 School Calendar Proposed Amendments (to be approved December 1)
5. 2027-2028 Proposed School Calendar (to be approved December 1)
6. School Updates (Uniform Philosophy to be accepted December 1)
    1. Grant and Fundraising Initiatives
        1. South Carolina Children's Fund (Confirmed $125K)
        2. Walton Foundation (Efforts ongoing as well as Brown and Levine Foundations)
        3. Charter School Growth Fund- Next Steps (Milestone Met to Receive $100k Dec. Pymt)
        4. Yass Alumni Award (Dr. Ivey will join the YASS Prize Alumni Contenders at the Power of Innovation Summit in Washington, DC December 3-4)
        5. ATI Grant (30K Received)
        6. Quixote Foundation Golf Tournament ($350k Received)
        7. Festival of Windmills - (Activities resume in January)
        8. Dabo’s All In Foundation ($4k Received)
        9. American Heart Association ($2,500 Received)
        10. Williams-Edwards-Brice ($150k with $50k designated for nonfunded instructional supplies and $100k for non-recurring expenses)
        11. Outstanding Grants (Honda Grant Submitted)

III. New Business

A. Director Suggested Agenda Topics for Future Presentation

Committee members will contact Dr. Ivey with future agenda presentation requests.

IV. Closing Items

A. Committee Recommendations

Continue securing presenters for units to include water treatment, weather, topography, maps, and related topics.

Review of the 6th grade science curriculum and standards.

The committee reached consensus to recommend a STEM Lab two Fridays per month, with instructional support provided for the classroom teacher who is pulled out to lead the lab.

Verification of whether i-Ready is included on the State Approved Curriculum List.

In January, conduct a mid-year evaluation of curriculum and assessment tools, including: Mastery Connect, i-Ready; programs used by LSC versus those not used, what is working, what is not for overall effectiveness and alignment

CFA (Common Formative Assessments) will replace Progress Monitoring moving forward.

Review the Zero Tolerance Policy of Florence 1 School District for alignment considerations.

Identify scholars who may be in need for Christmas and review the list for support planning.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Hansen

Documents used during the meeting

- Academic Science Deep Dive Presentation - SC READY Scores.pdf
- Academic Achievement Gap Presentation for Academic Committee.pdf
- Academic Balanced Assessment System (4) (1).pdf
- SCREADY Data by Subgroups (1).pdf
- SCREADY Data by Subgroups One Pager.pdf
- Academic LSC_2026-27_Academic_Calendar (1).pdf
- Academic LSC 2027-28 Academic Calendar (1).pdf
- Development - ALL SC Children's Fund .pdf
- NEW Giving Tree Flyer (3).pdf