



## Liberty STEAM Charter

### Minutes

#### LSC Board of Directors Academic Committee Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Tuesday January 20, 2026 at 9:30 AM

##### **Location**

LSC Network Office

108 N. Main Street

Sumter, SC 29150

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***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.***

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##### **Committee Members Present**

(Tajma) LaShea Davis (remote), Cameron Chandler, Jenny Knopf

##### **Committee Members Absent**

Shafara Douglas

##### **Guests Present**

Amy Hansen, Trevor Ivey

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#### **I. Opening Items**

##### **A. Record of Attendance**

##### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

Jenny Knopf called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Liberty STEAM Charter to order on Tuesday Jan 20, 2026 at 9:30 AM.

**C. Invocation**

Jenny Knopf gave an invocation.

**D. Pledge of Allegiance**

Jenny Knopf invited attendees to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**E. Reading of Mission and Vision Statements**

Cameron Chandler read the mission statement.

Jenny Knopf read the vision statement.

**F. Consent Agenda Approval of Meeting Agenda and Previous Minutes**

Motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the meeting agenda and the minutes from LSC Board of Directors Academic Committee Meeting on 11-20-25.

With no objections, the consent agenda was approved.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**II. Academic Excellence Topics for Discussion**

**A. Executive Director's Report**

Dr. Ivey welcomed committee liaison Dr. Michelle McDonald to present her monthly report.

- Cognia Accreditation: The process remains on track, with a scheduled meeting anticipated in March.
- Transformational Coaching:
  - Increased instructional coaching support at the EA, with two dedicated days for second- and third-grade teacher support.
  - Coaching at the PA will continue at one hour per week, focused on reflective and targeted instructional growth.
- Best Practices in Grading and Homework Guidance: Policy updates and revisions were reviewed in preparation for Board action in March.
  - Documents include grading practices for K–5, middle-level grading procedures, homework guidance, and promotion and retention policies.
  - Key clarification: Scholars in Grades 1–5 will not receive a grade below 50; scholars in Grade 6 and above will receive the grade earned.
  - Materials have been forwarded to the Governance Committee for policy alignment.

Dr. Ivey welcomed Rashyra Smiling and Emily Hatfield to provide information on Mid-Year MAP Data. Ms. Smiling presented the Primary Academy Performance:

- Winter proficiency goal of 75% was narrowly missed in math (1%) and more significantly in reading (13%).
- CSI scholars exceeded growth expectations by 10% in reading and 30% in math.
- Spring Commitment:
  - 85% of K–1 scholars will meet or exceed MAP proficiency targets.
- Instructional Focus Areas:
  - Increased differentiation during independent work
  - Expanded small-group instruction
  - PLC driven data analysis to guide targeted academic support

Ms. Hatfield presented the EA presentation: SC READY Boot Camp – Eagle Advantage Program Overview:

- Eagle Advantage provides targeted academic reinforcement for Grades 2–5.
- The instructional team includes 12 retired teachers, interventionists, enrichment teachers, classroom teachers, and academy leaders.
- Scholars Served: 230 scholars supported by retired teachers; 130 scholars supported by interventionists
- Accountability Measures: Attendance tracking; Bi-weekly mastery assessments; Ongoing data collection and reporting
- Schedule: Monday–Thursday, 8:30 AM–12:00 PM

Dr. Ivey continued with the Mid-Year Organizational Goals: LSC is performing well across College and Career Readiness, Operational Excellence, Mission Alignment, Culture of Excellence, and Financial Strength, with many targets met or exceeded.

- Area to Watch: Sustained improvement in reading and math mastery. While growth work remains, early indicators show progress.
- A full Mid-Year Organizational Goal Report will be presented at the January Board meeting.

### **III. Closing Items**

#### **A. Committee Recommendations**

- Governance Committee review of grading and homework policy updates
- Confirmation of SSD grading scale
- Input requested on expanded after-school and Saturday academic support options
- Board members are invited to observe Eagle Advantage programming

#### **B. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Hansen

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### **Documents used during the meeting**

- Academic LSC Primary MAP one-pager Winter 2025.docx (1).pdf
- Academic Committee Eagle Advantage Presentation 120.pdf
- Academic Committee Liaison Presentation (2).pdf
- Academic Best Practices in Grading Policy Update .pdf
- ALL Debrief Overall Liberty STEAM Charter School\_ Fall '25 Spark Data Debrief (1) (1).pdf
- ALL NETWORK WIDE STAFF Survey Summary (1).pdf
- ALL LSC Primary Staff Survey Summary(1).pdf
- ALL LSC Elementary Staff Survey Summary (1).pdf
- ALL LSC Special Pops Staff Survey Summary (1).pdf
- ALL LSC Food Services Staff Survey Summary(1).pdf
- All Mid-Year Survey Parent Engagement HIGH LEVEL December 2025 (2).pdf
- LSC EA 25-26 MAP Data.xlsx
- 2025 EA MAP Linking Study (1).xlsx
- LSC 25-26 Mid Year Data RIT (1).pdf
- PA MAP Data Breakdown - MidYear (1).pdf
- ALL PA MAP Data 25-26 - READING.pdf
- ALL PA MAP Data 25-26 - MATH (2).pdf
- 202601 ALL LSC Semester 1 Discipline Report.pdf
- All Chronic Daily Absenct Alert as of 1-13-26.pdf
- All Daily Attendance Metrics as of 1-13-26.pdf
- ALL Liberty STEAM Charter School\_Executive Leader Succession and Sustainability Planning 2026.pdf
- Copy of Ivey's LSC Legacy Plan.pdf
- Mid-Year Progress to Goals LSC Copy of Organizational Goals 2025-2026 (4).pdf