APPROVED

Palisades Charter High School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday May 19, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Location
Gilbert Hall
15777 Bowdoin Street
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY:
Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board of Palisades Charter High School may request assistance by contacting the Main Office at (310) 230-6623 at least 24 hours in advance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:
Supporting documentation is available at the Main Office of the School, located at 15777 Bowdoin Street, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272, (Tel: 310- 230-6623) and may also be accessible on the PCHS website at http://palihigh.org/boardrecords.aspx.

ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE PROVIDED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY:
Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice. All items may be heard in a different order than listed on the agenda.

Trustees Present

Amir Ebtehadj, Andrew Paris, Fati Adeli, Jane Davis, Maggie Nance, Martha Monahan, Minh Ha Ngo, Negeen Ben-Cohen, Nicholas Albonico

Trustees Absent
Jessica Recinos, Lisa Cahill

Ex Officio Members Present
Dr. Pam Magee

Guests Present
Alessandra Santini

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Maggie Nance called a meeting of the board of trustees of Palisades Charter High School to order on Tuesday May 19, 2026 at 5:06 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Public Comment

Arianna Strippoli - regarding potential elimination of Italian program next year. She says the drop in enrollment has been in large part due to the fire. It's a small program but very robust and vital. Also important to keep the diversity of programming available for our students.

Fati Adeli - She has put out a google doc for paul revere 8th graders to express interest in foreign language options and it shows there is interest in Italian and French from the incoming freshmen class.

Anonymous - I am a PCHS parent submitting this comment anonymously. I am submitting this because the school is handing out legal papers for Special Education and Disability Services that are full of basic, avoidable mistakes.
Recently, I have seen official documents where the dates were completely wrong and what was written at the top of the page didn't even match what was written at the bottom. These are legal records for our students, and they are being handled with total carelessness.
This is a major problem for the Board to consider:
1. It’s sloppy. When the school hands out papers that don't make sense, it breaks the trust between parents and the administration.

2. Students have already been left behind. My biggest concern is for the students who were previously denied services or told they didn't qualify when they clearly did. If the administration is this careless with documents for students currently being served, it suggests that past denials were likely based on the same unreliable process. I am worried about the families who were turned away and the students forced to struggle without help because the school's "house was not in order".
3. The June 4th Deadline. As we approach the last day of school on June 4, there is a high risk that files are being rushed through without proper review. The Board must ensure that end-of-year paperwork is not being "rubber-stamped" just to close out the calendar.
4. The Need for Future Accountability. To fix this, the Board must implement an independent audit of these files. We cannot rely on the same administration that made these mistakes to check their own work. Moving forward, there must be a transparent way for parents to verify that their children's records are accurate.
5. It's a danger to the school. If the records aren't right, the school is open to outside trouble. If a parent can see these mistakes, a lawyer or a government official will see them too.
With the Board election this month, the community deserves to know that our leadership is committed to transparency. I am asking the current Board and any future members to commit to an independent audit of these programs to ensure no more students are ignored. It is the Board's job to make sure the school follows the law to the letter.

D. Approve Minutes

Maggie Nance made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 04-21-26.
Martha Monahan seconded the motion.
need to delete a duplicate sentence on the student statement
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Fati Adeli	Aye
Maggie Nance	Aye
Negeen Ben-Cohen	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Andrew Paris	Aye
Jane Davis	Abstain
Lisa Cahill	Absent

E. Approve Minutes

Maggie Nance made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 03-17-26.

Jane Davis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Jane Davis	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Lisa Cahill	Absent
Fati Adeli	Aye
Andrew Paris	Aye
Maggie Nance	Aye
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Negeen Ben-Cohen	Abstain
Martha Monahan	Aye

II. Organizational Reports

A. Student Report

Alessandra Santini - Prom was this past weekend at the globe theater. They sold more than expected so it generated some revenue for ASB.
The letters they wrote as sophomores will be passed out to the seniors tomorrow.
June 4 graduation

B. Parent Report

Negeen Ben-Cohen - Great deal of frustration with the counseling office, including unresponsiveness to emails and messages, forms not getting signed in a timely manner, students not getting facetime with their counselors.

C. Community Report

Amir Ebtehadj - Brentwood Community Council - honored Nathan Shenassah with Student Citizen Award. Nathan is incoming ASB president. He is involved in DECA and a jazz drummer.
Fati - concerns among incoming families about registration delays

D. Represented Classified Staff Report

nothing to report

E. Unrepresented Classified Staff Report

Martha - Prom was very exciting, several staff were there as chaperones with the admin team. Kudos to ASB for doing such a great job putting on the event. Thank you also for donations for staff appreciation week. Booster, Chartwell were among the donors.

F. Faculty Report

- Minh Ha - concerns about not having mental health team. also concerns about grades being shared. Departments working through enrollment and course planning and teaching assignments.
- Nick - hearing about new AP policy where kids will not be able to drop APs. This is a bad policy.
- Maggie says there's a board policy that delineates until when the kids can drop these classes to make sure they are able to. Nick heard it's a new counseling office policy. We need to dig into this. Policies should go through curriculum committee. Nick also wants investigation of absenteeism of students.
- Maggie - frustration among teachers about not having keys to access areas they need to get to. For instance she doesn't have keys to the pool office even though she's running the swim program. She got interrupted several times today because substitutes weren't given keys and needed her to come unlock doors for them. This is annoying and disruptive. She understands concerns about too many keys floating around but this is not working. Minh Ha seconds this issues.

G. Human Resources Director (HR) Report

Martha - HR would like to celebrate our Pali positives. Chris Calderon in foreign languages department is doing a great job. Also Karen Cox in the main office. She just finished her master's degree. At the last faculty meeting we celebrated the faculty who have been with us the longest. Steve Engelman (30 years). Grant Smith (20 years) RIck Woodward (20 years) Emily Yook (20 years) Michael Friedman (20 years) Jane Curren (5 years)
Linda Park (math teacher) also just received her master's degree.
Report otherwise stands as submitted.

H. Director of Operations Report

Stands as submitted.

I. Director of Information Technology Report

Stands as submitted.

J. Director of Development Report

no report

K. Chief Business Officer (CBO) Report

Marie Arce of Charter Impact
Report Stands as Submitted.

- Includes Budget and April Financial Update
- Good news in the May revised governor's budget - A big Cost of Living Adjustment that will help long term for Pali funding
  We don't see anything in the May revised governor's budget to indicate we will have hold harmless protection for 26-27 school year.
- Pali is in touch with our contact in the Governor's office about this. The final decision will come in June.
- Marie - We can complete a 45 day revision in our financials if they do end up extending the hold harmless.
- Fire insurance revenue means the reimbursements for what we lost in the fires, not actual revenue. These will be net zero since we have expenses to offset.
- Minh Ha - do the inventory forms impact the insurance revenue? School has been tracking this process, Marie not directly involved.
- Expenses are trending upward. Majority of big expenses are related to the fires.
- Projecting year end surplus based on the charter school portion of the audit, not including ASB or impact of future OPEB actuarial study

Discussion of Form 990
LCAP, Budget and Spending Plan will come up for discussion in June board meeting as well as a few June compliance items.
Last page of report includes helpful compliance calendar so we are aware of upcoming items and deadlines.

L. Executive Director/Principal (EDP) Report

Dr. Magee -

- Busy time as we close out this school year and also prepare for next school year. So much has happened over the past year, this time last year we had just moved into the Sears building. Our community has overcome incredible obstacles. We will be talking about our surveys, feedback we received about what's working and what's not, and looking at where to focus efforts and growth for the coming year.
- Working to get department input for the budget, develop sustainable programs, being responsible and balancing everything.
- Enrollment is key, we are actively encouraging people to come.
- Bumping staffing in attendance office to help process applications.
- Meeting with UTLA teams for contract negotiations.

- Working on master schedule, courses, etc. so we are in a good position for starting the school year.
- Congratulations to everyone for getting through APs.
- Karen Ellis and the college center did a great job of coordinating everyone.
- Looking forward to exam week and commencement ceremony. Board members are invited to sit with the admin on the stage at commencement.
- World language department - we know there's a lot of concern about downsizing the programs. We know how valuable these programs are and our intention is not to cut things but the challenge is enrollment. As we receive feedback from families saying how much they value programs we want everyone to know the key is enrollment in these classes. We can report back what we see in terms of enrollment and see what we can do.

Fati shares that when her kids were at Paul Revere we used to have Pali admin come meet the kids and talk about course choices. It doesn't seem we do that anymore but we really should. We should have better communication and coordination between the two schools.
Maggie - something to keep in mind re governance of the school. Right now, Pali is primarily a school of choice, not an automatic feeder neighborhood school anymore. People expect more customer service and expect excellence. If we can't satisfy their expectations, people can just leave. We need to be explaining things like budgeting, decisions, etc. We need to be responsive to their queries and their questions and concerns.
Minh Ha - we need dynamic programming to attract families.
Negeen - a lot of what's happening is that new families don't know what's going on and parents who have kids at both schools are guiding and reassuring. It would help to have more official communication and guidance. Nobody faults the attendance office, it's just a huge volume of paperwork for a small number of staff to handle.

III. Board Committees (Stakeholder Board Level Committees)

A. Academic Accountability Committee Update

Randy and Michael -

- The committee is continuing to look at programs and departments. Want to ensure the committee is asking the right questions.
- The committee wants to know what happens next with the report that was submitted. Will the board or admin take the lead? The report included specific recommendations.
- Recommendations included interventions, academic supports and placement tests. We need measuring sticks for grades, tools for measuring trends, seeing improvements with specific students and groups. The IT department can extract

the data about pass/fail rates, compare departments, etc. from Infinite Campus but someone needs to analyze it.
- Maggie says there are changes that will be coming next year.
- Minh Ha says last month we discussed creating an ad hoc committee to review the report and make board recommendations. Dr. Magee says this committee should also pick up what comes out of survey committee.
- Maggie says we can make the ad hoc committee now under this agenda item. Survey committee will meet again to complete its survey analysis. New committee is called Academic Planning Committee tasked with going through survey results and AAC report to come up with recommendations for the June meeting. Maggie, Negeen, Michael, Randy, Minh Ha, Fati
- For next year the whole AAC report and the survey process needs to start earlier so we have more time for implementation and to build it into the budget that will be approved at the June 9 meeting and also for the master schedule.
- The Committee also voted to move spring break next year to align with LAUSD schedule.

B. Budget & Finance Committee Update

Sara Margiotta -

- Committee meeting minutes stand as submitted
- Approved new band uniforms covered by insurance
- Still discussing LCAP.
- Approved OPEB Trust Agreement, added a 3rd signer.
- Looked at the Form 990, had additional questions about report and asked it to come back.
- Looking at how best to invest the fund
- Working on the budget for 26-27 for approval on June 1.
- Negeen asked if there's a cushion to provide funding for what comes out of survey committee and AAC.
- Sara - There's no cushion, they aim for zero balance budget. Admin needs to put in a placeholder for the proposed interventions and supports that will be coming out of the ad hoc committee so it can be incorporated into the budget process. Best to have separate line items so we know what we're dealing with, not just lumping together the salaries.

C. Election Committee Update

We have an election for one parent seat running now. The other seats were not contested. The full slate will be presented at the next board meeting for approval. No

candidate for the admin/management seat. One person ran for each of the other seats except for traveling parent spot. Committee meeting again next week.

D. Charter Committee Update

Nothing to report

IV. Board Committees (Board Members Only)

A. Audit Committee

Nothing to report

B. Survey Committee

- Results of quantitative portions of the surveys stand as submitted.
- Powerpoint materials attached to agenda provide executive summaries of the quantitative survey results. This only includes the objective questions, not the comment portions of the surveys.
- We ran 4 surveys - student academic, student school culture, family/parent, faculty/staff.
- Used Surveymonkey through registered emails to ensure anonymity. We have no ability to trace responses.
- We had written comments that we are not disclosing publicly because they included names and personal information. The committee will analyze those confidentially.
- Dr. Magee - We have the data regarding how many recipients received the surveys, how many opened the survey, how many clicked through, and how many actually responded.
    - Student School Survey - 2361, 1914, 1318, 1302
    - Student Academic Experience Survey 2361, 1577, 751, 728
    - Family/Parent Survey 3660, 1252, 519, 441
    - Faculty/Staff Survey 198, 161, 130, 128

- We will tweak some questions for next year, add an option to say neutral or doesn't apply, students should have all questions combined in a single survey, parent email situation.
- Big appreciation to Jeff Roeppel for facilitating the whole process.
- Andy - Noted the high number of respondents saying they are using tutors. Asking if we can get the math lab back. More tutoring through the school? Dr. Magee says this was part of what was lost in our transitions but we are working to get those back.
- Minh Ha - what really saddened her and stood out was that over 100 kids said they don't feel they have an adult on campus that they can confide in.

- Need to incentivize students to respond. Alessandra suggests clearing a tardy or giving another perk of some kind.
- Maggie says there was enough variety of perspectives that it is still useful data despite lower than ideal numbers.

C. Bargaining Committee

Amir - The committee has convened, the admin negotiating team is in discussions with the UTLA negotiating team, we are waiting for a proposal to review.
Jane - Budget committee needs to be looped in. They are working on a budget that does not contemplate major financial changes.
The admin is sharing all of our financial documents with UTLA and they are analyzing everything. There's an outside organization called School Services that helps facilitate the financial portion of this to ensure any agreement will be fiscally responsible for the school

V. Academic Excellence

A. NWEA and CAASPP Testing Data

Diana Kim -

- We have above 95% participation rate this year across grades for this testing.
- It's digital and we get the results right away. We are in green band, meaning proficient or advanced. Slight dips for math and science from last testing.
- Departments will use this to tweak intervention strategies.
- We should have full test results by July
- Most PLCs will have summer professional development
- Will also be looking at instructional cycle data
- Families can access their students results through infinite campus
- It would be helpful to have more information and communication to families about this.

B. Approval of the Amended 2026–2027 School Year Calendar

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the Amended 2026-2027 School Year Calendar.
Nicholas Albonico seconded the motion.
moving the calendar to align with LAUSD spring break
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. PCHS 504 Policy

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the PCHS 504 Policy and Procedural Safeguards.
Martha Monahan seconded the motion.
Our attorney and admin have been working on updating our policies and safeguards.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Virtual Academy/Independent Studies Policy

Negeen Ben-Cohen made a motion to Approve the Virtual Academy/Independent Studies Policy With the Two Corrections To the PCHS Guidelines for Virtual Academy Independent Study Noted in the Discussion Below.
Maggie Nance seconded the motion.

- Need to make a correction in PCHS Guidelines for Virtual Academy Independent Study - Hybrid Option: Students may enroll in on-campus classes but at least 4 courses must be Virtual. Also removal of students from the program would always be at semester end. Randy will confirm with legal counsel.
- Legal framework of the virtual academy and independent studies policies along with the actual Pali VA guidelines. Kids and families have to sign an agreement to comply with all of this.
- Randy sharing information that was added to the legal language
- Maggie has concerns about online kids not being prepared to come back to in person classes because of inconsistencies in rigor.
- Randy is working with Amie to spread the courses across more teachers and align them better to their PLCs. This will increase rigor. Limited to 3 courses per teacher.
- Minh Ha - Removal for disciplinary or other issues should be at end of semester, not middle.
- Randy - this is different than if the student chooses to leave in the middle of the semester. They are legally allowed to enroll at Pali in person.
- Randy believes VA enrollment will drop because of the new policies about assessments being required to be in person. She is emphasizing to the students that it is a matter of integrity and authenticity. Only a small number of students have medical issues that would prevent them from coming in for exams.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Collective LAUSD SELPA Notification Letter (Draft)

A. Collective LAUSD SELPA Notification Letter (Draft)

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve Dr. Magee's Signing of the Draft Collective LAUSD SELPA Notification Letter.
Amir Ebtehadj seconded the motion.
Annual notification letter for Special Education Local Plan Area

The substance of the letter stands as submitted, it's just a draft because each school has to add their own logos, signatures, etc.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Finance

A. OPEB Trust Agreement Revision

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the PCHS OPEB Trust Agreement.
Jane Davis seconded the motion.
Was discussed in greater detail last month but was not agendized for vote so we are voting this month.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. 2026-2027 Textbook Budget

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the 2026-2027 Textbook Budget Request.
Nicholas Albonico seconded the motion.
This has already gone through department heads, admin, budget and finance committee.
No fire replacements here, all new textbooks
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. FY27 Spring ConApp Report & Application for Funding

Did not clear the Budget and Finance Committee so will have to postpone discussion.

VIII. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Items: School Organized Conferences/Trips

None

B. Personnel Items

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the HR Consent Agenda Personnel Items.
Nicholas Albonico seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Martha Monahan	Abstain
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Fati Adeli	Aye
Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Jane Davis	Aye
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Negeen Ben-Cohen	Aye
Lisa Cahill	Absent
Maggie Nance	Aye

Roll Call

Andrew Paris	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent

IX. Additional HR Updates

A. Declaration of Need (DON) Authorization of Local Assignment Option for Certificated Employees

Maggie Nance made a motion to Approve the Declaration of Need (DON) Authorization of Local Assignment Option for Certificated Employee for Teressa Rundstrom.
Andrew Paris seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Final RIF Resolution

removed from agenda

X. New Business / Announcements

A. Announcements / New Business

Tuesday June 9 - to review and approve budget.
Tuesday June 16 - regular board meeting

XI. Closed Session

A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

None

XII. 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 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Negeen Ben-Cohen