APPROVED

Pataula Charter Academy

Minutes

April 2025 Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday April 21, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location
PCA Inc. Central Office

Directors Present
G. Flowers, J. Earp, J. Sanders, K. Gilbert, L. Hixon, N. Johnson, R. Lane

Directors Absent
E. Austin, R. Collins

Ex Officio Members Present
C. Weathersby, K. Holley

Guests Present
C. Boyd, H. Worsley, L. Adkinson

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Hixon called a meeting of the board of directors of Pataula Charter Academy to order on Monday Apr 21, 2025 at 6:08 PM.

C. Approve Agenda

R. Lane made a motion to Approve the Agenda.
G. Flowers seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes

R. Lane made a motion to approve the minutes from March 2025 Board Meeting on 03-24-25.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approve Executive Session Minutes

N. Johnson made a motion to Approve the minutes from Executive Session March 24, 2025.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Public Comment

Marcellous Deshun, Spring Creek SRO, asked to make a public comment. Officer Deshun read from a prepared statement regarding his Suspension and possible termination.

G. Executive Session - FERPA

R. Lane made a motion to Enter Executive Session #1 at 6:18 p.m.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

H. Executive Session - Personnel

G. Flowers made a motion to Enter Executive Session #2 at 7:27 p.m.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Superintendent Report

A. PCA Teacher Hires for 25/26 SY

PCA Administration recommends hiring the following certified Teachers for the 25-26 SY: Jaimie Hingson, Kaylee Norman, James (Bubber) Birdsong. Bubber will also have coaching duties.

R. Lane made a motion to Approve hiring Jamie Hingson and Kaylee Norman for full time certified teaching positions at PCA for SY26; and hiring James (Bubber) Birdsong for a part time PE/Coach position.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. SCCA - New Gifted Teacher Position

Kylie is requesting approval to add a Gifted Teacher position at Spring Creek for the 25-26 SY. This will increase the amount of pull-out gifted services we can provide. This new position has been included in the budget.
R. Lane made a motion to Approve the addition of a Gifted Teacher position at Spring Creek for the 25-26 SY.
K. Gilbert seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. SCCA Teacher Hires for 2025-2026 SY

Spring Creek administration recommends hiring the following teachers for the 25-26 SY: Pam Oliver, Jonelle Baskette, and Alan Beckett. Alan will also have coaching duties.
R. Lane made a motion to Approve hiring Pam Oliver, Jonelle Baskette, and Alan Beckett for teaching positions at SCCA for the 25-26 SY.
J. Earp seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. SCCA Para Hire for 25/26 SY

SCCA Administration recommends hiring Brad Bell for a Paraprofessional position for the 25-26 SY,.
N. Johnson made a motion to Approve hiring Brad Bell for a Paraprofessional position SCCA for the 25-26 SY.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. SCCA Resignation

Jennifer Downs is resigning effective at the end of her 24-25 SY Contract.

F. SCCA Termination

There is a recommendation to Terminate for Cause the employment of Marcellous Deshun effective immediately.
R. Lane made a motion to Terminate for Cause the employment of Marcellous Deshun effective immediately.
J. Earp seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G.

PCA/SCCA 25/26 School Year Curricula Approval

It is a State mandate that local Governing Boards approve the Reading/ELA curricula taught in elementary grades each school year. Wit and Wisdom has undergone a name change to Arts & Letters but remains essentially the same as was taught last year. 95% Group Core Phonics Program is the new phonics program for next year. Board members were given access to the list of Curricula/Instructional programs for the 2025-2026 School Year. All programs are included in the FY26 Budgets.
G. Flowers made a motion to Approve the Curricula/Instructional Programs as listed in the Board attachment for the 25-26 SY.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

H. PCA - Operational CPF Dashboard

PCA is on track to meet on Operational CPF.

I. SCCA - Operational CPF Dashboard

SCCA is on track to meet on Operational CPF.

J. Enrollment Updates

The lotteries for the 2025-2026 SY were held in January. PCA has 587 tentatively enrolled (11 short of full) with 89 on the waiting list. SCCA has 518 tentatively enrolled (34 short of full – high school) with 101 on the waiting list.

K. Rescind Employment Contract

J. Earp made a motion to Rescind the offer of an Employment Contract made to Wes Murphy.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. CFO/Business Director Report

A. PCA INC - Intrafi Agreement

The Finance Committee is requesting approval to enter into an agreement with Intrafi Services and the Bank of Edison. Recent legislation now allows Intrafi to collaborate with local community banks to help diversify public funds across multiple institutions, ensuring FDIC insurance coverage. The agreement also includes provisions for earning interest on all public funds held at the Bank of Edison. The school attorney has reviewed the agreement, and the finance committee is recommending its approval..
J. Sanders made a motion to Approve entering into an agreement with the Bank of Edison and Intrafi.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. PCA Monthly Financial Reports

The Board reviewed PCA financial reports through February 2025. PCA is on track to meet on Financial CPF.

C. PCA - FY 26 General Operating Budget - final presentation

The Board reviewed the final presentation of the FY26 General Operating Budget. The Finance Committee reviewed the changes in this presentation and is recommending full Board Approval and Adoption.

D. PCA FY 26 Budget - public comment

There was no public comment.

E. PCA FY 26 General Operating Budget Approval

G. Flowers made a motion to Approve and Adopt the PCA FY26 General Operating Budget.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Pataula - Fence vendor approval

The Finance Committee is requesting vendor approval for the installation of a fence around the football field at Pataula. Three companies were asked to submit bids for the project, Quality Fence Company, LLC, Mid South Fence Company and Atlas Fencing. A bid of $16,540.80 was received from Quality Fence Company; Mid South Fence Company submitted a bid of $34,405.00. Atlas Fencing did not submit a bid. Security Grant funds will be used for the project. The Finance Committee is recommending approval of the bid from Quality Fence Company.
G. Flowers made a motion to Approve the bid of $16,540.80 from Quality Fence Company to install fencing around the football field at Pataula.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. SCCA - Monthly Board Reports

The Board reviewed SCCA financial reports through February 2025. SCCA is on track to meet on Financial CPF.

H. SCCA - FY 26 General Operating Budget - final presentation

The Board reviewed the final presentation of the FY26 General Operating Budget. The Finance Committee reviewed the changes in this presentation and is recommending full Board Approval and Adoption.

I.

SCCA FY 26 Budget - Public Comment

There was no public comment.

J. SCCA - FY 26 General Operating Budget Approval

G. Flowers made a motion to Approve and Adopt the SCCA FY26 General Operating Budget.
N. Johnson seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

K. SCCA - Activity Bus Purchase Approval

This item was tabled.

IV. Governance Committee Report

A. Board Conflict of Interest Policy Amendment

This policy has been amended to reflect changes in HB1122 required by July 1, 2025 - Limits restrictions on Governing Board membership to include only "executive level" employees of local boards of education as opposed to ALL employees of local boards.
G. Flowers made a motion to Approve the Board Conflict of Interest Policy as amended.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Required Annual Board Training

Hotel reservations have been made at Hotel Indigo in Athens.

Governance Training Dates –

Athens – The Classic Center
April 22, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - New Governing Board Member Training*
April 23, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Training for All Governing Board Members

*New board members will complete 2 additional hours of training through virtual, asynchronous sessions.

C. Annual Board Self-Assessment

Members should check their email for the link to Complete the annual Board Assessment on BoardOnTrack by May 9th.

V. Ad Hoc Superintendent/CFO Evaluation Committee

A. Superintendent/CFO Evaluation Policy

The Ad Hoc Superintendent/CFO Evaluation Committee met on April 10, 2025 to formalize the evaluation process with a policy. Board members have reviewed the policy. The Ad Hoc Committee is requesting full Board approval of the new policy. The evaluations will begin immediately following approval of the policy.
R. Lane made a motion to Approve the Superintendent/CFO Evaluation Policy as presented.
K. Gilbert seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. VI. Ad Hoc Facility Committee

A. SCCA - Architect approval

On April 15, 2025, the Ad Hoc Facility Committee conducted interviews with four architectural firms: Studio 8, JRL, IPG, and Smallwood. A scoring matrix, included in the agenda, was used to evaluate each firm during the interviews. The committee also informed the board that the design for the new building will support horizontal growth to help balance the post-construction budget and open seats to students on our waiting lists. This expansion will begin the year we transition to the new facility, with an additional class added in grades K-3. Growth will continue each year thereafter until all grades, K–12, have three classes at each grade level. After thorough review, the committee recommends that the Board select Studio 8 and approve a design that accommodates this planned growth.
J. Sanders made a motion to Hire Studio 8 as the architect for the new construction at SCCA and approve the design for planned growth.
R. Lane seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

R. Lane made a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.
K. Gilbert seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Hixon