APPROVED

IOTA Community Schools

Minutes

IOTA Board of Directors' Meeting: September 18, 2025

Date and Time
Thursday September 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Location
We will meet at Wooddale Middle School in the Library. However, if you cannot attend, please join via the Google Meet link below.

Any participant requiring special assistance, or disability-related modifications, including auxiliary aides or services, in order to participate in this meeting can call Jaques Hamilton at 901-686-5584. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting, will facilitate reasonable arrangements to ensure accommodations and accessibility. Upon request, IOTA shall make available the meeting agenda and all other public records associated with this meeting in appropriate alternative formats for persons with a disability.

IOTA Board of Directors' Meeting: September 18, 2025
Thursday, September 18 · 5:00 – 7:00pm
Time zone: America/Chicago
Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/sdd-qdmb-ajt
Or dial: (US) +1 920-249-5675 PIN: 705 573 107#

Directors Present
E. Harris, L. Neal (remote), P. Velasquez (remote), T. Young (remote)

Directors Absent
A. Allen, P. Egwuekwe

Guests Present
K. Payne

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Neal called a meeting of the board of directors of IOTA Community Schools to order on Thursday Sep 18, 2025 at 5:11 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Agenda

1. Mission Moment
2. Public Comment
3. Strategic Priorities
4. Engaging Parents& Community Enrollment Updates
5. Highly Effective Team
6. Replicable Model
7. Adjournment

D. Vision, Mission, and Excellence

1. Jocquell restated IOTA’s vision, mission, and excellence commitments

E. Mission Moment

1. Presented by Kavarica McCurry
2. Highlighted recent CPR certification classes completed by high school students.

F. Public Comment

1. There was no public comment

G. Consent Agenda

1. Pedro lead the Approval of Minutes from 8/21/25
2. Motion by Larry
3. Seconded by Eiko
4. Outcome: Motion carried.

L. Neal made a motion to approve the minutes from 8/21/25 IOTA Board of Directors' Meeting: August 21, 2025 on 08-21-25.

E. Harris seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Strategic Priorities Updates

A. Academic Updates

1. **Dr. Sonya Johnson** presented AimsWeb reading and math data across the region. She compared current fall results with last year's and discussed possible interventions. Gains were noted in middle school math.
2. **Deadre Ussery** provided updates on school culture, behavior, and suspension data. Three of four schools showed improvement. She also shared celebration activities that are building positive relationships.
3. Larry and Pedro asked specific questions about Hillcrest High School data. Deadre explained how the RTI-B model and other strategies are being implemented to address concerns.
4. Pedro provided a contact for a potential behavior support partner organization.

III. Engaged Parents & Community Enrollment Updates

A. Enrollment Updates

1. Attendance Updates
    1. Teddrick introduced the new attendance team for the region and stated what their focus area of work is on each day.
    2. He shared current average daily attendance and chronic absenteeism data. Dan and Jocquell added insight, noting improvement compared to last year.
    3. Teddrick explained incentives and action items used to sustain attendance progress.
    4. Pedro and Eiko asked questions regarding attendance and class skipping; Teddrick provided clarification.
2. Enrollment Updates
    1. **Jocquell** presented enrollment data and explained its impact on regional functions. She noted that overall enrollment goals were not met, putting the district in contingency. She explained specific challenges:
        1. **Kirby and Hillcrest:** Confusion from the ASD closure.
        2. **Wooddale:** Transition to the Charter Commission and lottery impact.
        3. **Bluff City:** Currently developing community engagement strategies.
    2. **Dan** expanded on what contingency means and the district's plan to realign with the approved budget.

3. Pedro and Larry asked questions about historical enrollment trends; Jocquell and Dan provided clarification and strategies for improvement.

IV. Highly Effective Team

A. Recruitment Updates

1. Recruitment Updates
    1. Dan spoke on where we are with hiring and openings within the district. **Christina** explained instructional streaming plans and efforts to fill vacancies.

V. Replicable Model

A. Fundraising Updates

1. Fundraising
    1. **Karen** presented fundraising plans, including the *Build with IOTA* campaign. She emphasized recurring monthly board contributions and plans to meet with board members individually about fundraising strategies.

She also highlighted the *Breakfast of Champions* series, inviting board participation. **Jocquell** shared feedback from the Bluff City event held Tuesday, where students and potential partners responded positively.

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

1. Adjournment
    1. Closed session
    2. Eiko Motion to adjourn and go into close session
    3. Pedro second the motion
    4. Outcome: carried
    5. Jocquell recommended that closed session participants include all board members, Dan, and herself.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Payne

E. Harris made a motion to Adjourn and go into closed session.
P. Velasquez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Documents used during the meeting

- 2025_08_21_board_meeting_minutes.pdf