



The Meliora School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday January 6, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Location

Remote: call in details below

Directors Present

L. Hollon (remote), L. Hooda (remote), L. Ramdhanie (remote), M. Powell (remote), P. Flinch (remote), Z. Mahmuda

Directors Absent

D. Stinson

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

L. Hooda, Z. Mahmuda

Guests Present

C. Keck (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

P. Flinch called a meeting of the board of directors of The Meliora School to order on Tuesday Jan 6, 2026 at 7:03 PM.

Z. Mahmuda arrived.

C. Approve Agenda

L. Ramdhanie made a motion to approve the agenda.

M. Powell seconded the motion.

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

L. Hooda arrived.

D. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

P. Flinch made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 12-17-25.

L. Hollon seconded the motion.

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

II. Recurring Items

A. Head of School Report

Dr. Keck gave an update to the board with question and answer session:

- Enrollment
 - Officially have a lottery - 126 applicants. Huge kudos to the community engagement task force.
- Finances
 - Submitted second round of Chart School Growth Fund high review.
 - RedefinED contract is signed - \$150k non-restricted funds, \$15k of restricted funds used for community outreach.
 - Payroll - first one Jan 31st.
- Facilities -
 - working through a couple of things with the lease.
 - Entering due diligence - partners at FRC are now going through to make sure we get our CO from Gwinnett.
- Personnel -
 - DOO, Kiaura Stewart, starting on 12 Jan 2026.
 - Benefits - insurance is figured out and 401(3)(b) will be set up as well. RedefinED will be used for year 0 fundings. To be figured out - PTO, life insurance (once more employees), short term disability with new laws in GA re 12 weeks paid maternity leave may not offer STD at first
 - Hiring -
 - Director of Academic - 5 candidates for final interviews. Interviewees will do a sample teach, observation, and panel interview, and 1:1 interview with Dr. Keck. Full-time February/March

- Teacher and Business Manager roles posted on job platform. Can apply through the website
- Community Outreach
 - Meliora Monday - averaging 30-40 people per session. 10 applications since then. Will have a Meliora Monday every Monday this month (January)
 - Canvassing at Diamonds in the Rough Event - located in Snellville, canvassing on the 10th (Dr. Keck and Kiaura will be present) and 17th of January.
 - School Choice Expo (24 Jan 2026) - attending but probably not going to see many applications from this one.
 - Lottery (23 Jan 2026) - at 12 pm. Will be held in person and virtually. Discussion re transparency and make sure families understand the lottery system, deadlines, etc. 75 6th seats and 50 7th grade seats.
- Dr. Keck will be up in New York for Z-Combinator next week. Will be practicing the pitch this time. Will get at least \$10,000 and will be pitching Meliora School in New York to investors.

III. New Items

A. New Member Documents Discussion

Polly quickly ran through the documents provided to new members for review. No questions.

B. Board Officers, Committees, and Term Lengths

Board Officers

- Discussion on potential slate for the updated board. Recommendation will be made and voted on during next board meeting.

Committees: time of meeting and cadence to be determined by next board meeting and reported back.

- Academics: Laila, Lydia, Michael, Lakeesha
- Operations: Zenat, Darrell, Polly
- Finance: Lydia, Michael, Lakeesha, Darrell
- Community: Zenat
- Governance / Executive - Officers

Term Lengths: discussed term lengths all board members asked to come prepared with the term length they want to serve for initial term - 1, 2, or 3 years.

C. SCSC Pre-Opening Checklist Review and Next Steps

Reviewed the SCSC pre-opening checklist working documents. Each committee is tasked with reviewing and building out meeting cadence and agendas with this document and due dates in mind.

IV. Closing Items

A. Next Meeting Date: 20 January 2026

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
P. Flinch