



# The Meliora School

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Tuesday January 6, 2026 at 7:00 PM

**Location**

Remote: call in details below

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**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)

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**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