



Excel Academy Rhode Island

Board of Trustees Meeting

Published on May 25, 2026 at 10:30 AM EDT

Date and Time

Tuesday June 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM EDT

Location

Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
80 Washington Street, 2nd Floor
Providence, RI 02903

Meeting notice posted publicly by 5/26/26.

Please note: All items listed on the agenda are subject to a possible vote by the Board of Trustees.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			6:00 PM
A. Record Attendance	Discuss	Arthur Kaynor	
B. Call the Meeting to Order	Discuss	Channavy Chhay	1 m
C. Public Comment	Discuss	Arthur Kaynor	1 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
D. Approve prior Board meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Arthur Kaynor	1 m
Approve minutes for Board of Trustees Meeting on April 9, 2026			

II. Governance

6:03 PM

A. Approve new Board member: Jenna Silver	Vote	Liz Giordano	5 m
--	------	--------------	-----

Bio: Jenna Silver is a senior marketing executive with 15+ years of experience leading enterprise go-to-market strategy in media and advertising. Most recently, as SVP of Industry Marketing at TelevisaUnivision, she led a marketing organization responsible for championing the economic power and cultural influence of U.S. Hispanic consumers. In this role, she connected senior brand marketers to immersive experiences, insights, and analytics that made the business case for in-culture and in-language investment – driving equity and impact among one of the most dynamic and underserved consumer segments in the U.S.

Prior to her 12+ years at TelevisaUnivision, Jenna held marketing roles at Screenvision Media, The Daily, Reader's Digest Association, and Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. She holds a B.A. from Swarthmore College and serves on the Development Committee of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank.

B. Approve FY27 Officers, Terms, Calendar, and Committee Assignments	Vote	Arthur Kaynor	1 m
---	------	---------------	-----

- Enclosed FY27 Board Calendar
- Enclosed FY27 Committee Assignments
- FY27 Officers:
 - Chair: Mayor Brett P. Smiley
 - Vice Chair: Channavy Chhay
 - Treasurer: Chiv Heng
 - Clerk: Mayor Maria Rivera
- Term Renewals:
 - Frangely Rojas for a second term: July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2029

C. Delegate Approval of Annual Updates to Manuals, Handbooks, and Policies	Vote	Arthur Kaynor	2 m
---	------	---------------	-----

- Vote to delegate authority to the Chair, or the Chair's designee on the Board, to:
 - Approve and submit the School Year 25-26 annual report.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Approve annual updates to school manuals, handbooks, and policies over the summer as needed, retroactively to July 1, 2026. • Vote to delegate authority to the Treasurer, or the Treasurer's designee on the Finance Committee, to approve updated financial policies & procedures over the summer as needed, retroactively to July 1, 2026. 		
	<p>Note: these policies will be presented to the Board for ratification at the first meeting of School Year 26-27. The Board will also retrain on the Title IX Policy and the Board's role with respect to the Policy. Please see the attached protocol for reference.</p>		
D.	Authorize the Treasurer to Update the School's Registered Agent	Vote Arthur Kaynor	1 m
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to authorize the Treasurer, in collaboration with staff, to update the school's registered agent with the Secretary of State from Barton Gilman to Cole Law Partners. 		
E.	Approve Board Recording & AI Note-Taking policy	Vote Arthur Kaynor & Yanssy Rodas Dubon	1 m
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to approve the Board Recording & AI Note-Taking policy, with any necessary edits or corrections. 		
	<p>Note: this draft policy is unchanged from the version that was distributed to Excel's Boards on 4/29/26.</p>		
F.	Vote to approve a School Year 25-26 Calendar of 178 days	Vote Arthur Kaynor	1 m
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to approve a School Year 25-26 Calendar of 178 days of school, instead of 180 days. Due to the nature of the February snowstorm and the impact of snow clean-up, Rhode Island has waived 2 days of school for makeups. RIDE has advised that local school boards must each approve this change. 		
III.	Academic Oversight		6:14 PM
A.	Approve LEA Strategic Plan Update	Vote Arthur Kaynor	5 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to approve updated LEA Strategic Plan, with any necessary edits, as recommended by the Excel Academy Rhode Island Academic Oversight Committee and School Improvement Team on April 15, 2026. 			

Notes:

- Goals are largely unchanged from the prior version, with metrics updated based on the latest data.
- Stakeholder feedback is gathered from sources that may include, but are not limited to, the Academic Oversight Committee and School Improvement Team, a family input meeting and survey, the Family Leadership Council, a staff survey, and meetings with individual staff members.

B. Approve Right to Read Plan	Vote	Arthur Kaynor	2 m
--------------------------------------	------	---------------	-----

This Right to Read Corrective Action Plan is required by RIDE after 1 of 22 applicable staff members did not complete a required training, and it outlines the steps Excel RI will take next year to return to full compliance.

C. High School Planning Update	Discuss	Kate Ring	10 m
---------------------------------------	---------	-----------	------

IV. Finance 6:31 PM

A. Approve the FY27 (School Year 26-27) Budget	Vote	Aaron Stelson	15 m
---	------	---------------	------

- Vote to approve the FY27 (School Year 26-27) Budget, per the Finance Committee's recommendation on April 15, 2026.

Notes:

- The proposed FY27 Budget is not substantively different from the draft budget reviewed and recommended for approval by the finance committees of each board in April.
- Please prioritize reviewing the FY27 Budget Memo sent by Aaron Stelson.
- The following materials are also provided for reference: the April Cash Balances Email and the 5-Year Strategic Financial Model.

B. Confirm CMO Fee for Next School Year	Vote	Arthur Kaynor	1 m
--	------	---------------	-----

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
•	9/16/25 - RIEC Voter Registration Campaign Kick-Off, 5-7pm at Roger Williams Park Casino in Providence		
•	9/30/25 - Joint Committee on Education Hearing on various bills in MA		
•	10/25/25 - 2nd Annual Family Community Resource Fair, 12:00 PM-3:00 PM at Excel Academy Charter High School		
•	11/12/25 - MA Legislative Hearing on various bills		
•	1/29/26 - Charter 101 Zoom Session		
•	2/3/26 - MA Commissioner Assembly at XLHS		
•	2/6/26 - Excel MA Board meeting with Annual CAPS Update (XLRI & Friends Board members invited optionally)		
•	3/17/26 - Charter 101 Zoom Session (thank you for co-hosting, Liz!)		
•	3/25/26 - Foundation Site Visit to XLHS		
•	4/7/26 - Foundation Site Visit to XLHS		
•	4/15/26-4/17/26 - RIDE Site Visit to XLRI		
•	5/12/26 - Board Dinner in Massachusetts at 6:30pm		
•	5/29/26 - Signing Day Ceremony at 401 Bremen St. (East Boston), 10:45-11:45am		
•	6/2/26 - Board Dinner in Rhode Island at 7:15pm		
•	6/11/26 - Excel MA High School Graduation Ceremony at Leader Bank Pavilion, 5-7pm		
•	6/13/26 - Excel MA New Family Welcome Day @ 401 Bremen St. (East Boston), 12-3pm		
•	June 16-20 – Excel 8th Grade Graduations		
◦	June 16 - Excel Chelsea, 6-8pm, @ 401 Bremen St. (East Boston)		
◦	June 17 - Excel East Boston, 6-8pm, @ 401 Bremen St. (East Boston)		
◦	June 18 - Excel Greenway, 5-7pm, @ 401 Bremen St. (East Boston)		
◦	June 20 - Excel Rhode Island, 2-4pm @ Providence Career & Technical Academy		

Reminder: Please schedule 1:1 Board check-ins.

VII. Closing Items

6:58 PM

A.	Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Channavy Chhay	1 m
----	-----------------	------	----------------	-----

The public is welcome to attend any meeting of the Board of Trustees or its subcommittees. If communication assistance (readers/ interpreters/captions) or any other accommodations are needed to ensure equal participation, please contact Arthur Kaynor at akaynor@excelacademy.org at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting. Any changes in the agenda will be posted on Excel Academy Charter School's website, Excel's principal place of business, and will be electronically filed with the Secretary of State at least forty-eight (48)

hours in advance of the meeting. If you would like to attend a Board meeting and provide public comment, please sign up 48 hours in advance here: <https://forms.gle/7315BJ7v1bHGGh2Q9>.

Excel Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race or color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, age, country of ancestral origin, or veteran status in administration of its admissions or educational policies, curricular programs, other school-administered programs, or in its hiring and employment practices in accordance with applicable federal, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island laws and regulations.