The Leadership School

Minutes

TLS Board Retreat

Date and Time
Saturday August 1, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Location
Delmar Divine, 5501 Delmar Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63112

Conference Room 17: Bldg 2, Floor 3 (on the same floor as the classroom)

Directors Present
G. Stevenson, R. Langrall, S. Jones, S. Lake, S. Madlinger, T. Curry, W. Perry

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
C. Moulder

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Madlinger called a meeting to order on Saturday Aug 1, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Recite the Mission

II. Who We Are ~ Foundational Identity

A.

Board Leadership Strengths Profile

We reviewed our strengths based on the Clifton Top Five assessment and determined that we are very strong in strategic action and have an opportunity to develop our influencing strengths.

III. Where Are We Now ~ Current Landscape

A. Review of Board Self-Evaluation Midyear & End of Year 2026

- Feedback from the five eligible board members to take the assessment indicated we are strongest in academic oversight and have an opportunity to grow in the areas of Finance, Development, and Board Savvy CEO.
- We reflected individually on the questions asked on the survey in these areas, then processed with a partner.
- Suggestions and ideas were shared and noted for how to move forward more intentionally in these areas in AY 27.

B. AY26 School Performance

- The Executive Director shared the achievement and growth data from AY 26. We showed strong growth over the first two years of the school's charter and this year especially strong growth in Grade 1 math and Grade 2 ELA.
- Courtney also shared the SMART language for Charter renewal Goal 1, which is to increase performance in ELA to achieve 45% proficiency on the MAP by Year Ten and 40% proficiency in math.

IV. Where Are We Going ~ Future Horizons

A. TLS Goals Review

We reviewed the three types of Goals: Charter, Performance Framework, and Internal and reviewed the proposed internal goals for AY 27.
S. Jones made a motion to adopt the proposed revisions to the TLS Internal Goals for AY 27.
R. Langrall seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Strategic Monitoring & Overview of Goal Types

Oriented new board members to the Strategic Monitoring Framework that was used last year to structure committee work to monitor progress on objectives to achieve the goals.

Will set up three work teams between Aug 11 and Aug 24 to revise the Framework to align with the newly approved internal goals:

Team A will collaborate with the ED to revise the AY 27 school objectives to support Goals 1 - 4
Team B.... Goals 5 - 8
Team C....Goals 9 - 12

C. Review Committee Charters 2026-27

- Used a Pop Quiz format to review the differences beween Focus areas and Goals.
- Reviewed the proposed template for meetings and the Pulse Dashboard ideas to elicit quick feedback from TLS leaders ahead of the monthly committee meeting.
- Discussed the SPARK Playbook, which is a structure to support the preservation of institutional knowledge across changes in leadership, both Board and TLS.

V. How Are We Going To Get There ~ Ownership & Execution

A. Digital Resources ~ Reportwell, Board On Track, Google Workspace & Zoom

- Reviewed the purpose and structure of Reportwell along with the annual expectations associated with state reporting/compliance from both the board and the school
- Reviewed the TLS Board Shared Google Drive and engaged in a Scavenger Hunt to familiarize members to the file structure.
- Received homework associated with creating meetings and taking minutes in Board on Track. Will have three work sessions with different subgroups of board members to explore these tasks.
- Reviewed different conventions and options associated with Gmail and calendaring to assist with efficient communication and meetings.
- Discussed best practice re: Zoom meetings.

VI. What's Next ~ Momentum & Next Milestones

A. Professional Development Opportunities

- Provided an overview of resources from MCPSA and Board on Track, to support self-study to reach the annual expectations regarding board professional development
- Established the expectation that each month one member will present a short infographic, podcast, slides or bullets to the Board Chair and Committee slide deck to teach the rest of us about the featured topic.

VII. Closing Items

A. Feedback & Reflection

Survey will be sent requesting feedback on the effectiveness of the retreat for oriented new members and strengthening understand of existing members of where we have been, where we are and where we are going.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Langrall