APPROVED

The Wright Community School

Minutes

The Wright Community School Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 16, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Location
384 Northyards Boulevard NW, Atlanta, GA 30313

Directors Present
A. Vance (remote), D. Howard Wayne (remote), K. Collins (remote), T. Ball (remote)

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
T. Stephenson (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

A. Vance called a meeting of the board of directors of The Wright Community School to order on Wednesday Sep 16, 2026 at 6:02 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve Agenda

D. Howard Wayne made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

T. Ball seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes

T. Ball made a motion to approve the minutes from June 2026 - Board Meeting on 06-24-26.
A. Vance seconded the motion.
The motion approved the minutes from both the March 7, 2026 and June 24, 2026 board meetings.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Community Spotlight

A. Community Partnership: Resurgence Hall

T. Stephenson recognized Resurgence Hall, a statewide charter school in East Point serving grades K through 8, for its partnership with WCS. Because Resurgence Hall serves students from Fulton, DeKalb, Henry, and Clayton counties, it is a growing potential feeder for rising 9th graders. WCS has been invited to the Resurgence Hall high school fair this month and to meet and greets with its students, and will continue working with its high school counselor to support enrollment once WCS applications open.
A. Vance asked whether Resurgence Hall serves students in the WCS area. T. Stephenson confirmed that a good number of its students live in Clayton, DeKalb, and Henry counties, with some traveling about an hour from Henry County.

III. Division Reports

A. Chief Executive Officer

T. Stephenson reported that board recruitment is underway with the goal of a full board by October. Recruitment is happening in phases. K. Collins was recently added for legal expertise, and the current phase focuses on adding two members with finance expertise. Outreach includes about 24 LinkedIn messages each week along with the open application on the WCS website, and the LinkedIn outreach has produced more qualified applicants. Candidate interviews will be shared in the board newsletter for members to rate and recommend for addition to the board.
Marva Tutt resigned from the board due to new job commitments. She may be interested in serving on an advisory committee in the future.

B. Operations

T. Stephenson reported on Tuesday's legal meeting with 22 Beacon, Sankofa, and WCS counsel to discuss next steps toward drafting a sublease to bring to the board for facilities. 22 Beacon must present the renovation cost financials, and Sankofa has asked what its costs would be once WCS moves out of the incubator space before it can approve the sublease. Numbers are expected next week, and WCS remains on track for

a sublease or LOI by October 1. The sublease previously reviewed by both legal teams will be updated with the new financials. If the financials are received before Wednesday they will be included in the board newsletter; otherwise they will be sent separately.
A. Vance asked about Sankofa's current stance. T. Stephenson shared that the Sankofa board and legal team support the move, while some resistance comes from its founder, who has moved out of the head of school role into a part time role. Sankofa is facing academic and financial challenges, with about 140 students enrolled against a projected 350, and has raised the possibility of WCS paying for parking spaces as part of the lease. No parking figure has been provided yet.
D. Howard Wayne asked how T. Stephenson feels about moving forward given the founder's concerns. T. Stephenson shared that the founder's concerns relate to Sankofa's own facility situation with 22 Beacon rather than the WCS deal, and that WCS would use a separate building on the same campus. While it is not her first choice, it provides a pathway to opening in 2027.
T. Ball asked about the cost of parking. T. Stephenson shared that no number has been given and that it would be part of the lease terms. A. Vance cautioned that the board should be careful not to supplement Sankofa's budget.

C. Finances

T. Stephenson shared the updated MYP budget draft for July, which now reflects an additional $400,000 increase from CSP. CSP flexibility allows some of those funds to be used for rent and other year one costs. Everything except facilities is final; the facilities figures remain a draft until the 22 Beacon pro forma is received. WCS is also building a 65% enrollment budget, since new schools opening in the last two years have typically opened with about 100 students even when projecting 150 to 200.

IV. Action Items

A. WCS Enrollment and Lottery Policy, Revised September 14, 2026

K. Collins made a motion to approve the WCS Enrollment and Lottery Policy, revised September 14, 2026, and confirm the 1.25 weighted lottery multiplier for economically disadvantaged applicants for the upcoming enrollment cycle.
D. Howard Wayne seconded the motion.
A. Vance highlighted the change in Section 6. To comply with SCSC rules, the application no longer asks about family socioeconomic status, and weighted lottery information is now collected on a separate voluntary form. The board also confirms the weighted multiplier for economically disadvantaged students each year, which is a common practice.
K. Collins asked whether the charter contract already authorizes the weighted lottery and whether the motion would adopt the 1.25 multiplier for the upcoming enrollment cycle. T. Stephenson confirmed that the multiplier was included in the charter petition and application, and that only the language was adjusted to meet the new SCSC rules. She

also confirmed the 1.25 multiplier was specified for CSP to maintain eligibility for federal funding.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Criminal Background Checks of Governing Board Members Policy, 2026

D. Howard Wayne made a motion to approve the revised Criminal Background Checks of Governing Board Members Policy, as amended, effective on the date of adoption.
T. Ball seconded the motion.
K. Collins noted that Section 4 requires every candidate to be cleared before being seated as a voting member, while the following paragraph allowed a candidate to be provisionally seated, participate, and vote for up to 90 days before clearance. Since the two provisions contradict each other, the board discussed which should apply. A. Vance noted the purpose of the background check is student contact, and T. Stephenson noted the SCSC requires every board member to have a background check on file. The board agreed a background check must be completed before a member is seated, and the policy was amended to delete the provisional seating language following the first sentence.
K. Collins also asked who makes the fitness determination, since the policy has the Executive Director or a designee review results. A. Vance clarified that he and T. Stephenson review candidates together and the full board makes the final decision on accepting board members. No further change was made.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Conflict of Interest, Ethics, and Related-Party Transactions Policy, 2026

K. Collins made a motion to approve Item C, the Conflict of Interest, Ethics, and Related-Party Transactions Policy, with a Nominal Value limit of $25.
D. Howard Wayne seconded the motion.
A. Vance noted this policy is more comprehensive than the prior version. He asked whether the SCSC requires a set Nominal Value amount; T. Stephenson shared that the SCSC guidance was not explicit. The board discussed that gifts should generally not be accepted, with the exception of items such as shirts and pins from recruitment events, and agreed on a Nominal Value of $25 per year.
K. Collins asked whether the bylaws are consistent with this policy's discipline and removal provisions. T. Stephenson shared that the policy was drawn from the bylaws and updated for the new statutory qualifications and SCSC guidance, so it should align.
The board will not self certify a micro purchase threshold above the federal amount.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Conflict of Interest Policy and Annual Disclosure Statement

D. Howard Wayne made a motion to adopt the version of the conflict of interest policy that includes federal grant compliance coverage.
K. Collins seconded the motion.

A. Vance noted that Items C and D are two versions of the same conflict of interest policy and the board cannot adopt both as the governing policy. He recommended the version that includes federal grant compliance coverage. K. Collins and D. Howard Wayne agreed and noted these are standard documents. T. Ball had no questions.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Executive Director Employment Agreement, FY27 through FY32

D. Howard Wayne made a motion to approve the Executive Director Employment Agreement with two revisions: limiting the contract term to two years and clarifying all paid time off in the agreement.
T. Ball seconded the motion.
T. Stephenson left the meeting before the board's discussion and vote on this item.
A. Vance noted the agreement continues the Executive Director's prior employment agreement for the upcoming term. K. Collins noted the policy requires the board to review comparable compensation data before approval, but no survey or comparison was attached, and that Section 2A references a job description that was not attached. A. Vance shared that compensation surveys were completed twice for prior contracts, that the current base salary is slightly below the average because the school is in its planning phase, and that he would locate the job description.
T. Ball asked whether the leave days reflect a 12 month role and how they compare with other charter schools. A. Vance confirmed the Executive Director is a full time 12 month role and that school breaks are not included during the planning phase; they would follow a school calendar once the school is open. T. Ball and D. Howard Wayne asked that leave be spelled out more clearly, and A. Vance agreed federal holidays and other days off should be added.
A. Vance, T. Ball, and K. Collins raised that the five year term is too long. A. Vance recommended a term covering the planning year and year one, tied to the annual evaluation, and D. Howard Wayne and K. Collins agreed. A. Vance will make both revisions to the agreement.
Roll call: A. Vance, D. Howard Wayne, and T. Ball voted aye. K. Collins abstained because he had not yet had the opportunity to review the supporting information.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Howard Wayne	Aye
T. Ball	Aye
K. Collins	Abstain
A. Vance	Aye

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

K. Collins made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
D. Howard Wayne seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Vance

Documents used during the meeting

- 2026_03_07_board_meeting_minutes (2).pdf
- 2026_06_24_board_meeting_minutes (2).pdf
- MYP_Model_Updated_7_2026_Wright School (1) copy.xlsx
- WCS Enrollment and Lottery Policy - Revised 9-14-2026.pdf
- WCS_Board_Background_Check_Policy_2026.pdf
- WCS_Conflict_of_Interest_Policy_2026.pdf
- WCS_Conflict_of_Interest_Policy_PREVIEW_1.pdf
- WCS_ED_Contract_FY27_FY32.pdf