



DeKalb Brilliance Academy

FY26 Full Board Meetings

Published on October 25, 2025 at 6:56 PM EDT
Amended on October 26, 2025 at 10:06 AM EDT

Date and Time

Monday October 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM EDT

Pre-work:

- Review [FY25 audit & management response letter](#)
 - Review [emergency situations purchase policy](#) for board voting
 - Preview Agenda below
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Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			7:00 PM
A. Record Attendance		Tiayana Logan	5 m
<i>Connector:</i>			
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Michael Freeland	1 m
The October meeting of the DeKalb Brilliance Academy Governing Board is called to order at [TIME].			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Anyone that is here for public comment, please indicate by signing up on the clipboard in the back OR in the chat in zoom by X:10 PM if you would like to make a comment. We will have two minutes for each speaker, in the order in which we receive the request to comment.			

C.	Approve September meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Michael Freeland	2 m
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II.	Meeting opening			7:08 PM
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A.	Mission and Vision	FYI	Michael Freeland	3 m
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Our mission: With unwavering commitment to exceptional academics, leadership development, and community collaboration, **DeKalb Brilliance Academy** prepares all Kindergarten-8th grade students to thrive in high school and college, have fulfilling careers, and become impactful leaders in our communities.

Our vision: Each child will know and leverage their unique brilliance to critically analyze the world around them and to design a better and more equitable future.

B.	Board Commitments	FYI	Michael Freeland	2 m
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- **Build excellence:** We know that an excellent school starts with an excellent founding team. We come to our time together well-prepared, fulfill our commitments, and generate new ideas to accomplish our goals.
- **Stay engaged:** We stay engaged by “remaining morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially involved in the dialogue.”
- **Embrace disagreement:** We value disagreement and agree to bring issues into the open. It is through dialogue, even when uncomfortable, that we grow as a team to best serve our students.
- **Take responsibility for intent and impact:** We assume best intent, and also take responsibility for the impact of our actions.
- **Process, not the people:** We know that everyone is working hard for the team, and look first at how to change the process, policies, or plans when we don’t reach our goals.

C.	Public Comment	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 m
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If people sign up:

- **Transparency:** Board meetings are a public forum to provide transparency into the governance of the school. Engagement from the community is strongly encouraged and vital to that governance. We value and appreciate the input from our community members. As we proceed with public comments, we would like to remind everyone of the following guidelines:
- **Time Limit:** A total of 30 minutes shall be set aside for public comment. Each speaker will have a maximum of 2 minutes to speak. A speaker may not sign up to speak more than once during the same public comment period
- **Board Action:** The board cannot respond to public comment in the meeting, and in general needs to listen, and then follow up after the board meeting, this is because the board acts through policies and votes as a governing body, not through individuals, so we cannot respond until the board has the information to respond as a group (as opposed to individually), as applicable. We understand this can feel awkward, but please know that we are taking careful notes and take all feedback to the board seriously. The board will direct an appropriate committee or the Head of Schools to engage in responding at a later time as necessary and appropriate.
- **Scope of discussion:** Please be aware that certain topics cannot be discussed during the public comment period. These include, but are not limited to, pending investigations or legal matters, personnel matters, confidential student information and matters, and issues that are subject to ongoing grievance or complaint procedures. Any attempt to discuss these topics during public comment will not be permitted.
- **Discourse:** Speakers are encouraged to maintain decorum and present their comments in a civil manner. The Governing Board reserves the right to request any speaker engaging in defamatory comments to cease. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in adhering to these guidelines.
- Any disruptive members of the public will be asked to cease their disruption to allow the Board meeting to continue. If the disruption continues, the disruptive member will be asked to leave the meeting.
- Start public comment: "the order we have for public comment is XYZ"

If people do not sign up: "seeing no requests for public comment, we will move to the next section of our agenda"

III. Committee Updates	7:18 PM
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A. Committee Updates	FYI	10 m
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- Partnerships & Governance did not meet this month.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
• Academic Committee has draft dashboard - next month will include all Q1 academic and survey data for board review • Present September financial (presentation + details).			
IV. School Leadership Report Out			7:28 PM
A. School Leader Report Out See slides here .	FYI	Jocelyn Alter	15 m
V. Board votes			
VI. Board Workshop			7:43 PM
A. FY25 Audit See slides here .	Discuss	Quentin Johnson	10 m
B. Board Votes	Vote	Michael Freeland	10 m
Decision 1: Vote on FY25 Audit Social Media Policy: <i>Move to approve the FY25 Audit as presented to the board.</i>			
Decision 2: Vote on FY25 Audit Finding Management Response Letter Suggested motion language: <i>Move to approve the FY25 Audit Finding Management Response Letter as presented to the board.</i>			
Decision 3: Vote on Emergency Situations Purchase Policy <i>Not related to the audit; this was just a policy found to be missing from our existing policies during the admin team's annual submission of policies to the SCSC.</i> Suggested motion language: <i>Move to approve the recommended emergency purchase policy as presented to the board.</i>			
VII. Closing Items			8:03 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Team shoutouts	Discuss	Michael Freeland	10 m

Align shoutouts to board agreements:

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- **Embrace disagreement:** We value disagreement and agree to bring issues into the open. It is through dialogue, even when uncomfortable, that we grow as a team to best serve our students.
- **Take responsibility for intent and impact:** We assume best intent, and also take responsibility for the impact of our actions.
- **Process, not the people:** We know that everyone is working hard for the team, and look first at how to change the process, policies, or plans when we don’t reach our goals.

B. Meeting closing	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 m
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- **Check out with Tiayana & Jocelyn to ensure all compliance items complete**
- **Save the Dates:**
 - **November 5–6:** Required SCSC training (Option 1: Macon)
 - **November 14:** Game Night/Fall Fest
 - **November 24:** Board Meeting (note virtual meeting)
 - **December 10-11:** Celebration of Learning Showcases
 - **December 18:** Staff/board holiday celebration
 - **February 11–12:** Required SCSC training (Option 2: Atlanta)

C. Adjourn Meeting	FYI	Michael Freeland	
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Now we will adjourn our board business.

As a reminder, we don’t need a motion to close - I will just ask if there is any further business, and if there is none, we can adjourn board business. Do we have any further board business to discuss?

<Pause>

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<i>Seeing none, I adjourn official board business.</i>			