DeKalb Brilliance Academy

FY27 Board Meeting

Published on November 21, 2026 at 12:31 PM EST

Date and Time

Saturday November 21, 2026 at 1:00 PM EST

Access all board meeting materials here

Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	**Opening Items**			**1:00 PM**
A.	Record Attendance		Jazmin Counts	1 m
B.	Call the Meeting to Order		Michael Freeland	1 m
	The November meeting of the DeKalb Brilliance Academy Governing Board is called to order at [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 October meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Michael Freeland	1 m

		Purpose	Presenter	Time

II. Meeting opening 1:03 PM

A. Mission and Vision — FYI — Michael Freeland — 1 m

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 — 1 m

- **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 — 3 m

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:

		Purpose	Presenter	Time

- Time Limit: A total of 30 minutes shall be set aside for public comment. Each speaker will have a maximum of 3 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. Strategic Planning Retreat — 1:08 PM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Strategic planning session	Discuss	Michael Freeland	90 m

A working session to review the evidence, evaluate strategic pathways, and establish a preferred direction.

Welcome & Board Business

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Retreat Framing & Growth Decision Roadmap			
Growth Feasibility: Key Findings			
Growth Pathways: Assumptions, Opportunities & Risks			
Committee Breakout Instructions			
Break			
Committee Breakout Discussions			**2:30 – 3:00**
Committee Report-Outs			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time

3:00 – 3:20

Full-Board Deliberation & Directional Alignment

3:20 – 3:50

Next Steps & Shoutouts

IV. Closing Items — 2:38 PM

A. Team shoutouts — Discuss — Michael Freeland — 3 m

Align shutouts to board agreements:

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B.	Meeting closing	FYI	Michael Freeland	2 m

Finish your PEACH application: If you didn't submit tonight, do it this week and tell Jocelyn when complete.

Bring one taxpayer: One name from your network, with what you need from staff to make the ask.

Hold November 21: Board retreat — in person, full attendance. Growth questions and the slate.

		Purpose	Presenter
C.	Adjourn Meeting	FYI	Michael Freeland

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>

Seeing none, I adjourn official board business.