



# DeKalb Brilliance Academy

## FY26 Full Board Meetings

Published on November 23, 2025 at 5:59 PM EST

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### Date and Time

Monday November 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM EST

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### Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
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<b>I.</b>	<b>Opening Items</b>		<b>7:00 PM</b>
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<b>A.</b>	Record Attendance	Tiayana Logan	5 m
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*Connector:*

<b>B.</b>	Call the Meeting to Order	Michael Freeland	1 m
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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.

<b>C.</b>	Approve October meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Michael Freeland	2 m
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	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>II. Meeting opening</b>			<b>7:08 PM</b>
<b>A. Mission and Vision</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	3 m
<p><b>Our mission:</b> With unwavering commitment to exceptional academics, leadership development, and community collaboration, <b>DeKalb Brilliance Academy</b> prepares all Kindergarten-8th grade students to thrive in high school and college, have fulfilling careers, and become impactful leaders in our communities.</p> <p><b>Our vision:</b> 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.</p>			
<b>B. Board Commitments</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	2 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Build excellence:</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>Stay engaged:</b> We stay engaged by “remaining morally, emotionally, intellectually, and socially involved in the dialogue.”</li> <li>• <b>Embrace disagreement:</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>Take responsibility for intent and impact:</b> We assume best intent, and also take responsibility for the impact of our actions.</li> <li>• <b>Process, not the people:</b> 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.</li> </ul>			
<b>C. Public Comment</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 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:
- **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

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Start public comment: "the order we have for public comment is XYZ"</li> </ul>			

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

<b>III. Committee Updates</b>			<b>7:18 PM</b>
<b>A. Finance Committee Updates</b>	FYI	Quentin Johnson	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October financial (<a href="#">presentation</a> + <a href="#">details</a>).</li> <li>• Days cash on hand in strong position</li> <li>• Expect improvements to year-end fund balance once remaining funds in loan are deposited after final loan drawdown.</li> </ul>			
<b>B. Academic Committee Updates</b>	FYI	Mesha Greene	5 m
<b>C. Partnerships Committee Update</b>	FYI	Jocelyn Alter	5 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>IV. School Leadership Report Out</b>			<b>7:33 PM</b>
<b>A. School Leader Report Out</b>	FYI	Jocelyn Alter	15 m
See slides <a href="#">here</a> .			
<b>V. Board Workshop</b>			<b>7:48 PM</b>
<b>A. Comprehensive Performance Framework (CPF) Discovery Protocol</b>	Discuss	Michael Freeland	40 m
<b>Step 1: Individual Review (6 min)</b>			
Read the CPF overview aligned to your committee]			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academics: <a href="#">CPF</a> pages 3-6, <a href="#">CCRPI calculation guide</a></li> <li>• Finance: <a href="#">CPF</a> pages 7-11</li> <li>• Governance: <a href="#">CPF</a> pages 12-22 (<i>partnerships join governance</i>)</li> </ul>			
<b>Step 2: Committee Discussion (6 min)</b>			
Prompt: <i>"What will the SCSC use to evaluate to decide on renewal?"</i>			
Assign roles:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Facilitator</b> — keeps time + focus</li> <li>• <b>Recorder</b> — captures top 2–3 per category</li> <li>• <b>Reporter</b> — prepares share-out</li> </ul>			
<b>Step 3: Whole-Group Share Out (6 min)</b>			
Slides for subsequent discussion <a href="#">here</a> (20 min)			
<b>VI. Closing Items</b>			<b>8:28 PM</b>

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>A.</b> Team shoutouts	Discuss	Michael Freeland	5 m

Align shoutouts to board agreements:

- **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.

<b>B.</b> Meeting closing	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 m
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- **Save the Dates:**
  - **December 5:** Staff/board holiday celebration (6 PM @ Maggiano's Buckhead)
  - **December 10-11:** Celebration of Learning Showcases
  - **February 11–12:** Required SCSC training
    - Joseph, Quentin, Mesha & Curtis required to attend 1 day
    - Sharicka, Jenea, & LaKenya required to attend 1.5 days

<b>C.</b> 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>*

*Seeing none, I adjourn official board business.*

# Coversheet

## Approve October meeting minutes

<b>Section:</b>	I. Opening Items
<b>Item:</b>	C. Approve October meeting minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	Approve Minutes
<b>Submitted by:</b>	
<b>Related Material:</b>	Minutes for FY26 Full Board Meetings on October 27, 2025



# DeKalb Brilliance Academy

## Minutes

### FY26 Full Board Meetings

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#### Date and Time

Monday October 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM

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#### Pre-work:

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

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#### Directors Present

C. Armour, Jr. (remote), J. Akpan, J. Caruth (remote), J. Counts (remote), L. Norris (remote), M. Freeland (remote), M. Greene (remote), Q. Johnson (remote), S. Samuels (remote)

#### Directors Absent

B. Hartman

#### Ex Officio Members Present

E. Parks (remote), K. Herbert (remote)

#### Non Voting Members Present

E. Parks (remote), K. Herbert (remote)

#### Guests Present

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J. Alter (remote), T. Logan (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Freeland called a meeting of the board of directors of DeKalb Brilliance Academy to order on Monday Oct 27, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

### C. Approve September meeting minutes

M. Freeland called a meeting of the board of directors of DeKalb Brilliance Academy to order on Monday Oct 27, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

Q. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from FY26 Full Board Meetings on 09-22-25.

M. Greene seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
S. Samuels	Aye
J. Akpan	Aye
B. Hartman	Absent
M. Greene	Aye
M. Freeland	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
J. Counts	Aye
J. Caruth	Aye
L. Norris	Aye

## II. Board Workshop

### A. FY25 Audit

### B. Board Votes

Q. Johnson made a motion to Move to approve the FY25 Audit as presented to the board.

J. Counts seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

M. Greene	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
J. Caruth	Aye



### Roll Call

J. Akpan Aye  
 M. Freeland Aye  
 S. Samuels Aye  
 B. Hartman Absent  
 L. Norris Aye  
 J. Counts Aye  
 C. Armour, Jr. Aye

Q. Johnson made a motion to Move to approve the FY25 Audit Finding Management Response Letter as presented to the board.

J. Counts seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### Roll Call

J. Caruth Aye  
 L. Norris Aye  
 S. Samuels Aye  
 B. Hartman Absent  
 C. Armour, Jr. Aye  
 M. Greene Aye  
 M. Freeland Aye  
 Q. Johnson Aye  
 J. Counts Aye  
 J. Akpan Aye

J. Counts made a motion to Move to approve the recommended emergency situations purchase policy as presented to the board.

Q. Johnson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### Roll Call

S. Samuels Aye  
 J. Akpan Aye  
 B. Hartman Absent  
 L. Norris Aye  
 Q. Johnson Aye  
 C. Armour, Jr. Aye  
 M. Freeland Aye  
 J. Counts Aye  
 J. Caruth Aye  
 M. Greene Aye

## III. Closing Items

### A. Team shoutouts

### B. Meeting closing

### C.

### **Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Freeland