



# DeKalb Brilliance Academy

## FY26 Full Board Meetings

Published on June 23, 2026 at 9:50 PM EDT

Amended on June 29, 2026 at 6:49 PM EDT

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### Date and Time

Monday June 29, 2026 at 7:00 PM EDT

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### Pre-work:

- review revised [local wellness policy](#), [staff handbook](#), and [parent/family handbook](#) (changes in red text (additions) and strikethrough (removals)).
- complete all FY26 training and fundraising requirements

Access all board meeting materials [here](#)

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### Agenda

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

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
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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 May 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:

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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:</li> <li>• 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</li> <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”

**III. Committee Updates 7:18 PM**

<b>A. Governance Committee</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 m
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- Trainings update (ADD)

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board retreat scheduling pushed ot September to be able to have fuller attendance and be in person</li> <li>• FY27 Board Meeting schedule:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ July: Monday, July 27, 2026</li> <li>◦ August: Monday, August 24, 2026</li> <li>◦ September: Monday, September 28, 2026</li> <li>◦ October: Monday, October 26, 2026</li> <li>◦ November: Monday, November 30, 2026</li> <li>◦ December: no board meeting, but please save the date (TBD) for staff + board holiday celebration</li> <li>◦ January: Monday, January 25, 2027</li> <li>◦ February: Monday, February 22, 2027</li> <li>◦ March: Monday, March 22, 2027</li> <li>◦ April: Monday, April 26, 2027</li> <li>◦ May: Monday, May 24, 2027</li> <li>◦ June: Monday, June 28, 2027</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
<p><b>B. Finance Committee Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Days cash on hand in strong position</li> <li>• May financial (<a href="#">presentation</a> + <a href="#">details</a>).</li> </ul>	FYI	Quentin Johnson	5 m
<p><b>C. Partnership Committee Report Out</b></p> <p>add fundraising update</p>			5 m
<p><b>IV. School Leadership Report Out</b></p>			<b>7:33 PM</b>
<p><b>A. School Leader Report Out</b></p> <p>See slides <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	FYI	Jocelyn Alter	15 m
<p><b>V. Board votes</b></p>			<b>7:48 PM</b>
<p><b>A. Aftercare provider vote</b></p>	Vote	Jocelyn Alter	5 m
<p><b>B. Technology quote vote</b></p>	Vote	Eva Parks	5 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<b>VI. Closing Items</b>			<b>7:58 PM</b>
<b>A. Team shoutouts</b>	Discuss	Michael Freeland	5 m
Align shutouts to board agreements:			
<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>B. Meeting closing</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next Board Meeting: Monday, July 27, 2026</b></li> </ul>			
<b>C. Adjourn Meeting</b>	FYI	Michael Freeland	
<i>Now we will adjourn our board business.</i>			
<i>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?</i>			
<Pause>			
<i>Seeing none, I adjourn official board business.</i>			

# Coversheet

## Approve May meeting minutes

**Section:** I. Opening Items  
**Item:** C. Approve May meeting minutes  
**Purpose:** Approve Minutes  
**Submitted by:**  
**Related Material:** Minutes for FY26 Full Board Meetings on June 1, 2026

APPROVED



## DeKalb Brilliance Academy

### Minutes

#### FY26 Full Board Meetings

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##### **Date and Time**

Monday June 1, 2026 at 7:00 PM

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##### **Pre-work:**

- review FY27 budget materials [here](#).
  - all materials for board meeting are in a folder [here](#).
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##### **Directors Present**

J. Akpan (remote), J. Carruth (remote), J. Counts (remote), L. Norris (remote), M. Freeland (remote), M. Greene (remote), Q. Johnson (remote), S. Samuels (remote)

##### **Directors Absent**

C. Armour, Jr.

##### **Ex Officio Members Present**

E. Parks (remote)

##### **Non Voting Members Present**

E. Parks (remote)

##### **Guests Present**

J. Alter (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 Jun 1, 2026 at 7:04 PM.

### C. Approve April meeting minutes

J. Counts made a motion to approve the minutes from FY26 Full Board Meetings on 04-27-26.

M. Greene seconded the motion.

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

## II. Meeting opening

### A. Mission and Vision

J. Counts read Mission

L. Norris read Vision

### B. Board Commitments

### C. Public Comment

None.

## III. Committee Updates

### A. Governance Committee

- New Board members need to complete their required SCSC training hours
- Tenured Members completed their hours.
- Due by June 30th, 2026

### B. Finance Committee Updates

- Both public budget hearings and S&P rating presentation complete
- 107 cash on hand
- Despite the mid year \$400k revenue decrease the school is projected to end the year in line with approved FY26 budget

### C. Partnership Committee Report Out

- all board members have an annual give/get commitment of \$1500 by June 30th

#### IV. School Leadership Report Out

##### A. School Leader Report Out

- 26-27 hiring: 654 applicants so far
- 47 of 56 staff hired
- enrollment - 734 applicants (for 200 offered seats)
- fully enrolled for 26-27 school year
- currently 674 students enrolled for 620 seats (we over enroll to anticipate attrition.)
- Celebration of Learning
- Fourt Grade Cook Out
- Kinder Moving Up

#### V. Board votes

##### A. FY27 Budget Vote

Q. Johnson made a motion to adopt the FY27 budget.

J. Carruth seconded the motion.

\$10.5 projected revenue

\$10.3 projected expenses

\$179k+ net

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

##### B. Summer 2026 facility vendor vote

###### 1. Floor Resurfacing-

- not routine wear and tear or a maintenance issue it stems from moisture/efflorescence between the LVT tiles
- it is impossible to remove
- very uncommon issue (builders & architects have not seen previously)
- repairs are needed now to keep the facility clean and safe

2. SPED Classroom Adjustment: to address self-contained SPED enrollment being larger than projected; the work combines two smaller rooms into one larger classroom

Funding Source: Remaining restricted construction loan funds

Recommendation- Georgia Specialties

Q. Johnson made a motion to approve Georgia Specialties as the vendor for the summer 2026 facility projects.

J. Counts seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**C. Executive contract vote**

Q. Johnson made a motion to offer Head of School contract, as written by school legal counsel and as recommended by the Governance Committee to Jocelyn Alter.

M. Greene seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Team shoutouts**

- Jocelyn gives a shoutout to Quentin for his leadership
- Jazmin gave shout out to board in coming together to support Michael with his family loss
- Eva gives shout out to Quentin for his leadership
- Quentin gives shout out to finance committee for their support
- Mike gave shout out to Sharicka, Jenea and LaKenya for their 1st year, and to the more seasoned board members for their continued commitment

**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 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
J. Counts