APPROVED

DeKalb Brilliance Academy

Minutes

DeKalb Brilliance Academy Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday March 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Location
All meetings occur at the school's primary address: 2575A Snapfinger Road, Decatur, GA 30034.

Register to attend online at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqd-2uqTIiHNbQk4Rtf5l6MoBLdAEPBC29

If you have any trouble attending a board meeting, call or text our Head of School, Jocelyn Alter, at 404-618-2242.

Directors Present
B. Hartman (remote), B. Howell, B. Riley (remote), C. Armour, Jr., C. Payton, J. Akpan, J. Counts, M. Freeland, M. Greene, Q. Johnson (remote), T. Egbuna, T. Ruffin

Directors Absent
D. Watters

Ex Officio Members Present
B. Miller (remote), K. Herbert (remote)

Guests Present

Alecea Thompson (remote), Asia Bowles (remote), Breyanah Henry (remote), J. Alter, Jamye Adams, Jaymee Harper (remote), Meranda Reed (remote), Renisha Morrow (remote), Saiya Lin (remote), Terica Huff (remote), Wynton Woody (remote)

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 Mar 24, 2025 at 7:05 PM.

C. Approve February meeting minutes

B. Howell made a motion to approve the minutes from DeKalb Brilliance Academy Board Meeting on 02-24-25.
C. Payton seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
J. Counts	Aye
J. Akpan	Aye
B. Hartman	Aye
T. Ruffin	Aye
D. Watters	Absent
Q. Johnson	Aye
M. Freeland	Aye
B. Howell	Aye
B. Riley	Aye
C. Payton	Aye
M. Greene	Aye
T. Egbuna	Aye

D. Approve January meeting minutes

B. Howell made a motion to approve the minutes from DeKalb Brilliance Academy Board Meeting on 01-27-25.
J. Akpan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Egbuna	Aye
D. Watters	Absent
T. Ruffin	Aye
J. Counts	Aye

Roll Call

M. Greene	Aye
B. Hartman	Aye
C. Payton	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
B. Riley	Aye
J. Akpan	Aye
C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
B. Howell	Aye
M. Freeland	Aye

II. Partnerships

A. Partnerships Committee Report Out

Back and forth on feedback about the Commerce Club event;

- Make it possible for people to buy tickets closer to the date
- Need to think of a way to thank the Commerce Club for hosting
- Ideating on finding a more feasible time - tough to do so in Atlanta

III. Finance

A. Finance Committee Update

- FY26 is under review tonight (3/24)
- 99 days of cash in the bank (minimum is 60)
- We use BRITA is over $1M, which is above the benchmark
-

IV. Academics

A. Academics Committee Report Out

- On target for every grade except Third and Second grade
- Implementing strategies from fourth grade to raise the scores for third grade and a different first-grade
    - Goals are to meet the targets AND achieve proficiency
- Fourth and third grade targets are lower as these are the children impacted by COVID shutdowns

Q (Chawn): are we being reactive or proactive?
A (Kedra): Both. The reactive part of it is assessing more frequently (2-3x a week). The proactive part was doing the initial assessment, and the reactive part assessed more aggressively.

Q (Brian): how is proficiency measured?
A (Jocelyn): it's captured at the end of the year. Whether or not you're proficient at the start of the year is important but not the target. The aim is for accelerated progress.
Q (Brandon): Have we done anything to prep for SSHT test?
A (Kedra): Haven't addressed it yet; it's on our radar though. We are doing things to help our kids prep for high school courses and the goal is to kick off broader prep in early fall.

- Mesha volunteering to help plan.

V. Facility

A. Facilities Taskforce

- Furniture vendor selected
- Evaluating AV and low-voltage vendors
- Considering skylight vendors
- Roof needs more work than initially planned; looks like 50-60% needs to be updated
    - Choosing to do a partial repair as replacing the entire roof would eat up the entire budget
- Deciding to buy furniture now. Should save on future furniture prices if/when tariffs come into play.

VI. School Leadership Report Out

A. School Leader Report Out

- 100% of staff who were offered contracts have accepted
- Targeting 1000 applicants for FY26 staffing recruiting goal
- Kedra took staff to NYC for a high-performing charter school study.
    - Per Jocelyn, this is a great opportunity and something that typically happens later when people get to fellowships.

B. Staff Advisory report out

- Spots open for staff gratitude
- 3rd and 4th grade students taking GMAS at the end of April

C. Family Advisory report out

Transitioning to a PTA in FY26

VII. SY25-26 Budget First Review

A.

Brief Overview

Overview:

- Need competitive salaries
- Allocating budget for middle school

VIII. Board Vote

A. Competitive Bids

Q. Johnson made a motion to approve CTS as our AV/low voltage provider for the 25-26 school year.
J. Counts seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Freeland	Aye
J. Akpan	Aye
T. Egbuna	Aye
B. Hartman	Aye
C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
T. Ruffin	Aye
B. Howell	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
C. Payton	Aye
D. Watters	Absent
J. Counts	Aye
M. Greene	Aye
B. Riley	Aye

Q. Johnson made a motion to approve CTS as Dekalb Brilliance Academy's tech support provider for the 25-26 school year.
M. Greene seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

T. Egbuna	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
D. Watters	Absent
C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
B. Howell	Aye
B. Hartman	Aye
M. Greene	Aye
C. Payton	Aye
B. Riley	Aye
J. Akpan	Aye
T. Ruffin	Aye

Roll Call

J. Counts	Aye
M. Freeland	Aye

Q. Johnson made a motion to approve Constant Contract Solutions LLC as Dekalb Brilliance Academy's janitorial provider for the 25-26.
T. Ruffin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Akpan	Aye
D. Watters	Absent
B. Riley	Aye
T. Egbuna	Aye
B. Howell	Aye
C. Payton	Aye
M. Freeland	Aye
T. Ruffin	Aye
Q. Johnson	Aye
M. Greene	Aye
J. Counts	Aye
C. Armour, Jr.	Aye
B. Hartman	Aye

IX. Closing Items

A. Team shoutouts

B. Meeting feedback survey

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Freeland