



# DeKalb Brilliance Academy

## Minutes

### DeKalb Brilliance Academy Academic Committee Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday March 18, 2025 at 7:30 PM

#### **Location**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/6tqz0uGNxyPRfGVVvMnCUvHtgHIU2R>

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#### **Committee Members Present**

J. Alter (remote), K. Herbert (remote), M. Greene (remote), T. Ruffin (remote)

#### **Committee Members Absent**

C. Armour, Jr.

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### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Record Attendance**

#### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

T. Ruffin called a meeting of the Academics Committee of DeKalb Brilliance Academy to order on Tuesday Mar 18, 2025 at 7:38 PM.

#### **C. Community Builder**

### **II. Academics**

#### **A. Q3 Data Analysis:Dashboard Review and Response Plan**

- Q3 Data Analysis and Response Plan
  - Interim assessments column M
- Stack audits (3x/week)
  - Reteach 2-3x/ week
  - Adjust to needs of kids on a daily basis
- Non returning teacher who needs additional support
- 3rd grade will be focused on:
  - Student culture
    - 3rd graders need to build a sense of pride in their work and work quality
    - Experiencing student apathy
      - SCL in GMAS Academy
      - All hands on deck approach
        - Pulling small groups/coteaching with teachers to provide individualized support
        - Daily reteaching
    - Replicating interventions and strategies from Q2
- Gaps in 1st and 3rd grade class
  - Math biggest concern

## **B. Middle School Update**

- Keep a similar structure as the elementary level in terms of core content
  - Math
  - Science
  - ELA
  - Social studies
- Slightly different: they will opt into majors
  - Able to change their major up until 7th grade
    - Majors and minors available
      - Students chose the focus areas
  - In middle school, the students will be working toward solving a problem through the lens of their career path
- Next quarter more intentional projects to prepare for middle school
- Pitch model to draw attention to the middle school for social media marketing
- 30 applicants in 3rd grade
- 50 applicants in 4th and 5th grades
  - Social media ads to bring attention to those grades
  - Flyers to hand out to the community, like churches
    - Church newsletter

- Tabling at community events such as soccer games and early childhood centers

### **C. Organization Chart & Budget Implications for Next Year**

- Able to match APS salary for teachers
  - Enrolling additional 4th and 5th grade class to make it possible for teachers salary
  - Overpaying for ESOL so shifted funds
  
- Want to have a middle school principal and high school principal
- Shift social worker duties to Kedra
- Each person will have roles and responsibilities (creating chart with the leadership team to present in next meeting)
  - Really Great Schools: resources
  - Each person will have a professional goal

### **D. Mobilizing the PTA for Y4**

- Join the call on Mar 27, 2025 at 8pm
- Split the jobs between interested individuals

## **III. Closing Items**

### **A. Capture next steps & send out to team**

- Discuss data collected for Q3 with the full board on March 24, 2025
- Significant gaps observed in 1st and 3rd grade
  
- Follow up on middle school social media marketing to increase enrollment particularly for 4th and 5th grade

- Present flyers to the community to increase enrollment and awareness of the school (with a heavy focus on 4th and 5th grade)

Review the organizational chart:

Academic Committee to join the Family Engagement Meeting on March 27 at 8pm to increase awareness and support for the PTA

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
T. Ruffin