APPROVED

KIPP Memphis Public Schools

Minutes

KIPP Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday September 8, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Location
Virtual

Guests are welcomed to attend these public meeting and are asked to pre-register to receive the meeting location details: KMPS Board Meeting Registration

Committee Members Present
J. Worles (remote), K. Shotwell (remote), L. Johnson III (remote), M. Davis (remote), N. Gatson (remote)

Committee Members Absent
B. Gennings

Committee Members who arrived after the meeting opened
J. Worles, L. Johnson III, M. Davis

Guests Present
A. Burt (remote), G. Williams (remote), J. Ward-Gill (remote), K. Durham (remote), L. Tate (remote), M. Smith (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

N. Gatson called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of KIPP Memphis Public Schools to order on Tuesday Sep 8, 2026 at 5:02 PM.

B. Roll Call

L. Johnson III arrived at 5:08 PM.
J. Worles arrived at 5:09 PM.

M. Davis arrived at 5:16 PM.

C. Agenda Review

No additions or amendments were made to the agenda as presented.

D. Approve Minutes

As this was the first Academic Committee Meeting of the 2026–2027 school year and all Committee Members are newly appointed, a quorum of members from the May 12, 2026 Academic Committee Meeting was not present. Therefore, the May 12, 2026 meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the next General Board of Directors Meeting.

II. Academic Excellence Presentation

A. Academic Excellence Update

Chief Tate presented an update and overview of all schools Performance for the 2025-26 State Assessment which included ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies and the Middle School Success Rate.

2025-26 EOY TCAP / EOC Data

- KIPP Memphis is strengthening instruction through Tennessee standards-aligned focus calendars and targeted interventions. **Roar and Restore Fridays** support elementary and middle school students, while **Math Flex Fridays** and **Text Tuesdays/Thursdays** provide targeted high school support. Social Studies showed notable growth, including sixth grade exceeding the double AMO goal, while high school improved across all areas, with Science and Social Studies meeting AMO goals.

What we learned from 2025-26

- 2025–26 data identified four key priorities: stronger Tier I instruction, targeted Tier II interventions, consistent progress monitoring, and increased leadership and coaching support.

Plan of Action: 2026-27

- Strengthen student achievement through Roar and Restore, focused instruction, targeted interventions, collaborative planning, professional development, and new teacher support.

KIPP Memphis 26-27 Academic Goals
Anchor Metric Goals:

- Dibels 2nd 84%, 3-5 ELA 44%, 6-8 ELA 21%, 3-5 Math 41%, 6-8 Math 34%, GPA 40%, ACT-18, PostSec-4yr - 46, Post Sec-Any - 89, ECC 26

On-Track & Mastery:

- ELA - All Campuses 44% (Elem), 22% (Middle), 31% (High)
- Math - All Campuses 41% (Elem), 34% (Middle), 22% (High)
- Science - All Campuses 39% (Elem), 31% (Middle), 33% (High)
- Social Studies - All Campuses 33%, (Middle) 26% (High)

BOY iReady Results

- Chief Tate presented an update on BOY DIBELS Literacy, i-Ready Math, and overall i-Ready assessment results.

Universal Screener Plan of Action 2026-27

- Chief Tate highlighted targeted literacy interventions and the “15 to the Dream” i-Ready Math initiative, which provides students with daily personalized MyPath practice to address learning gaps and accelerate growth.

B. Advanced Academics

Chief Tate presented and update of the following:
Strategic Priority: College & Career Readiness

- KIPP Memphis has brought its industry certification program in-house, offering students five state-approved certifications, including First Aid/CPR, 3D Printing, OSHA 10, Career Readiness, and Python Programming. More than 100 certifications are anticipated to be awarded during the 2026–27 school year.

Dr. Durham presented and update on the following:
Strategic Priority: Rigorous Instruction - Advance Academic Course

- KIPP Memphis launched its AP program to expand access to rigorous academic opportunities, with students enrolled in AP Literature, AP Language, and dual enrollment courses through Bethel University. Plans are underway to add AP Seminar and AP Precalculus next school year.

Matriculation & Enrollment Trends

- Fall enrollment for the Class of 2026 is projected at 29% four-year college, 40% two-year/CTE, and 7% military, with financial barriers contributing to changes in students’ original plans. Lessons learned are guiding earlier support for the Class of 2027, with increased focus on college affordability, financial literacy, family engagement, and college exposure to improve enrollment and persistence.

III. Committee Questions and Comments

A. Committee Chair Comments

Committee Chair Gatson stated that Dr. Durham was recognized for her leadership in organizing a high-quality College and Career Expo, with Board Members encouraged to attend and support the event. She also acknowledged areas for continued growth, expressed appreciation for the transparency of the data and planned next steps, and offered support.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Ward-Gill

View the KIPP Memphis Board of Director's full meeting schedule here:
https://app2.boardontrack.com/public/mJyCcK/home