

APPROVED



Libertas Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday February 24, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location

262 Liberty St, Springfield, MA

Trustees Present

C. Resto, J. Fedor, K. Diamond Kayiatos, K. Stewart, N. Barker, N. Coakley, P. Kkayego, P. Mancinone, S. Williams

Trustees Absent

J. Gunther, S. Lapolice

Ex Officio Members Present

M. Montero

Non Voting Members Present

M. Montero

Guests Present

Ari Nunez, Brittany Anderson, Christien Laible, Melissa Szumski

I. Opening Items

A.

Board Chair Welcome

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Call the Meeting to Order

P. Kkayego called a meeting of the board of trustees of Libertas Academy Charter School to order on Tuesday Feb 24, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

D. Approval of Previous Minutes

P. Mancinone made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 11-25-25.

K. Stewart seconded the motion.

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

II. Management Report

A. SEI Endorsement- VOTE

P. Mancinone made a motion to Approve the SEI Endorsement.

N. Coakley seconded the motion.

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

B. Management Report

MM provided an overview:

96% overall teacher retention (voluntary)

100% New teacher retention (voluntary)

Stronger onboarding process to ensure new teachers are ready- instructional continuity, reduced disruption

55% staff BIPOC/ Latino

23% staff Latino- no other school can offer

96% seniors already accepted to college

50% of LA on track to be ME on MCAS Math and ELA

Off track= enrollment for college- expect this process to be on track as we enter spring '26

Off Track- AP goals

Retain 80% of highly effective teachers- on track

Fundraising goals on track

Charter renewal on track

Charter application in CT on track

Ari Nunez- Director of student recruitment

partnered with elementary schools

working to connect in CT- government officials

154 6 grade applications for lottery- well ahead of last year; 236 total apps

Recruitment video online

Christien Laible- Finance and HR Highlights

Monthly meetings with UA and LA leaders on budgeting

Digital ticketing for extracurriculars

2/3 MCPPO courses complete- Mass Certified Public Purchasing

HR policies revised and codified

Emerging Leaders- 13 staff participants (77% BIPOC)

Finance goal- off track on goal to reduce contract with Central Source but working creatively to resolve. Seeking help from accounting minds

Brittany Anderson- Director of Alumni Support

Challenge of supporting students who are no longer in the building

78% of students completing FAFSA- goal of 100%

ALums need to submit transcripts to LACS for review and support

Works with college team at LACS- brings alums back to connect with current students ongoing engagement with LACS

Face to face connection around local campuses

Alums spoke to their experience

Jadem- springfield- joined club gymnastics and found his people

Ana- Amherst- challenge adjustment but persistence

Sa'Ad- UMAss Amherst- enjoying every part of his experience, learned how to public speak at LACS

Upcoming events-

Jenesis spoke about Little Mermaid- musical- March 13 and 14

MM noted that new specific budgeting will be rolling out next FY. Part of development goal as well

MM announced Boys' BB in the state tournament- round of 32 this week- Friday 2/27

Friday 2/27- Black History Month Celebration

III. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

P. Kkayego made a motion to approve January financials.

N. Coakley seconded the motion.

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

B. Academic Achievement Committee

Nick noted the LA and UA's ongoing strong preparation and engagement with challenge as the school prepares for upcoming MCAS and AP testing.

UA and LA leaders both flag Chronic Absenteeism as an ongoing concern that has proven difficult to change, despite active efforts. They remain committed

C. Development Committee

Kari talked about outreach- hosted tours at school. Paul brought guests who were impressed

Another round of tours coming up this spring

Outreach to banks for donations

starting to plan for 10 year anniversary

Patrick added that Paul and Nicole have done a great job connecting others in the community to Libertas

D. Governance Committee

Carlos updated on the committee's work- seeking outreach for new potential trustees

E. ED Evaluation

postponed to next meeting

IV. Closing Items

A. Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Next meeting will be March 24, 2026 at 5:30 PM

B. Adjourn Meeting

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

Respectfully Submitted,
N. Barker

Documents used during the meeting

- FY25-26 January SNP.pdf
- FY25-26 January Dashboard.pdf
- FY25-26 January Cashflow.pdf
- FY25-26 January Summary.pdf