

APPROVED



Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School

Minutes

Special Board Meeting

Date and Time

Friday November 21, 2025 at 1:00 PM

Location

Via the [zoom link](#)

Trustees Present

Ann Dargie Gladd, Esq, Azizah Yasin, Emily Whitebear, LATRINA DENSON, Matthew Schmidt, Esq, Thomas Roy

Trustees Absent

Neil Hede

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

LATRINA DENSON called a meeting of Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School to order on Friday Nov 21, 2025 at 1:23 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Azizah Yasin made a motion to approve the minutes from October 21 Board of Trustee Meeting on 10-21-25.

Thomas Roy seconded the motion.

Azizah Yasin name correction.

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

Roll Call

Neil Hede	Absent
Ann Dargie Gladd, Esq	Absent
Thomas Roy	Aye
Azizah Yasin	Aye
Matthew Schmidt, Esq	Aye
Emily Whitebear	Absent
LATRINA DENSON	Aye

D. Open Meeting Law Complaint Findings - OML 2025 – 167

Open Meeting Law Complaint Findings - OML 2025 – 167

It was noted by the President based on the letter shared by the Attorney General that the board did not violate the Open Meeting Law as alleged by the complaint Emily Pfeiffer.

However, the Attorney General did express concerns regarding the apparent procedural lapses relative to those executive sessions. Upon review, they noted that the minutes revealed several instances where the Board did not appear to follow the required procedure when entering executive session. For example, when convening in executive session pursuant to Purpose 2, a public body must identify the specific nonunion personnel that is the subject of discussion, unless disclosure would compromise the public body's negotiating position.

Additionally, and perhaps of greater concern, at least two of the Board's calendar entries and meeting notices gave the impression that the Board was to meet in executive session without first meeting in open session. Prior to convening in executive session, a public body must first meet in open session. The public body must meet in open session to vote to enter into executive session; this vote could fail, or the public body could otherwise choose not to convene in executive session.

The president acknowledged that this was an error based on her initial understanding from reviewing her predecessor's labeling of meetings on Board On Track, and that it was understandable why this would be a concern and why this perception would exist, so she wanted to ensure that the entire board understood the concerns to ensure we are following the correct procedure.

E. Executive Session

Azizah Yasin made a motion to Azizah Yasin made a motion to move to go into executive session to discuss and vote on executive session minutes from March 26, 2025:

“Executive session under G.L. c. 30A, section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (collective bargaining with UAW, Local 2322) or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and not return to public meeting.

Matthew Schmidt, Esq seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Ann Dargie Gladd, Esq	Aye
Azizah Yasin	Aye
Thomas Roy	Aye
Emily Whitebear	Absent
LATRINA DENSON	Aye
Matthew Schmidt, Esq	Aye
Neil Hede	Absent

II. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Azizah Yasin made a motion to I move that we adjourn.

Emily Whitebear seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
LATRINA DENSON