Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

SA Monthly Board Meeting (Open Session)

Date and Time

Monday October 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM EDT

Location

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

Topic: Scholars Academy Monthly Board Meetings
Register in advance for this webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_scvf1hB1RAyCn81hxsmkvw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

You may also watch the meeting live via YouTube stream, at Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy - Charlotte - YouTube

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Agenda

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
I.	**Opening Items**			**6:30 PM**
	Opening Items			
	A. Record Attendance and Guests		Enrique Alvarez	1 m
	Confirm meeting recording.			
	B. Call the Meeting to Order		Enrique Alvarez	1 m

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
	Do we have a quorum? Welcome to the Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy Board Meeting.			
C.	Read Mission Statement		Erica Womer	2 m
	Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy provides a differentiated, challenging, and equitable learning environment that supports the distinctive intellectual, social, and emotional needs of highly gifted children from diverse backgrounds and enables them to form meaningful relationships with their intellectual peers.			
D.	Administrative Meeting Review		Enrique Alvarez	2 m
	Zoom Webinar Etiquette/Rules: Meetings will be broadcast to the public via the Zoom Webinar Platform. This medium is a secure forum for engagement as it requires attendees to register, limits interactivity, removes the ability to communicate without permission and does not permit anonymous participation, comment, or annotation. Registration will require the submission of a first and last name and an email.			
E.	Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meetings	Approve Minutes	Dominique Palmer	2 m
	• Official approval of draft minutes from: ◦ Monthly Board meeting on 9/22/2025 for open session Approve minutes for SA Monthly Board Meeting (Open Session) on September 22, 2025			
F.	Adoption of the Agenda	Vote	Enrique Alvarez	2 m
	Are there any Amendments to the Agenda?			

II. Community Comments (First Opportunity) - subject to guidelines **6:40 PM**

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Community Comments - guidelines	FYI	Enrique Alvarez	5 m
	The public is welcome to speak; limited to **three minutes** per speaker. Topics should not cover private, confidential or personal information. The board will not respond or enter into a dialogue on topics discussed. At this time you may indicate your desire to participate in Community Comments by raising your hand using the controls in the Zoom application or browser.			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time

When it is your turn, a moderator will identify you by name and then grant you access to speak.

III. Director's Report — 6:45 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. General Report	Discuss	Jessica Cuneo	10 m

- Admissions Marketing Plan
- Teacher Evaluation Plan

IV. Governance Committee — 6:55 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Governance Updates	FYI	Daniela Tijerina	3 m

-Reviewed and finalized the board's annual calendar of activities to ensure the Board's duties remain on track.
- Discussed key hallmarks of Board's by-laws that require update vs. those sent by counsel and agreed to continue to review such in the following Governance and Policy Committee.
-Agreed to purchase new Parent/Student handbook and Code of Conduct from counsel in light of going updates (i.e. cellphones, Title IX, Bullying and Code) to which we may require re-adopt for current school year.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
B. Personnel and Staff	FYI	Daniela Tijerina	1 m

- Various personnel matters and one emplyee contract to be discussed in closed.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
C. Board Recruitment	FYI	Daniela Tijerina	3 m

- 2025-2026: 1 opening (currently at 9 board members, looking to get to 10)
- 2026-2027: 3 openings and 1 potential openings (all of which are uncommitted as of yet to renew for a 2nd term or add new time)
- Staff and Parents are encouraged to talk to those you think would be good fit for the Board

	Purpose	Presenter	Time

- Board Nomination Website
- Board Nomination Form

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
D.	New Staff	Vote	Daniela Tijerina	5 m

Approve the new hire recommendation as presented by the Executive Director during closed session.

V. Finance Committee — 7:07 PM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	Financial Updates	Discuss	Liliana Lopez	10 m

- 403b Plan Status: Pending Policy update; gathering information (i.e., min people in plan) to finalize changes with TIAA
- Tax Preparation 5500 Status (Due 10/15/2025) - Submitted by deadline
- Audit report update (Due 10/28/2025) - The State provided an extension for all schools to Dec 31
  - https://www.nctreasurer.gov/blog/2024/12/20/fy2025-audit-due-dates
- September 2025 Financial Statements, Budget vs. Actuals (see attached)
- VOTE: CD Ladder Update - One CD is expiring on 10/30/2025 and Heather is working on getting it reinvested
- VOTE: Budget amendments (see attached) - Needs Board Approval

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
B.	VOTE: Approval of updated School Budget	Vote	Liliana Lopez	5 m

- Proposed budget amendment for the sale of the buses (see attached)

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
C.	VOTE: CD Ladder process for the Year	Vote	Liliana Lopez	5 m

Vote to approve the renewal of expiring CDs per the ladder discussed and proposed by the Finance Committee through August 2026

VI. FAST Committee — 7:27 PM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
A.	FAST Updates	FYI	Alison Hall	5 m

- Fence works well, two small gates need to be installed.
- HVAC works well.
- Need to double size the sidewalk for safety.
- School alarm system does't work well, Ms. Cuneo is working on it.
- Ms. Ellington looking into options for PA system including multiple price points.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time

- Request to add bumps on 77 Center Drive

VII. Policy Committee — 7:32 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. SECOND REVIEW	Vote	Malik Dixon	5 m

- Wireless Communication Policy.(3.4B)
- VOTE October Meeting. Due Immediately to Department of Public Instruction.
- Policy 4.9 Retirement Withdrawal AMEND
- VOTE October Meeting
    - Last Amendment to Policy 2008
    - {TIAA - CREFF} 403B (a retirement savings plan for employees of public school systems and certain tax-exempt organizations)
    - Permits considering strategies to reduce the participant count.
    - Former employee shall have access to their account to initiate a rollover to another retirement account or request a distribution.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
B. Committee Work on Policy Updates	Vote	Malik Dixon	5 m

- Ratify & Acknowledge/Review: Teacher Parent Student Handbooks -
- The committee will review and propose an update to the Board's by-laws to reflect the latest regulatory developments as per advice from counsel.
- The committee will look into incorporating AI within the Acceptable Use Policy.
    - ED has shared sample AI Policies for review.
    - CMS 2025-2026 Initiative: http://cmsk12.org/ai
- Counsel shared materials for a review and update to the Student Code of Conduct.
- The committee will continue to develop best practices for efficiently publishing policies once the Board has approved them.
- The next Policy Committee meeting will be Tuesday October 28th.

VIII. Educational Excellence Committee — 7:42 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Educational Excellence Committee Updates	FYI	Malik Dixon	10 m

- Next Meeting December 9th, 2025 (8:15)
- Parent Survey closed August 22, 2025 (127 families responded)
    - Every grade was represented with the largest percentage from 3rd grade

	Purpose	Presenter	Time

    - Families overwhelmingly value our academic excellence, fabulous teaching staff, advance curriculum and gifted focus.
    - Desire for renewed innovation with enrichment programs and integrating modern/technological skills.
    - Desire for more consistency and clarity in the SEL program.
- Required Computer Science is up and running

IX. DEI — 7:52 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. DEI Updates	FYI	Kim Becnel	5 m

- EDS Package--collect information on what is needed via Google Form (transportation, lunch, field trip funds, etc). Creation and distribution of form to be discussed at our next meeting.
- Keeping up to to date with legislation in process concerning books and media--ongoing.
- Calendar review--religious calendar and school events calendar sent to PTO

X. Whole Child — 7:57 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Whole Child Updates	FYI	Erica Womer	1 m

- Awards & Assemblies on hold
- Reassess school wide SEL programming
- Working on a strategic goal focuses on SEL & whole child

XI. Foundation — 7:58 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Foundation Update	FYI	Erica Womer	1 m

- AGC update
- Grade Pledge Challenge

XII. Community Comments (Second Opportunity) - Subject to Guidelines — 7:59 PM

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
	A. Community Comments	FYI	Enrique Alvarez	10 m
XIII.	**Closed Session**			**8:09 PM**
	A. Vote to go into Closed Session	Discuss	Enrique Alvarez	1 m

- Discuss employment contracts - x1
- Discuss student matters - None
- Discuss personnel matters - x3
- Discuss vendor contracts - None

XIV.	**Closing Items**			**8:10 PM**
	A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Enrique Alvarez	1 m