APPROVED

# Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy

# Minutes

## SA Monthly Board Meeting (Open Session)

**Date and Time**
Monday March 23, 2026 at 6:30 PM

**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_cPY29Te6TZmwinl_7Qiiqg

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

**Directors Present**
D. Palmer, D. Tijerina, E. Alvarez, E. Womer, K. Becnel, L. Lopez, M. Dixon, X. Dong (remote)

**Directors Absent**
A. Hall

**Ex Officio Members Present**
H. Richter (remote), J. Cuneo

**Guests Present**

D. Delp (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance and Guests

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Alvarez called a meeting of the board of directors of Metrolina Regional Scholars Academy to order on Monday Mar 23, 2026 at 6:50 PM.

### C. Read Mission Statement

Daniela Tijerina read the mission statement.

### D. Administrative Meeting Review

Enrique Alvarez read the webinar etiquette/rules.

### E. Approval of Minutes of Previous Board Meetings

M. Dixon made a motion to approve the minutes from SA Monthly Board Meeting (Open Session) on 02-23-26.
E. Womer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### F. Adoption of the Agenda

D. Palmer made a motion to adopt the agenda.
D. Tijerina seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## II. Community Comments (First Opportunity) - subject to guidelines

### A. Community Comments - guidelines

No community comments.

## III. Director's Report

### A. General Report

- Second year using scribbles for the lottery.
- Lottery was held on March 18th
- Total # of applicants 259
    - 158 (K)
    - 10 (1st)

- 15 (2nd)
- 21 (3rd)
- 23 (4th)
- 10 (5th)
- 14 (6th)
- 7 (7th)
- 2 (8th)
- 187 on waiting list
- 48 open seats

• Approximately 50% of applicants qualified for the lottery

## IV. Governance Committee

### A. Governance Updates

1. The Governance Committee met in an off-site workshop and prepared a draft 5-year strategic plan.
2. School Town Hall (Mark calendars for April 22)
    - A Google Form will be available for the community to send questions in advance
3. Update on new staff
4. Staff pay planning
5. Performance plan for employees
6. 2026-2027 Slate Planning

### B. Personnel and Staff

• Various personnel matters to be discussed in closed.
• Vote on recommendations made by the Executive Director relating to personnel

D. Palmer made a motion to approve the Executive Director's personnel recommendations as discussed in closed session.
E. Womer seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### C. Board Recruitment

Ongoing recruitment for the board. Interested parties can complete the nomination form found here:

• Board Nomination Website
• Board Nomination Form

## V. Policy Committee

### A.

**Committee Work on Policy Updates**

- **AI policy**: Discussed AI policy guidelines issued by the County and prepared an initial policy framework to be discussed with teacher staff members, as well as with Educational Excellence.
- **Policies in review in order of priority:**
  - Grievance policy: review at the recommendation of counsel continues.
  - Code of Conduct for discipline purposes - Review at recommendation of counsel continues.
- New Policy Needs:
  - Credit by Demonstrating Mastery
  - Revisit Instructional Time Definitions
- The next Policy Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, March 24, at 8:15 am

## VI. Finance Committee

### A. Financial Updates

- February 2026 Financial Statements, Budget vs. Actuals (see attached)
  - Adjustments from last month are reflected as expected, no significant items to highlight
- Bearman contract renewal letter - VOTE
- Insurance renewal (see attached) - VOTE

D. Palmer made a motion to Approve the Bearman contract as recommended by the Finance committee.
D. Tijerina seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
D. Palmer made a motion to Accept the insurance renewals pending clarification on the Student Accident policy coverage details.
L. Lopez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## VII. FAST Committee

### A. FAST Updates

- City will be installing a 'School Zone' on 77 Center Drive within the next month or two. They also plan on lowering the speed limit on that street in general.
- Quotes were received for the HVAC units. They will need to be replaced in about 4-5 years. The plan would also be to re-roof the building at that time.

- One water heater had to be repaired, and we will need to replace/repair the others.

- The Admin team is working on a new custodial structure for the upcoming school year due to the inconsistency of cleaning companies over the years.
- Next meeting is Thurs, April 2nd.

## VIII. Educational Excellence Committee

### A. Educational Excellence Committee Updates

- Next Meeting April 14th, 2026 (8:15)
- Continue Strategic Plan preparation.
- AI Policy Implementation.

## IX. DEI

### A. DEI Updates

- Exploring funding for resources for Economically Disadvantaged Students (EDS).
- Required McKinney-Vento training done by Counselor.
- Discussing marketing/advertising initiatives for the upcoming year.
- Next meeting--May 6

## X. Foundation

### A. Foundation Update

- Annual Giving Campaign (AGC) updates:
    - More donations this month, but still only 25% from the goal.
    - Family participation increased to 45%.
        - up from 35% last month.
    - Making phone calls to unpledged families.
- New Foundation Manager position filled starting Monday, 3/23.

## XI. Community Comments (Second Opportunity) - Subject to Guidelines

### A. Community Comments

No comments

## XII. Closed Session

### A. Vote to go into Closed Session

D. Palmer made a motion to enter into closed session.

D. Tijerina seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## XIII. Closing Items

### A. Adjourn Meeting

D. Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
M. Dixon seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously 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 9:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Palmer