

APPROVED



BELIEVE STL Academy

Minutes

April 2025 Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday April 29, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Location

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87864083978?pwd=aVI2R0N0NnFGT3dDTs4ZU0tCZ0dVdz09>

Directors Present

L. Douglas (remote), L. Voellinger (remote), M. Hantak (remote), M. Johnson (remote), P. Woods (remote), S. Harmon (remote), S. Williams (remote), T. Wells (remote)

Directors Absent

D. Thomas, J. Boone, K. Martin-Johnson, R. Whitley

Guests Present

H. Harshman (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

P. Woods called a meeting of the board of directors of BELIEVE STL Academy to order on Tuesday Apr 29, 2025 at 5:02 PM.

II. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes - March

A. Approve March Board Meeting Minutes

S. Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes from March 2025 Board Meeting on 03-25-25.

T. Wells seconded the motion.

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

III. Principal & Executive Director Report (Academic, Culture, Data, etc)

A. Principal's Report

Academic

- Pre-ACT taken on April 23- highest attended day of the school year (97%)
- 92% attendance rate for the second semester
- Career Pathway Capstones Projects- students to present on May 27th
- Working on recruitment for certified teachers
 - 3 new hires and 1 pending

Culture

- Pre-ACT pump up event- built confidence & readiness for success
- Mama & Me Bingo Night on May 9th- family fun engagement at the Delmar Divine

Data

- 100 students- more data to compare as BELIEVE grows

Other

- Healthcare partnerships
 - BJC Healthcare professionals are now on-site twice a week
 - Special event- April 30th- Goldfarb School of Nursing
- May 10th open house- open for prospective families- hope to complete some registrations onsite
- Groundbreaking ceremony- May 8th at 10am
- Working through finalizing budget for 25-26 school year
- Camping to close out the year- May 22-23

B. Executive Director Report

- "SLPS lawsuit against new St. Louis charter high school can proceed, court says"
 - Narrative in the post dispatch mentions BELIEVE, but we are currently not listed as a defendant in the lawsuit
 - Course of action: take no action
- Update BELIEVE model to serve larger population; provide bigger impact

- advantageous to enrollment
- will be presented at the May board meeting
- Construction update:
 - On target to open for the fall semester
 - Closing mid-late May to start construction
 - Waiting on permits from the city

IV. FY26 Budget Approval

A. Vote: FY26 Budget

Reviewed the 2025-2026 budget

- stable position if we get the Bloomberg Grant: hopefully offer by mid-May
- advocating for teachers pay
- increases across the board in facility ops- larger space

S. Harmon made a motion to approve the FY26 Budget.

L. Douglas seconded the motion.

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

V. Invoice Approval - New Building

A. Approval of HKW Invoice

T. Wells made a motion to Approve the application and certification the HKW Invoice.

M. Johnson seconded the motion.

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

VI. Committee Updates

A. Finance Committee

Key indicators:

- student recruitment- in the green
- public revenue- in the green
- private revenue- in the green
- Expenditures to date- yellow
- Cash on hand is well above target range

B. Academic Committee

Timeline moving forward to get the academic committee up and running:

- **April** – Job description overview //
 - Board meeting- outline May priorities for the committees
- **May** – Committee meetings // begin drafting goals

- **June** – Committee meetings // finalize goals
- **July** – Report goals to board // get feedback

C. Development Committee

Timeline moving forward to get the development committee up and running:

- **April** – Job description overview //
 - Board meeting- outline May priorities for the committees
- **May** – Committee meetings // begin drafting goals
- **June** – Committee meetings // finalize goals
- **July** – Report goals to board // get feedback

D. Governance Committee

Timeline moving forward to get the governance committee up and running:

- **April** – Job description overview //
 - Board meeting- outline May priorities for the committees
- **May** – Committee meetings // begin drafting goals
- **June** – Committee meetings // finalize goals
- **July** – Report goals to board // get feedback

VII. Closing Items

A. Upcoming Deadlines & Things to Know

B. Adjourn Meeting

Moving to executive session at 6:06pm

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Hantak