

APPROVED



RePublic Schools

Minutes

February RCM Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday February 19, 2026 at 1:00 PM

Directors Present

A. Harper (remote), A. Schilling (remote), E. Huffman (remote), R. Pettey (remote)

Directors Absent

A. Harbin

Guests Present

A. Gallimore, J. Thornton (remote), K. Vernon (remote), M. Gross (remote), M. Ochoa (remote),
T. Vernaci (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Huffman called a meeting of the board of directors of RePublic Schools to order on Thursday Feb 19, 2026 at 1:04 PM.

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C. Approve Minutes

R. Pettey made a motion to approve the minutes from December RCM Board Meeting on 12-11-25.

A. Schilling seconded the motion.

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

R. Pettey made a motion to approve the minutes from December RCM Board Meeting on 12-11-25.

A. Schilling seconded the motion.

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

II. Mission Moment

A. Small Group Instruction

Marlena Gross led a discussion on targeted interventions through small group support as part of our mission moment.

Marlena Gross shared more about RePublic's small group instruction. She differentiated between MTSS and RTI, and reminded us of the three Tiers of support.

III. Org Health Updates

A. Org Health Updates

The board held a discussion about the current status of the metrics on the Org Health Dashboard.

Richard P. was curious about the absenteeism at the high school. How do we define it and what's being done to move the needle? Trey V. gave us an explainer that was thorough and efficient. Another concern for our high school is our LatinX scholars (over 50% of RHS scholars) who are worried about coming to school or sharing their personal data.

Erika H. asked where the sustained enrollment issues are, and Trey V. mentioned the high school is struggling. LCA and RP are not far behind.

Richard P. asked about how we are tackling the third grade reading gate "off track." Marlena G. shows the winter iReady data shows growth, which is a better trend as a network. Kindergarten demonstrates the strongest gains, which means great things for eventual third graders. This was a great transition to the next item on the agenda.

IV. Academic Excellence

A. RCM Academic Updates

Marlena G shares the good news: growth momentum is strong across both regions. Winter i-Ready data showing increased percentages of scholars meeting typical growth, particularly in early literacy and middle school math. Kindergarten demonstrates the strongest gains. This is evidence that Tier I instruction is working.

Proficiency is lagging behind growth across regions, particularly in upper elementary, secondary ELA, and in Alg II and Geometry.

Next steps: We will be strengthening Tier I execution and refreshing MTSS, focus resources where impact is highest, and increase accountability and alignment.

Marlena Gross led a discussion on the current status for academic proficiency in key areas across our schools.

B. RCM Enrollment Updates

Dr. Thornton shared that since the last meeting, Mississippi held its lottery. The lottery ran on Feb 13, and families will have two weeks to accept those seats. Smilow Prep has accepted 100%! Revive at 90% and Reimagine at 88%. Smilow Collegiate has a bit more time. We are converting applications to accepted seats at a higher rate than previous years.

In TN, we run the lottery process through MNPS. A parent ranks a school 1-7. We can guarantee a family will be accepted to our school if they rank us a 1. We've received 36% more applications than last year at this time.

We will know how many students are definitely registered by the next board meeting.

Jasmine Thornton led a discussion on the current status of enrollment for SY27 based on current applications across RSJ and RSN, plus the RSJ lottery results.

V. Finance

A. Financial Updates + SY27 Budget Planning

Matt O. shared some financial updates about RSJ, then RSN, and finally RCM.

RSJ: We have been diligently working with MDE to alleviate the negative consequences of mistakes made in their budgeting process last year.

RSN: All schools are under-enrolled, but we are engaging the RSN board and city partners to develop longer-term family engagement and outreach strategies. Also, we are complete with our TN audit!

Matthew Ochoa led a discussion on current financials and future planning.

VI. Other Business

A. Board Retreat Planning

Please complete the Doodle Poll for the board retreat! That way we can nail down a date and set a deadline for the board assessment.

Erika Huffman led a discussion on the board retreat planning.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

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,

E. Huffman

A. Schilling made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A. Harper seconded the motion.

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

The RePublic Board of Directors will provide a period for public comment at every meeting where there is an actionable item on the agenda. The public comments must be germane to items on the agenda. The Board will be unable to entertain requests for public comment on matters that have an existing forum for resolution. Examples of such matters include, but are not limited to, appeals of administrative decisions, disability applications and appeals, personnel matters, pending litigation, and any matters deemed confidential under state law.

Individuals who wish to address the Board must complete a Request to Make Public Comments via email to the Board chair at RCMBoardChair@republiccharterschools.org. Completion of this request requires the individual's name, contact information, affiliation, and a brief description of the nature of the individual's public comment. Any request to appear before the Board should be received at least 5 calendar days in advance of the next board meeting.