



"To Live, To Love, To Learn, To Leave a Legacy"

www.strideacademy.org

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Nov 20th, 2025

Board Conference Room#111

6:00 PM

Board Attendance:

Sara Fromm-Board Chair
Andy Lyman-Vice Chair
Tina Barak-Treasurer
Aaron Lundblad-Director
Carie Essig-Director
Ashlee Gibson- Director
Kelly Springer- Secretary

Administrative Attendance:

Eric Skanson-Executive Director
Nathan Schwieters-Director of Operations
Heather Ebnet- Middle School Principal
Angie Lichy-Elementary Principal

School Mission Statement:

STRIDE Academy nurtures individuals while fostering leadership and empowering students to attain their highest potential in a family-centered environment.

XVII. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

Mission Statement of STRIDE Academy

XVIII. Conflict of Interest Declaration

No member of the board of directors, employee, officer, or agent of a charter school shall participate in selecting, awarding, or administering a contract if a conflict of interest exists.

XIX. Approval of Agenda - Motion to approve made by Springer, seconded by Essig. Motion carried.

XX. Consent Agenda - Approved

A consent agenda is a streamlined approach to handling routine matters in meetings, allowing multiple items

to be approved together without extensive discussion or debate, saving time for more important topics. Board members have the option to pull specific items from the consent agenda for separate consideration by indicating their request during the meeting.

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes, Oct 23, 2025
- B. Approval of Financial Statements, October 2025
- C. Approval of New Hires
 - 1. Distad, Colby-PT IT Support Tech
- D. Acceptance of Resignation
 - 1. Prieto, Gaby-Sped Para Effective 11/14/25

XXI. Public Comment - No comments

The School Board welcomes input from community members and staff.

Each person addressing the council shall give their name for the record. Each person making a public comment is limited to three minutes. Comments should be kept courteous and professional and directed to the board. After the speaker makes their statement, they will be seated without further comment, dialogue, or debate.

XXII. Reports

A. Executive Director Report

The Executive Director, Dr. Eric Skanson, will provide updates on current programs and key events at STRIDE Academy.

- Continuing to work through the realities of having multiple sites.
- MDE charter leaders corp met today.
- MDE Revenue findings: they were taking a look at contracted service providers indicating that the way we work with our SpEd Director is not appropriate saying that they are acting more as an employee. The result is that we have about ten thousand in back taxes that we are going to be paying for over 3 years of working with both Marlene and Cyndi. We are addressing that going forward.
- Met with our current bondholders regarding some of the items that we need moving forward and brought them up to speed.
- Submitted our review and comment to the MDE.
- PUC submitted our affidavit for expansion. Now we are waiting on any next steps or if MDE is going to have an interaction.
- Update on Transportation, working through some of the financial pieces with the bus company. Math & Science is considering stepping away from our partnership for next year which will impact our overall costing. It means about 30% savings for us.
- A short week ahead with training in the mornings and finish with some food and get staff together.
- To celebrate some Stride Excellence: October * Kym Craven * Erica Lewis. November * Rachel Carlson * Rochelle Berger. We are extremely proud of each of them.

B. Leadership Reports

- 1. *Director of Operations, Nathan Schwieters*
 - Gave a report of the savings with an example of the electric and gas bill after all the repairs and maintenance done.
 - Activities: Girls basketball is underway. We are over halfway done with the season, moving quick. We are finding that our skill level is maybe not quite

what the other schools are but the girls are having fun. We have never seen a crowd cheering for 2 points more than they did.

- I could have never done all this without Brian's help.
2. *Elementary Principal, Angie Lichy*
 - It's been a busy month. I went to a legal seminar w/MESPA.
 - Worked with the student teachers from St.Bens on how to prepare their resumes and other qualifications.
 - I interviewed a few candidates for Para positions.
 - Working on upcoming PD days.
 - Three more evaluations will be taking care of tomorrow and I'll be done for the fall.
 - Our 4th graders played scrimmage with the Whitney Senior Center, it was adorable.
 - Coaching new teachers with some curriculum.
 - Working with kids who work extremely high in behavior but they do not have an iep plan.
 3. *Middle School Principal, Heather Ebnet*
 - (Mrs. Lichy gave Mrs. Ebnet's report.) She's finally getting into a rhythm.
 - Putting some different systems in place.
 - I know that she's really proud of all the hard work that she's been doing along with everybody who has been there to support her.

C. Standing Committee Reports

1. Academic Excellence Committee
 - Met on the 10th
 - Talked about the WHY? Benefits of using this model. Increased engagement and better participation.
 - We are also hyping up and celebrating growth through FastBridge scores.
 - Overall the RCA system has been cemented as part of STRIDE to build our sense of community and support. We want everyone to feel safe, cared for, and part of something bigger.
 - Next meeting Dec 8
 - Mr. Schwieter's gave a report of the MCA
2. Governance Meeting-11.18.25
 - Took a 2nd look at a policy that was updated last month and have promoted them to 2 readings.
3. Finance Committee-11.19.25
 - Kelly updated our revised budget with the new ADM based on the current number.
 - We are 1/3 the way through the year.
 - Added the LED project to the building improvements.
 - See report attached for more information.
 -

XXIII. Unfinished Business

A. Policy Updates: 2nd Reading **Motion to approved made by Ms.Gibson, Seconded by Ms. Essig. Motion carries.**

1. 101- Legal Status of the Charter School
 - a) Posting and distribution requirements
2. 213-Charter School Board Committees
 - a) Finance Committee requirements
3. 414-Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse
 - a) Threatened injury
4. 418-Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
 - a) Registry program participant protection
5. 421-Gifts to Employees and Charter School Board Members
 - a) Affected charter school individuals

6. 501-School Weapons Policy
 - a) Active shooter incidents
7. 503-Student Attendance
 - a) Excused absence process updated
8. 506-STUDENT DISCIPLINE
 - a) STRIDE Review

XXIV. **New Business**

A. **Policy Updates: 1st Reading**

1. 515 - Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records (Form Attached)
 1. 1. Parent contact information; student health and census data
2. 516 - Student Medication and Telehealth
 1. 1. Replace “auto-injector” with “delivery system”
3. 516.5 - Overdose Medication
 1. 1. Provides an optional provision for boards to consider
4. 524.5 - Personal Electronic Communication Devices
 1. 1. Note added
5. 534 - School Meals Policy
 1. 1. New provisions on second breakfast and/or second lunch
6. 621 - Literacy and the Read Act
 1. 1. Changes to Literacy Aid Uses
7. 703 -Annual Audit
 1. 1. Revised audit provisions
8. 707 -Transportation of Charter School Students
 1. 1. Students with disabilities
9. 806 –CRISIS MANAGEMENT POLICY
 1. 1. Violence prevention report information

B. FY 2025 Audit **Motion to approve made by Ms.Barak, Seconded by Ms. Gibson.**
Motion carries.

1.Presentation

2.Approval

C. Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness **Motion to approve made by Ms.Barak, Seconded by Ms. Gibson. Motion carries.**

1. Submission Approval

D. 4 Day School Week-Discussion - Dr.Skanson gave some information that could be beneficial to consider this model in the future.

Announcements

- C. December 18, 2025 Board Meeting
- D. Reminder to Complete your Bio for Bond Offering
- E. You're Invited: Nov 26: STRIDE Food and Fun

Adjourn 7:12pm