

# **Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting**

**January 15th, 2026 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC**

## **MINUTES**

**Meeting also offered through Teleconference Option:**

**Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code: 6521665**

**advertised on the School Website as well.**

### **Call to Order - 5:35 pm by Mrs. Tony Lee**

**Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present-** Tony Lee, Chris Weathersby, Sherri Cartwright, Erwin Thomas, Ginger Almon (School Leader), and Lori Wilson (CFO) were present. Mrs. Patricia Goodman was not present or able to call in to the meeting.

**Approval of December Minutes** -Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor.

**Approval of January Agenda-** Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby - All in Favor.

### **Recite the current SGSC Mission Statement**

- SGSC will provide distinguished and integrated instruction in an environment that cultivates respect, is inclusive of all, and lays the foundation for excellence and life-long learning.

### **Public Comment - None**

### **School Liaison (Mrs. Greenway) - None**

## **School Leader's Report - Information Items**

- Upcoming Events** - Information Item  
Mrs. Almon provided the board with a schedule of upcoming events that includes upcoming sports events, senior celebrations, field trips, and 100 days of school celebrations.
- Enrollment Summary** - Information Item  
As of 1/12/26, SGSC has 528 students enrolled - 30.30% of the students enrolled are non-white students.
- SGSC Open Enrollment coming soon** - Information Item  
Open Enrollment for the 26-27 school year begins on Monday, January 26th and ends on February 13, 2026. If a lottery is needed, it will be held in the SGSC auditorium on Saturday, February 14th at 9:00 am.

## **Academic - Information Items**

- Review of the Closing Gaps data from EOG/EOC towards CCRPI** - Information Item  
Mrs. Almon provided a spreadsheet to the board members that included SGSC's performance in Closing Gaps compared to the different counties that we serve. She explained what Closing Gaps consists of and shared the targets for SGSC as well as the comparative schools. The board members also discussed SGSC's current CCRPI score compared to the state and the other counties that we serve. SGSC is in good standing comparatively.
- Upcoming TSI Meeting** - Information Item  
SGSC is on the Targeted School Improvement list for the area of the middle grades special education sub group. Mrs. Almon explained what landed SGSC on this list and will share more after the state representatives come to the school to meet in January.

## **Finance - Action Items and Information Items**

- Approval of December Financial Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor. The General fund reports ending in December 2025 were reviewed. The school is 50.0% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues total at 52.57%. Expenditures total at 49.86%. School Administration, transportation, and Maintenance are leveling out closer to budget. The Committee discussed reviewing the budget and deciding on amendments in the upcoming months. The total fund equity for December 2025 is \$2,553,568.06. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund. Fund equity has increased for the month of December.

- Cash Flow- The general fund monthly actual cash flow variance for December 2025 is 18,241.38. Actual revenue was higher than the estimated revenue and the actual expenditures were a little higher for the month of December.
- **Approval of the December School Food Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright - All in Favor. The school nutrition fund for November 2025 was reviewed. The revenues totalled to 50.22%. The expenditures total at 40.61%. Fund equity for SFN increased to \$725,005.51.
- **CPF Point Calculation at this time** - Information Item- The Comprehensive Performance Frameworks Score Prediction was reviewed. Based on the SCSC monitoring results, the CPF score is 85 due to enrollment variance. SGSC is deducted 15 points. There were no major changes in any of the CPF calculations for the month of December 2025.
- **FY25 Audit**- Information Item- There is no new information at this time. The financials for the audit were completed before November 1st. Due to the government shutdown, SGSC will be receiving the single audit in January.

## **Governance - Action and Information Items**

- **FY25 Governance Training** - Information Item  
Mrs. Sherri Cartwright is registered to attend the February training. Afterwards, all members will have completed the SCSC training.
- **Walkway Update** - Information Item  
Due to a delay in materials, Mr. Burks started the project when school opened back up after the Christmas and New Years holidays.
- **Strategic Planning** - Information Item  
Mrs. Almon has reached out to the Georgia Charter Schools Association to see if they can provide support in creating the next strategic plan for SGSC. She will keep the board notified about the progress.
- **School Board Appreciation** - Information Item  
SGSC provided a thoughtful video produced by the Journalism class for the board members to thank them for all of their time and efforts. The board also received sweet treats from Adam's Family Pharmacy in Cuthbert as a special gift.
- **Honors Day Discussion for 26-27 School Year** - Information Item  
Mrs. Almon discussed with the board the potential to move to classroom certificates for each nine weeks and one end of the year awards ceremony to present trophies. The only exception will be to have high school awards at the end of the first semester and end of year.
- **Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES** - Information Item  
Board members discussed Mrs. Almon's performance related to LKES standard 3 - Planning and Assessment. The board feels that she performs all duties necessary related to this standard.

## **Executive Session -**

- **Enter into Executive Session** - Action Item  
Mr. Tony Lee asked for a motion to move into executive session. Motion was made by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- all in favor. The request of a former employee was reviewed by the Board.
- **Exit out of Executive Session** - Action Item  
Motion to end executive session at 6:16 pm was made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd Sherri Cartwright- all in favor.
- **Personnel Discussion** - Action Item  
The request of a former employee was reviewed by the Board. The request was denied on the basis of the contract of employment penalty being upheld. The Motion was made by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Erwin Thomas- all in favor.

**Adjourn Meeting** - 6:16 pm Chairman Lee motioned for adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright- All in favor.