Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting
August 20, 2026, 5:30 P.M. - Media Center at SGSC
MINUTES
Meeting also offered through Teleconference Option due to COVID-19:
Dial-in Number 978-990-5080: Access Code: 6521665
advertised on the School Website as well.

Call to Order - 5:34 pm by Chris Weathersby
Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present -
Tony Lee, Chairman - Absent
Chris Weathersby, Vice Chairman - Present
Patricia Goodman, Board Member - Absent
Erwin Thomas, Board Member - Present
Sherri Cartwright, Board Member - Present
Mark Cox, Board Member - Present
Ginger Almon-School Leader and Lori Wilson- CFO - Present
Approval of July Meeting Minutes - Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Mark Cox. All in favor.
Approval of August Agenda - Motion to Approve by Sherri Cartwright, 2nd by Mark Cox. 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 informed the Board members of several upcoming athletic events with football, softball, and cross country. She also notified the Board that the first Monitoring Monday will be held on August 31, 2026. SGSC will also hold its first annual Homecoming Parade on September 17, 2026 at 5:30 pm in Shellman.
- **Enrollment Summary** - Information Item
  At the end of the 25-26 school year, SGSC had 518 students on the roster with 29% non white students. Currently, SGSC has 562 students on the roster, with 35% non white students. The number of students is growing, as well as the diversity amongst the students.

Academic - Information Items

- **State of the School -** Information Item
  Mrs. Almon reviewed some important numbers related to the current state of the school. Current enrollment is 562 students with 35.05% non white students. SGSC has a 96.08% daily average attendance rate. Currently, there have been 7 discipline referrals entered into Infinite Campus since the first day of school. These numbers will be updated at each board meeting. Academic information will also be introduced into the state of the school as well.

Finance - Action Items and Information Items

- **Approval of July Financial Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright. All in favor. The General fund reports ending in July 2026 were reviewed. The school is 8.33% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues total at 8.53%. Expenditures total at 6.79%. The percentages of expenditures are lower or on track with the budget. The total fund equity for July 2026 is $3,065,435.86. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund. Fund equity has increased by $169,343.20.
  - Cash Flow- The general fund monthly actual cash flow for July 2026 is $147,489.17 for the general fund. Actual revenue was higher than the estimated revenue and the actual expenditures were lower than budgeted.

- **Approval of the July School Food Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright. All in favor. The school nutrition fund for July 2026 was reviewed. The revenues totalled to 0% because there were no meal claims in July. The expenditures total at 4.08%. Fund equity for SFN decreased by $23,412.76 because of salaries paid and start-up inventory with no meal claims to offset.
- **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 remains at 100. The start of the fiscal year causes unrestricted cash days to increase along with asset to income ratio.
- **Cash Collection Procedures Annual Review** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright. All in favor. The Board completed the annual review of the cash collection procedures. The policy is approved to remain the same with no changes.
- **Bus Purchase-** Action Item - Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Erwin Thomas. All in favor. The Board approved the purchase of a 2024 Blue Bird 72 passenger gas bus. The bus had never been titled and was priced according to the approved State-Wide Contract.

Governance - **Action and Information Items**

- **Campus Expansion** - Information Item
  Mrs. Almon and Mrs. Wilson developed a handout that names each project included in the expansion and the major cost items associated with each project. This handout will help guide the conversations related to the campus expansion. Mr. Cox will reach out to his contact about getting the drawings for each of the projects. We will revisit at the next meeting to update the handout with any known costs.
- **Review Strategic Plan** - Information Item
  Mrs. Almon will continue to gather parent input from the strategic plan survey meant for parents. Staff members will also complete a survey, and lastly, students will complete a survey as well. This will provide a variety of feedback to develop the most current strategic plan.
- **Discuss Peach Tax Plan** - Information Item
  For the application, SGSC has named a goal amount of $50,000 that will be designated for the land clearing and grading for the new athletic complex. The board members had a few questions that Mrs. Wilson will get answered ahead of submitting the application.
- **Approve Pecan Orchard Land Clearing and Procedures** - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Erwin Thomas. All in favor.
  The board approved for Mickey Rice to begin the land clearing of the pecan orchard. We will draft a letter to be delivered to the neighboring residences regarding the burning of the trees in the orchard. This project will begin mid-September.
- **Approve Updated Policies** - Action Item
  After meeting with the school attorney, there were no policies to update. This was no longer an action item on the agenda.
- **Signing of the Conflict of Interest Statements** - Action Item - Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Sherri Cartwright. All in favor.
  The board members reviewed the conflict of interest policy and signed the Conflict of Interest statement - required annually.
- **Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES** - Information Item
  The board discussed LKES Standard 1: Instructional Leadership. The board feels that Mrs. Almon is an active participant in instructional conversations with the teachers and parents at the school. They believe that she leads the school in decision making to keep the school improving academically. Mrs. Almon and board will meet after the September board meeting to begin the process of using GaLeads to evaluate her performance.

Adjourn Meeting - Motion to adjourn by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- all in favor

TIME ADJOURNED:_6:25_PM