

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter Board of Directors Meeting

September 24, 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 - 5:31 pm by Chris Weathersby

Recognition of All Members in Attendance/Note Those Not Present -

Tony Lee, Chairman - Present

Chris Weathersby, Vice Chairman - Present

Patricia Goodman, Board Member - Present

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 August Meeting Minutes - Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Mark Cox. All in favor.

Approval of September Agenda - Motion to Approve by Chris Weathersby, 2nd by Patricia Goodman. 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

- **Academic Update from Beacon Testing** - Information Item
Mrs. Alda Thompson and Ms. Mary Martha Ivey provided a presentation to the Board regarding our Beginning of the Year Beacon testing. The overall data shows that we have lots of growth to make. Mrs. Thompson and Ms. Ivey assured the Board that they are working with the teachers and staff to put measures in place that will improve overall Beacon scores - focusing on small group instruction from Pre-K through 8th grade.
- **Upcoming Events** - Information Item
Mrs. Almon provided the Board with a handout that showed upcoming events at SGSC which includes PBIS celebration, Monitoring Monday, FAFSA Night for parents and students, many athletic games, and Professional Learning Communities.
- **Enrollment Summary** - Information Item
SGSC currently has 556 students enrolled with a non white population of 34.35%.

Academic - Information Items

- **State of the School** - Information Item
Mrs. Almon provided a handout to the Board that included enrollment information - 556 students with a non white population of 34.35%, attendance information - 95.41% attendance rate for the year so far, discipline data that includes the different categories with the number of referrals in each category - disorderly conduct and repeated offenses are the leading discipline category with each having 6 referrals for the year, and academic information, which was covered during the Beacon Testing presentation.

Finance - Action Items and Information Items

- **Approval of August Financial Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Patricia Goodman, 2nd by Mark Cox. All in favor. The General fund reports ending in August 2026 were reviewed. The school is 16.66% through the fiscal year. We compared the areas of the general fund to the

fiscal year percentage to monitor spending. Revenues total at 16.82%. Expenditures total at 15.91%. The percentages of expenditures are lower or on track with the budget. The total fund equity for August 2026 is \$3,024,593.46. Board members reviewed all of the financials for the General Fund. Fund equity has slightly decreased due to the new bus purchase.

- Cash Flow- The general fund monthly actual cash flow for August 2026 shows actual revenue was around \$3K less than estimated. Expenditures were \$38K more due to the bus purchase this month.
- **Approval of the August School Food Report** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Erwin Thomas, 2nd by Patricia Goodman. All in favor. The school nutrition fund for August 2026 was reviewed. The revenues totalled to 12.0%. We are claiming meals this month to where we have that revenue and USDA. The expenditures total at 15.0%. Fund equity for SFN has increased this month. However, inventory is high due to the delivery schedule. The SFN manager had to order ahead due to Labor Day. This increased inventory and decreased fund equity.
- **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. There were some calculated changes due to the bus purchase. However, all calculations are in excellent standing.
- **Audit Update-** Information Item- The audit is currently 91.76% completed and/or fulfilled. It is on track to be completed ahead of the November 1st deadline.

Governance - Action and Information Items

- **Campus Expansion** - Information Item- The Board discussed campus expansion and next steps in the process. Mrs. Almon will be setting up meetings with local architects. Mrs. Wilson has spoken with the USDA area representative and will be setting up a meeting for the Board to meet and discuss upcoming plans with the area representative. Mr. Cox is working on sketches to share the Board's ideas with the architects. The Board is researching grants and different funding options for the expansion.
- **Review Strategic Plan** - Information Item
Mrs. Almon reviewed the parent response summary from the Strategic Planning form. Parents are most interested in improving academic achievement and providing students with opportunities to know about careers and educational opportunities after high school. Mrs. Almon let the Board know that the teachers would be completing the Strategic Planning form next.
- **Discuss Peach Tax Plan** - Information Item- The school must apply by the September 30th deadline. Mr. Weathersby will be completing the donor form requirement.
- **SCSC Board Training Dates and Information** - Information Item
The Board members have all decided to attend the SCSC Governance training in April 2027 in Macon, Ga. Registration will open on October 15th for Mrs. Almon to get everyone registered for training. Mr. Mark Cox is the only new board member that will have to attend two days instead of one day like all of the remaining board members.
- **Approval of the Amended Bylaws** - Action Item- Motion to Approve by Mark Cox, 2nd by Patricia Goodman. All in favor.
Mrs. Almon reviewed the small changes to the Bylaws being approved - there were small changes to the non-discrimination statement and the addition of a called meeting definition into the Bylaws.
- **Discuss the school leader's performance related to LKES** - Information Item
The Board will no longer use LKES to evaluate Mrs. Almon's performance. They will use GaLEADS to meet this requirement.

Adjourn Meeting - Motion to adjourn by Tony Lee, 2nd by Chris Weathersby- all in favor

TIME ADJOURNED: 6:34_PM