
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A meeting of the Explore Knowledge Academy Charter School Board of Trustees was held on June 11, 2026 at 4:00 PM, in person and virtually, at 5871 Mountain Vista Street, Las Vegas, NV 89120.

Board President Matthew Fitzgerald called the regular meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

OPENING

Call to Order and Flag Salute and Roll Call (For possible action) (Matthew Fitzgerald, Chair)

A quorum was established with the following board members present:

- Matthew Fitzgerald – President
- Michelle Alarie- Vice President *Not Present
- Mario Rezai– Treasurer *Not Present*
- Secretary - Open
- Calvert Webster – Trustee
- Jodie Pisciotti - Trustee
- Matt Gromlich - Trustee

President Matthew Fitzgerald called the regular meeting of the Explore Knowledge Academy Charter School Board of Trustees to order on June 11, 2026. He presented a declaration of posting, noting that the meeting agenda was posted at the school location at 5871 Mountain Vista, the Whitney Library, the Green Valley Library, and online at notice.nv.gov and ekacademy.org, in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Following the call to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A roll call was conducted, which confirmed a quorum was present with Trustees Calvert Webster, Jodie Pisciotti, and Matt Gromlich in attendance alongside President Fitzgerald. It was noted that Vice President Michelle Alarie and Treasurer Mario Rezai were absent. The Secretary position was noted as vacant.

1 - PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Fitzgerald introduced the first opportunity for public comment. It was noted that no members of the public were present in person or via the teleconference link provided at ekacademy.org/teleconference.

ADMIN UPDATES

2. Financial Update

President Fitzgerald proceeded to the administrative updates, beginning with the financial update. The check register for May 2026.. President Fitzgerald asked if there were any questions regarding the register. No board members had questions or saw any unusual items, so the board moved to the next agenda item.

3. Superintendent's Update (Abbe Mattson, Superintendent) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

Superintendent Abbe Mattson provided the Superintendent's Update, reporting on school highlights for May and June 2026. She stated that the school year concluded without any issues and the transition into summer operations is now in full swing. Superintendent Mattson confirmed that all necessary teaching positions for the upcoming school year have been filled, though she acknowledged that last-minute changes are always a possibility. She also mentioned that the hiring process for new teacher aides will take place in July, as some aides from the previous year are not returning. The board had no questions for the superintendent following her update.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Adoption of June 11, 2026 Agenda (Matthew Fitzgerald, Chair) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

5. Approval of May 19, 2026 Board Minutes (Matthew Fitzgerald, Chair) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

6. Acknowledgement of Projected Enrollment FY 27 as of June 10, 2026 (Abbe Mattson, Superintendent) (Information, DIscussion, for Possible Action)

7. Approval of new Teaching Staff FY 27 (Information, DIscussion, for Possible Action)

President Fitzgerald presented the consent agenda, which included the adoption of the current meeting's agenda, the approval of the May 19, 2026 board minutes, the acknowledgement of projected enrollment for fiscal year 2027, and the approval of new teaching staff for fiscal year 2027. He asked if any board member wished to pull an item for separate discussion. With no requests to separate any items, Jodie Pisciotti moved to approve all items on the consent agenda. Calvert Webster seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous among the board members present, and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Approval of Dual Enrollment Courses for FY 27 (Abbe Mattson, Superintendent) (Information, Discussion, for Possible Action)

Superintendent Abbe Mattson presented the proposed list of dual enrollment courses for fiscal year 2027, explaining that this approval is a new state requirement. The list was compiled based on courses students have taken previously and those scheduled for the upcoming fall semester. She clarified that the state requires the board to approve each individual course on the provided list, which will then be sent to the state for final approval. President Fitzgerald inquired whether all listed courses were taught on the EKA campus. Superintendent Mattson clarified that while some courses, particularly three from UNLV, are taught on campus, most of the courses from CSN and UNLV are taken by students virtually or in person at the respective college campuses, for which they receive both high school and college credit.

Following the clarification, President Fitzgerald called for a motion to approve all courses on the Dual Enrollment Course list as presented. Matt Gromlich moved to approve the Dual Enrollment Courses for FY 27 as presented. Jodie Pisciotti seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor, and the motion passed.

9. Approval of New Bank Signatories. (Matt Fitzgerald, Board President) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

The board next considered the approval of new bank signatories. Superintendent Mattson explained that since Imelda Keyer, a previous signatory, has retired, a replacement is needed. The administration proposed adding Wil Jones as a new signatory. She noted that Mr. Jones is a twelve-month employee who works similar hours to the business manager, Lori Rogers, which ensures his availability to sign checks when needed. The official request was to remove Ms. Keyer and add Mr. Jones to the school's bank account. After confirming there were no questions, Jodie Pisciotti moved to approve the new bank signatories as requested. Calvert Webster seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed. President Fitzgerald will sign the completed form on behalf of the board.

10. Approval of revised Fiscal Policies and Procedures (Matt Fitzgerald, Board President) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

President Fitzgerald introduced the agenda item for the approval of revised fiscal policies and procedures. Superintendent Mattson provided an overview of the three major revisions. The first was the addition of a Title I fund policy, which is now necessary as the school qualifies for Title I funding. This policy ensures that these funds are used to supplement existing programs, such as for tutoring and a new reading initiative, rather than supplanting, or replacing, current funding. The second revision was a new fringe benefits policy, which formally lists the benefits, rules, and processes for staff to ensure equitable offerings for all employees. The final revision was the inclusion of wording for the disposal of equipment, which establishes a formal process to document the disposal of broken, damaged, or obsolete equipment that is removed from the school's inventory. No questions were raised by the board.

After the explanation, Jodie Pisciotti moved to approve the revised Fiscal Policies and Procedures as written. Matt Gromlich seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

11. Approval of Summer Renovations/Repair and Replacement Funds (Matt Fitzgerald, Board President) (Information, Discussion, For Possible Action)

The board addressed the request to approve the use of bond and Repair and Replacement funds for summer renovations. Superintendent Mattson detailed the proposed projects, which include $34,500 for carpeting in Building A and $6,858 for re-tinting windows. She also requested authorization to spend a maximum of $60,000 on replacing the grass field with synthetic turf. She explained that while the administration is actively seeking grants from sources like the local water district, which offers incentives for replacing grass, and is exploring a potential donation from a contractor, she needed pre-approval to spend the funds to avoid delays. Waiting until the next board meeting in July would not leave enough time to complete the field replacement before the new school year begins. The new turf cover product being considered is designed to be up to twenty degrees cooler than standard turf.

Trustee Calvert Webster shared his recent experience with turf replacement incentives, noting the water district was offering significant rebates per square foot and mentioned he had a company name to recommend. President Fitzgerald asked for any further questions. With none forthcoming, Calvert Webster moved to approve the use of summer renovations and repair and replacement funds as presented, including the maximum expenditure of $60,000 for the turf project. Matt Gromlich seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor, and the motion passed.

12. Administration notification of any gifts or donations since the last board meeting.(Abbe Mattson, Superintendent) (Information, Discussion, Acknowledgement)

President Fitzgerald asked for the administration's notification of any gifts or donations received since the last board meeting. Superintendent Mattson reported that while there were no new donations to officially acknowledge at this time, there was a potential donation related to the athletic field renovation project that the administration is actively working on.

CLOSING

13. Public Comment

A second opportunity for public comment was offered. It was confirmed that no members of the public were present in person or had joined the meeting via the teleconference call.

14. Board Reflection Period

President Fitzgerald opened the floor for the board reflection period, inviting trustees to bring up any topics for discussion. No board members had any items to discuss.

15. Upcoming Calendar Events (Abbe Mattson, Superintendent) (Information, Discussion, Acknowledgement)

For upcoming calendar events, President Fitzgerald announced the annual Board Retreat, scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2026, at 9:00 AM at the Dragon Ridge Golf Club. Superintendent Mattson added that the first day of school for the new academic year is August 11, 2026.

16. Adjournment (Action)

With no further business to discuss, Jodie Pisciotti moved to adjourn the meeting. Matt Gromlich seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous among the board members present, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:17 PM.