MEETING AGENDA & MINUTES

Present	Brooke Archenhold Jessica Blanton Sherrie Brookie Stephanie Estrada Cathy Griffith (remote) Lienne Medford Brian Morrison Corey Shick Neil Tabor Alison Thompson Gina Turcotte (remote) Rob Venable David Wooten Naomi Morgan, Charter Institute at Erskine (remote)
Absent	Laura Raby

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. Roll call was taken to confirm attendance, and a quorum was established.

AMENDMENT AND APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- Amendment of Meeting Agenda
  - David Wooten indicated that the school had received a proposal for a new Yoga Club for students and requested that the board amend the agenda that had been shared prior to the meeting and add the Yoga Club under New Business.
  - Brooke Archenhold made a motion to amend the agenda and add consideration of the Yoga Club proposal under New Business.
  - The motion was seconded by Jessica Blanton.
  - All were in favor, and the agenda was amended.
- Approval of Amended Meeting Agenda
  - Brooke Archenhold made a motion to approve the amended meeting agenda.
  - The motion was seconded by Lienne Medford.
  - All were in favor, and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 2025 LCMS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- Lienne Medford made a motion to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes as presented.

- The motion was seconded by Brooke Archenhold.
- All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

REPORTS

- David Wooten, Principal's Report
  - Mr. Wooten reported that following an audit of the 2024-25 school year and an evaluation of the way in which the school has been subcontracting with substitute teachers, the South Carolina Department of Employment & Workforce ("SCDEW") determined that substitutes should be retained as employees. Mr. Wooten noted that pursuant to such a change, the school's budget would be affected, specifically the retirement benefits budget line item would be retroactively affected to the start of the 2025-26 school year.
  - Mr. Wooten noted that there are currently 446 students enrolled for the current school year. Several students have withdrawn since the beginning of the school year, so some additional 6th grade students were admitted from the school's wait list.
  - Mr. Wooten noted that a long-term substitute science teacher would be joining the school because a teacher will be out of work on extended leave.
  - Teachers are currently going through virtual training on responding to seizures. Mr. Wooten noted that the school has been able to leverage a particular training resource that's been provided through the school's involvement with the Charter Institute at Erskine ("Erskine").
  - Mr. Wooten shared that during a meeting with Erskine the preceding week, he learned that Erskine will be creating a district-wide policy on livestreaming board meetings, which will relieve individual school boards of the need to draft their own unique policies regarding this topic.
  - The school recently began working with a new food vendor, Rapid Fired Pizza, whose food offerings will be available to students on Thursdays.
  - For a limited time, school spirit wear promoting the school's annual theme will be available for sale. A link was provided to all students' families in the Langston Bulletin email newsletter. Mr. Wooten noted that this school spirit wear was different from Langston-themed apparel that is available through New Balance on an ongoing basis throughout the school year.
  - The Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina will host a conference in December 2025, which Mr. Wooten and Dr. Rob Venable will both attend. Dr. Lienne Medford and Alyssa Fennell, a Langston Leadership teacher, will present information regarding Mrs. Fennell's doctoral research.
  - Following brief discussion of the SCDEW guidance regarding retention of substitute teachers and the school's current practice of tracking substitute hours, Stephanie Estrada indicated she would follow up with Mr. Wooten at a later date to discuss the matter further and consider any present and future impacts to the school's operating budget.
- Alison Thompson, Langston Foundation
  - Mrs. Thompson directed board members' attention to the Foundation Monthly Fundraising Summary and Foundation Fundraising Sources handouts, which were included in the board packet, and summarized their content. She stated that her goal is to reach the same amount of revenue for the Foundation that was generated in the prior school year.
  - Mrs. Thompson informed the board that parents of students are requested to donate $700 to the Foundation per school year to supplement the school's operating budget and to meet other types of needs that operating revenue cannot cover.
  - Mrs. Thompson summarized the experiences and success of several recent fundraising activities, including coupon book sales by students and a blood drive hosted at the school.
- Lienne Medford, Academic Affairs

  - Dr. Medford reiterated that she and Alyssa Fennell, a Langston Leadership teacher, would be presenting information about Mrs. Fennell's doctoral research at an upcoming professional conference in December 2025.
- Governance
  - No report. Mr. Shick noted that the board's Governance liaison for the current school year had not been selected during the August 2025 meeting, but would be determined later in the meeting following nominations and confirmation by a majority vote of the board.
- Facilities
  - No report. Mr. Shick noted that the board's Facilities liaison for the current school year had not been selected during the August 2025 meeting, but would be determined later in the meeting following nominations and confirmation by a majority vote of the board.
- Stephanie Estrada, Treasurer
  - Mrs. Estrada acknowledged that she had received financial information from the school's bookkeeper earlier that day, but acknowledged that she had several questions about the information. After receiving additional information, an update regarding the budget and school's finances will be emailed to board members.
  - David Wooten noted that the school is presently going through the audit for the prior school year and working with the school's bookkeeper to ensure that the school's chart of accounts in its budget aligns with a budgetary template that has been provided by the state.
- Corey Shick, Chairman
  - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Purchase of Additional Student Devices
  - Dr. Rob Venable drew board members' attention to a handout included in the board meeting packet containing quotes from several vendors for student Chromebook devices. He summarized the quotes and communicated the school administration's recommendation. He noted that to procure the 250 student devices and associated charging carts specified in the recommended vendor's quote, the board would need to authorize the expenditure of approximately $101,000.
  - Dr. Venable noted that some of the school's older iPad devices are quickly exhausting their batteries when used, which was noticeable during recent Measuring Academic Progress ("MAP") testing.
  - In response to a question from Corey Shick, Dr. Venable indicated that it would be preferable for the board to take action during the current meeting, which would allow fulfillment of the order and sufficient time for the devices to be configured prior to implementation around the beginning of the next calendar year.
  - In response to a question from Stephanie Estrada about whether existing Google licenses could be transferred from current devices to new ones, Dr. Venable noted that the school's iPads do not have Google licenses.
  - In response to a question from Gina Turcotte about the cost of the device charging carts and a suggestion that local businesses may wish to sponsor their purchase, Corey Shick indicated that sponsorship opportunities could be explored when feasible following board action at the current meeting.
  - Following discussion, Brooke Archenhold made a motion that to approve the expenditure of the necessary funds to purchase 250 student devices and the necessary associated charging carts from Vision Office Systems.

  - The motion was seconded by Sherrie Brookie.
  - All were in favor, and the motion carried.
- Board Reorganization / Officers
  - Vice Chairman
    - Jessica Blanton made a motion nominating Neil Tabor to serve as Vice Chairman for the 2025-26 school year.
    - The motion was seconded by Stephanie Estrada.
    - All were in favor, and the motion carried.
  - Facilities
    - Corey Shick noted that Mr. Sam Sims, current Langston Foundation Board member, has agreed to serve as the Facilities liaison, a role that he previously held during prior service as a Langston School Board member. If approved by the school board, Mr. Sims would attend board meetings in the future and provide direction regarding the school's facilities and grounds. Mr. Shick clarified that if approved to assist in this capacity, Mr. Sims would not be a voting member of the school board.
    - Lienne Medford made a motion nominating Sam Sims to serve as the Facilities liaison for the 2025-26 school year.
    - The motion was seconded by Brooke Archenhold.
    - All were in favor, and the motion carried.
  - Governance
    - Sherrie Brookie made a motion nominating Brooke Archenhold to serve as the Governance liaison for the 2025-26 school year.
    - The motion was seconded by Neil Tabor.
    - All were in favor, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- David Wooten noted that there were several proposals for student clubs that required board consideration, which were included in the board meeting packet. He noted that once the board had taken action to approve the establishment of a student club, they did not need to be reapproved by the board at a later date as long as they continue to operate in accordance with the guidelines specified in the original proposal. He further noted that all clubs are self-supported, that parents involved in student clubs are subjected to a background check, and that it was mandatory to have at least two adults present with students at all times when engaged in club activities.
- Pickleball Club
  - Following board discussion, Neil Tabor made a motion to approve the Pickleball Club proposal
  - The motion was seconded by Jessica Blanton.
  - All were in favor, and the motion carried.
- Personal Brand Builders Club
  - Following board discussion, Neil Tabor made a motion to approve the Personal Brand Builders Club proposal.
  - The motion was seconded by Lienne Medford.
  - All were in favor, and the motion carried.
- Yoga Club

- In response to a question from a board member, Mr. Wooten indicated he would find out whether the parent who would facilitate the Yoga Club activities is a certified yoga instructor.
- Following board discussion, it was determined that due to the nature of the proposed club activities, no action would be taken on the Yoga Club proposal until a future meeting, pending the receipt of additional information about the instructor's certification and/or credentialing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comments were received.

ADJOURN

- Brooke Archenhold made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- The motion was seconded by Neil Tabor.
- All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

NEXT MEETING

October 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm