

Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2026

ATTENDEES:

Chris Farrell – Vice Chair
Steve Moody - Treasurer
Natalie Wright – Secretary
Marcia Simmons – Board Member
Mark Fleming – Board Member
Kristina Rodrigues – Head of School
Chad Long – K12 Finance
Scott Sides – K12
Jamie Cann – K12 Marketing
Brittany Martin – K12 Marketing
Roger Welch – K12 Marketing
Lisa Malkiewicz – Teacher and Skills USA Advisor
Jayla Rankin – NCVA student and Skills USA participant
Sara Struhs – Executive Director

Chris called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Chris asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Steve made the motion. Marcia seconded it. Chris called the vote: it was unanimous.

Chris read the mission statement.

Chris called for a vote to accept the consent items which included an increase in the base pay for teachers; approving COLA for the board employees; approval of the Stride invoices; an increase in student internet reimbursements; approval of a Step staff position, approval of the contract for 2026-27 audit; and approval of the budget which included the transfer of funds from the LEA account to the checking account for end of year expenses. Steve made the motion. Mark seconded the motion. Chris called the vote: it was unanimous.

Chris recognized Skills USA and asked them to give their presentation to the board. Jayla presented to the board the progress Skills USA has made since last year: increased membership, increased projects and increase in the number of members able to compete in the regional presentations. Seven members presented and one member received 5th place in their topic and two received first places in their topics. One will be presenting at Nationals. They also said that the Skills USA chapter at NCVA received Gold for Chapter Distinction.

Chris thanked Jayla for joining us and asked the Stride Marketing Team to present. Jamie and Brittany presented the work they have been doing around communications about our school.

Chris thanked them for their presentation and asked Kristina to given the HOS update.

Kristina said enrollment is high although we will continue enrolling students until we have filled all of our positions. She did mention we are ranked #2 in Stride schools for the number of students who have re-registered for NCVA next year.

Kristina then gave an update on the number of openings to be filled and she said total, there are 41 vacancies for teaching and administrative positions for next year.

Kristina then gave an update on the spring schedule of events:

5/22 Kindergarten graduation
5/26 thru 6/5 EOY/EOC testing
6/11 MS Dance and HS Prom
6-12 Graduation
6-16 and 17 EOY PD
8-3 and 4 BOY PD

Kristina announce that NCVA's teacher of the year has been selected and she will be presenting the award to the winner next week.

Chris thanked her for her update and asked Chad to present the updates to the budget. Chad did this and explained with the changes being made we will be about \$400k in deficit next year.

Chris thanked Chad for his presentation and asked Sara for the Executive Director's update.

Sara reminded everyone that Walter will be out of the country until mid-July and she thanked Chris for stepping in to run the meetings while he is gone.

Sara reminded everyone that May and June area busy months and encouraged board members to attend the graduations and, if possible, the prom.

Sara then explained the increases made to the Public Impact contract to include 24 additional MCL coaching spots for next year as well as Public Impact coming to the beginning of year professional development sessions to give more time to the MCL's who will be preparing for the start of school.

Sara moved on to the discussion of scholarships. After much discussion, the board decided to vote on 5 scholarships of \$4000/year for four years for students attending a 4-year university or college; 2 scholarships for \$2000/year for two years for students attending a 2-year program; and 1 scholarship for \$1000 for a student attending an OCS program.

They then moved on to the votes:

Chris asked for a vote to hire an intensive remediation math teacher. Steve made the motion and Marcia seconded it. Chris called for the vote: it was unanimous.

Chris asked for a vote on Public Impact increase. Natalie made the motion and Steve seconded it. Chris called for the vote: it was unanimous.

Chris asked for a vote on the student scholarships for this year as well as providing an additional \$2000 for the student last year who received the 2-year scholarship. This brought the total

commitment for scholarships for this year to \$31,000.00. Steve made the motion and Marcia seconded it. Chris called for the vote: it was unanimous.

Chris asked for a vote to adjourn. Mark made the motion and Marcia seconded it. Chris called for the vote: it was unanimous.

The meeting ended at 6:05pm.