

Meeting Minutes  
Board Meeting  
October 5, 2026  
5-6pm

ATTENDEES:

Walter Marting – Chair  
Steve Moody – Treasurer  
Natalie Wright – Secretary  
Marcia Simmons – Board Member  
Mark Fleming – Board Member  
Kristina Rodrigues – HOS  
Tasha Parnell – Director of Accountability and Curriculum  
Katie Mabe Royal – HS AA  
Marcella Nytz – MS AA  
Kelly Shanahan – EL AA  
Chad Long – Stride finance  
Scott Sides – Stride  
Sara Struhs – Executive Director

Sara called a quorum. Walter asked for the previous minutes to be approved and the agenda accepted. Steve asked for the agenda to be updated to include requests for funding for financial modernization, teacher stipends. Walter asked for a motion: Steve made the motion. Natalie seconded it. Walter called for the vote: it was unanimous. Walter then asked Steve to read the NCVA mission statement.

Walter asked for the HOS update.

Kristina did not have good connectivity, and so Tasha presented the HOS update. Tasha updated the enrollment numbers. She reviewed the positions still open and the process being made to fill them. She gave an update on the students qualifying for Remediation and Intensive Remediation across all grades. She explained they will be looking at the EVAAS scores when they come out later in October as well. Tasha showed the organization chart for the changes being proposed and the advantages of this new structure. Tasha finished by sharing the upcoming important dates.

Walter asked Tasha to move on to her presentation. Tasha gave an update on accountability. Intensive Remediation is fully staffed, and they have started providing data and support to the teachers for this group. This group is 2+ years behind and they are focused on growth. She explained the structure set up to support these students and achieve necessary growth. She has put out the testing schedule for the year, and it will include retesting this year. Tasha's group is also working with Opportunity Culture to recalibrate based on the data.

Walter asked Natalie to present the Academic Committee update. She said the committee met last week, and they discussed the need for more staff as well as creating a new structure for the Elementary School. She is recommending hiring 6 new positions in the Elementary School which will include 3 teachers, 1 Assistant AA's, 1 AA, and 1 Director for SPED. The school will be restructured into K-2 grouping and 3-5 grouping. The two AA's will work closely together and report directly to the HOS. The Director for SPED will be a certified administrator responsible for the daily activities while Stacey will continue to be responsible for State Compliance.

Walter thanked Natalie for her report and recommendations. He then asked Steve for the Finance Committee report.

Steve said the Finance Committee met last week and discussed and recommend the following changes: 1) financial modernization of our financial systems 2) increase in travel reimbursement coverage, 3) increases in internet/communications stipends: increased to \$50/month for FRL students and to \$100/month for teachers and staff.

Steve said the committee began discussions on the bonus structure but will report on that in November.

Walter thanked Steve for his report and asked Chad to present the monthly bill.

Chad presented the invoice and financial review.

Walter thanked Chad for his update and asked Sara for the Executive Director update.

Sara started by asking the Board about the Annual Workshop in February. The date and location TBD. She then reminded the board that the Stride summit is 10/6-10/7 in Reston VA. This year Mark, Steve, Marcia and Sara will be attending the summit.

Sara then moved on to the office renovations. She said the certificate of occupancy has been issued and staff are moved back in. Staff is back in the office 3 days a week. We are still waiting on some of the furniture and new window blinds, but they are coming.

Sara explained that our current printer is not working and so we need to purchase a new one. She asked that the board approve the purchase of the new printer tonight.

Walter thanked Sara for her update and moved to the action items:

Walter asked for a motion to purchase the new printer. Steve made the motion and Mark seconded it. Walter called for the vote; it was unanimous.

Walter asked for a motion to pay the bill. Natalie made the motion and Mark seconded it. Walter called for the vote; it was unanimous.

Walter asked for a motion to approve the recommendations from Academic Committee. Steve made the motion and Marcia seconded it. Walter called the vote: it was unanimous.

Walter asked for a motion to approve the recommendations from the Finance Committee. Natalie made the motion and Marcia seconded it. Walter called the vote: it was unanimous.

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

The meeting ended at 5:35 p.m.

