

Bright Star Schools Board of Directors Minutes of the Regular Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Directors of Bright Star Schools was held on **Tuesday**, **June 24**, **2025** at Stella Elementary Charter Academy and via teleconference, pursuant to notice duly given.

On the meeting agenda, the legislative body noticed each teleconference location of each member participating in the public meeting, each teleconference location was accessible to the public, members of the public were allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, and the legislative body posted an agenda at each teleconference location. At least a quorum of the legislative body participated from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction.

In attendance at the start of the meeting were board members Andrew Murr, David Chang, Jen Cole, Alyce Johnson, Louisa Wee, Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer, Stephen Green, Dr. Roberta Benjamin, Marisol Leòn, and Jason Rudolph.

Bright Star Schools staff in attendance were Ana Martinez, Kaitlin Allen, Liliana Bustos, Angelina Calderon, Michael Coleman, Gabriela Carrera, Thomas Crowther, Lydia Garcia, Sunil Kewalramani, Dr. Eliza KimLy, Alexandra Lee, Marni Parsons, Ana Vargas, Abra Shay, Elijah Sugay, Spencer Szabo, May Oey, Olga Ramos, and Cynthia Trigueros.

Public members in attendance were: Araceli Luna, parent of Jason Luna.

- **1. Call to Order and Introduction of Guests**: Andrew Murr called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. after confirming that a guorum was present.
- 2. Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items: In accordance with Brown Act, time was allocated during the meeting for public comment. Members of the public were invited to address the board on items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body. No individuals provided public comments. No action occurred on items not listed on the agenda.
- 3. Meeting Kick-off from Rise Kohyang Elementary School by Kaitlin Curry Allen, Founding Principal of RKES and Jason Luna, Founding RKES Student: Kaitlin shared key updates for RKES heading into 25-26, including a 93% teacher retention rate and increased collaboration with RKMS. She noted strong compliance and SDC expansion in the Inclusive Education Department, improved math scores, and progress on the Community Schools Grant. End-of-Year data showed RKES met growth goals in reading and math, reduced Math DFS, absenteeism, and suspension rates; and a rise in ELA DFS, with ELPI results pending. Action steps for next year include strengthening ELA supports, improving PBIS and Tier 1 culture in alignment with RKMS, reducing chronic absenteeism for students with IEPs, and deepening staff alignment between both schools. She highlighted that she's working with Liliana Bustos, the new early Literacy Director and has a set of Action Steps to continue to improve alignment and cohesion. Kaitlin also introduced Jason Luna, the youngest in his 5th grade class at RKES. Jason is ten years old and lives with his parents and two cats, Cookie and Raven. He shared how his teachers supported classmates academically and received help from his counselor during a difficult time. Looking ahead, Jason hopes for a larger school with more space and more resources like a library and offices, a science class of its own, and access to honors classes.
- **4. Chief Executive Officer Presentation by Ana Martinez:** Ana provided an overview of BSS's BHAGs, focusing on four key priorities. BHAG 1, focuses on ensuring that every teacher delivers



high-quality instruction through updated curriculum, revised coaching and evaluation systems, and communities of practice- supported by strong i-Ready outcomes. She shared that Lily Bustos led an institute for our teacher leaders. BHAG 2, focuses on building a positive school culture and a sense of safety. This includes improving incident response through targeted training and streamlined systems, with progress measured by ADA and chronic absenteeism data. BHAG 3, focuses on strengthening the central team through leadership development, clearer roles, improved evaluations, and compensation adjustments. BHAG 4, focuses on strategic grant funding, smarter spending, improved IT systems, enrollment growth and stronger fiscal controls to ensure long-term success. Ana also shared updates on proposed changes to the Board Covenant, including updating the attendance requirement to two-thirds of regular board meetings and replacing automatic removal for low attendance with a process where members submit a written explanation. Ana also recommended expanding the \$500 annual contribution to include fundraising, offering professional expertise, or making connections for the schools. She also shared that some board members suggested increasing the contribution amount and reconsidering the written explanation requirement. Andy Murr asked the Board members to provide comments to him and he'll elevate it to the Governance Committee.

- 5. Chief Instructional Officer Presentation by Liliana Bustos: Liliana Bustos presented several key updates and proposals across instructional areas. The first update was about approval for a revised English Learner reclassification criterion for grade 8-12 that better supports long-term English Learners by aligning with updated LAUSD guidelines. She also presented a recommendation to adopt Thinking Nation's ethnic studies curriculum for 2025-26, selected for its rigor, alignment to standards, and cultural relevance. She highlighted that the expense for this is not to exceed \$15,000. Liliana also presented highlights of major achievements and shifts from 2023-24 to 2024-25 in teaching and learning, strengthening leadership, improving curriculum alignment including a protocol for curriculum adoption, launching teacher leadership initiatives. and streamlining evaluation and coaching systems to better support high-quality instruction across all schools. Bright Star will be launching the Signature Practices in 2025-26. Liliana also presented iReady results highlighting both Fall-to-Spring growth and overall performance trends across all schools. She shared that Math showed a 25% overall growth from Fall to Spring, and a 7% increase from Spring to Spring. There was consistent growth in Math across all grade levels. In Reading, schools demonstrated an 18% gain from Fall to Spring, while Spring to Spring results showed a 5% increase. This data and analysis will help identify opportunities to strengthen instruction and better support schools, particularly those undergoing renewal.
- 6. Senior Vice President of Student & Family Services Presentation by Marni Parsons: Marni shared that BSS has been awarded a two-year, \$900,000 planning grant through the California Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI). This initiative aims to create a more integrated, youth-centered mental health system by ensuring that students can access the mental health and substance use support they need. In terms of planning for this initiative, Marni shared that BSS will focus on providing training for all PPS-credentialed staff, establishing Wellness Centers on each campus, creating a revenue system for the services that the schools already provide and building internal capacity for mental health support. The team is also working to create a sustainable funding stream by billing for services through the California Department of Health Services. These plans have been shared with the Finance Committee, and a request was made to approve Full Bloom Consulting to support the two-year planning effort. Marni also shared ADA updates and indicated that it closed the school year at 93.09% target. Marni also shared that LAUSD's CSD issued a Notice to Cure for Rise Kohyang Elementary School due to high disproportionality suspension rates. Specifically, 2023-24 data showed a disproportionate suspension rate of 21.48% for African American students. LAUSD expects all authorized charter schools to maintain a suspension event rate below 5% and reduce disproportionality across



student groups. Since RKES is up for renewal in 2026, its 2024-25 suspension data may play a key role in determining the outcome of that renewal. Marni also presented RKES's action plan to reduce suspension rates, noting that the school had already identified this as a concern and has been working throughout the year to improve behavior support. The plan, aligned with LCAP goals, aims to reduce suspensions to 0% by the 2026-27 school year. Key strategies include implementing the Incident Response Blueprint to promote safety, guide staff responses, and focus on supportive, developmentally appropriate interventions. Staff have received multiple trainings on behaviour response, and RKES has participated in an LAUSD cohort to strengthen its MTSS and SSPT systems. Looking ahead, the school will reestablish a positive and structured school climate through PBIS starting in 2025-26. Marni also shared that a plan is in place for RKES and staff will regularly review discipline data and intervention weekly. They will also use school Insights climate data to assess student's senses of belonging. School leaders will report suspension data by demographics to both SLC and SSC. Additionally, the BOD will review data at least twice a year. Requesting that the board approve the RKES action and monitoring plan.

- 7. Community Schools Chair Presentation by Abra Shay: Abra shared the exciting news that Bright Star has been awarded full Community Schools funding, totaling \$11,875,000 in restricted funds over the next five years. This funding will support key areas such as instruction, family engagement, restorative school climate, advocacy, staffing, healthcare, and more, which will help strengthen the wraparound support available to students and families across all our schools. Abra also shared Panorama Family Survey Data Analysis for the current school year. Family results in surveys overall satisfaction and completion, which are part of LCAP goals, have been trending positively since 2018-2019 with current results showing 96% in satisfaction with our schools and 80% in completion of family surveys. She also provided an overview of the Net promoter score which measures how satisfied our families are with our schools. The majority of results showed positive ratings across all of our schools. For questions with low percentages, specifically the ones that ask about schools having non-academic resources available for families and those relating to school safety, Abra will continue to work with her team to find the best ways to provide students and families with opportunities to access information and resources to help them meet their needs. She also shared that in May, Community School Managers worked with school leadership teams to analyze site-level data. Based on this, summer leadership teams will adjust their Game Plans and begin planning events, learning opportunities, and initiatives. At the organizational level, Bright Star will develop the 2025-26 Family Engagement Framework based on Dr. Karen Mapp's Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family & School Partnerships.
- 8. Chief Financial Officer Presentation by Elijah Sugay: Elijah Sugay updated on the following:
 - <u>ADA and Enrollment</u>: Elijah presented an update to the Finance Committee on the 2024–2025 school enrollment for all schools, reporting that six out of nine are at or above enrollment levels similar to last year.
 - Employee Retention Credit: Elijah shared that Bright Star has received the final \$2.9 million installment of the Employee Retention Credit (ERC), delayed due to IRS processing. This one-time revenue will be recorded in FY25 but board-designated for use in FY26 to help address rising costs and state funding uncertainties.
 - Financial Dashboard Highlights: Financial dashboard highlights showed that this ERC payment created an additional \$2.9 million positive variance in revenue and a \$560K reduction in expenses compared to March forecasts. Key cost increases included consulting fees, special education, legal services, and substitute staffing, though reductions in management fees partially offset these. Elijah shared updated financial projections, comparing September and February forecasts with year-end estimates. Despite some schools showing year-end deficits due to factors like special education costs, Retroactive STRS contributions, and revised back office fees, all of our schools



retain strong reserves and remain financially stable, supported by strategic planning and the recent ERC boost. The organization is ending the Fiscal year 25 with a positive net income of \$4.3 million.

- Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Preliminary Budgets: Elijah provided updates on key state and federal funding assumptions. He shared that the state's Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) is set at 2.3% for LCFF and related programs—slightly below earlier projections. For Universal Transitional Kindergarten (TK), staffing needs will increase due to a reduced student-to-adult ratio (10:1), though some funding will be provided to support this change. New one-time state grants include \$200M for early literacy and professional development, and a \$1.7B block grant (about \$75 per ADA) to support student services and training. No major changes are expected in federal funding (Title I, II, III, and IDEA). Preliminary FY26 budget assumptions include applying the 2.3% COLA, conservatively budgeting ADA at 1% below FY25 year-end levels, and modest enrollment growth in elementary schools while keeping middle and high school numbers steady. The previously received \$2.9M in ERC funds will be board-designated for FY26, with allocations made at the school level. All schools will be at or above budgets except RKES who will receive a grant from BOT. The Fiscal Sustainability Working Group will reconvene in July to assess impact of strategies and propose a direction for F27 and beyond.
- <u>Facilities Updates</u>: Elijah shared that at VAES, construction remains on track for an August 2025 opening, despite delays from the DWP due to recent fires. BSS is working with Trifiletti Consulting to expedite approvals, with substantial completion and a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCOO) targeted for August 12, 2025.
- Accounting Transition & Interim Fiscal Support Plan: Elijah shared that the Finance department experienced the departure of two long-standing senior staff members in June China Habte, Head of Accounting, and Aya Cheung, Controller. To ensure continuity, the team reached out to three firms- ExED, Charter Impact, and EdTec- for interim support while searching for a suitable interim Controller. Bright Star is moving forward with a not-to-exceed agreement of \$100,000, which does not require Finance Committee approval. This temporary support will help maintain operations as the organization explores long-term staffing solutions.
- Finance Committee Recommendations: Elijah reviewed the items that the Finance Committee recommended for Board Approval
 - i. Reclassification of Deferred Revenue for SHCA Property Purchase: Elijah presented a resolution for the board to approve the balance from the 2017 LAWA settlement, originally set aside for both SMCA and SHCA, to be reclassified to SHCA as SHCA is preparing to purchase a new property, and to recognize it on SHCA's income statement to support the acquisition- a routine accounting adjustment.
 - ii. MacKenzie Scott Update: Elijah provided an update about the board approved spending plan for the \$7 million gift and indicated that \$4 million have been allocated to facilities through VAES project equity, \$45,000 has been spent on teacher planning days under academic initiatives, and for the Career Accelerator program, \$203,000 was invested in the 2023-24 year with an additional \$31,100 forecasted for 2024-25. BSS is revisiting the remaining amount to better align with the long-term strategic priorities. For that reason, management is proposing shifting any leftover funds from Career Accelerator to Academic Initiatives, reflecting evolving student needs and instructional focus. Management also recommended extending the spacing timeline through the 2029-2030 school year to allow for thoughtful, strategic pacing and robust program development.



- iii. <u>VAES Summer Lease Extension</u>: Elijah reported that BSS would like to extend the lease for VAES- originally set to expire on June 30, 2025- on a month-to-month basis to ensure seamless operations until the new facility opens in August 2025. This extension maintains the current lease terms and avoids the need for a temporary relocation.
- iv. 2024-25 Prop 28 Annual Reports: Elijah shared that based on Prop 28, schools larger than 400 students are required to use the majority of those funds for staffing, primarily credentialed arts teachers, with the remainder going towards training, materials, or partnerships. For 2024-2025, our schools spent these funds as follows: SECA allocated \$28,875 to their dance program; RKES spent \$28,075 on dance; and SMCA invested \$65,975 in credentialed music staff. All expenditures supported expanded arts programming and staffing in full compliance with Prop 28 rules, and any unspent funds remain available to use or encumber for up to three years after disbursement. The other schools did not use any Prop 28 funds in 24-25. He noted that each school has 3 years to use the allocated funds.
- v. <u>Updated Fiscal Policies & Procedures Summary of Key Revisions</u>: Elijah also presented key updates to the FPP Handbook, which follows LAUSD guidance to help improve internal controls. The revisions he presented include clearer definitions of contract authority, specifying which staff roles can negotiate contracts and under what approval thresholds, as outlined in an updated authority matrix. New appendices were added to provide detailed procedures for using Edstruments, Amazon, and Divvy. A new policy on car rentals was also introduced, covering allowable use, reimbursement limits, and insurance requirements.
- <u>Consent Agenda</u>: Elijah reviewed annual items that were included in the Board packet and recommended for approval including: Schools In Action – Food Service Agreement, SHCA Bus Contract, 2025–26 After-School Program MOUs, Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS), and the Education Protection Account (EPA) Resolution.
- 9. Vice President of Human Resources Presentation by Ana Vargas: Ana presented the BSS Employee Handbook highlighting a few changes that have been made at this time for the next school year. She highlighted some areas of changes to the sections on Equal Employment Opportunity, Harassment, Title IX, Credential Requirements, TB test, Crime Victim and Domestic Violence Leave, Sick Leave, Staff-Student Interactions, Prohibited Conduct and Tobacco-Free School.
- 10. Senior Director of Talent Presentation by Micheal Coleman: Michael presented the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators, a required form that allows BSS to hire teachers on emergency permits, such as CLAD and Limited Assignment credentials, due to ongoing teacher shortages. The board's approval is needed for submission to the CTC, and doing so supports positive LAUSD oversight. This is a standard, low-risk process followed by most charter schools each year.

There being no additional question or comment from the board, Andrew Murr called for a motion to approve the DON. Jen Cole moved and Alyce Johnson seconded the motion. The votes were recorded as follows:



| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|---|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | | | | (not present at the time vote took place) |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |
| Total | 9 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Motion Carries? | Yes | | | |

11. Public Hearing to Review and Vote on 2025-2026 Local Control and Accountability Plans for (LCAPs) for Stella Elementary Charter Academy, Stella Middle Charter Academy, Stella High Charter Academy, Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, Valor Academy High School, Rise Kohyang Elementary School, Rise Kohyang Middle School, and Rise Kohyang High School

Angelina Calderon reviewed the Local Control Accountability Plans for all Bright Star Schools. She explained the schools' goals, planned actions, key metrics, services, and budgets designated to support student success. This is year 1 of a 3 year LCAP. Goal 1 focuses on helping all students show academic growth in math, reading, and English language proficiency. For Elementary Schools, the data shows EL Reclassification growth for all schools; strong growth in iReady Math for RKES and VAES and over 20 point growth in SBAC Math for SECA. All middle schools showed growth in iReady Reading, Math and ELPI scores. Results also show some areas of growth which include declines or small growth in ELA SBAC. Goal 2 focuses on building a positive, supportive school culture and strengthening family engagement. All elementary and middle schools showed decline in chronic absenteeism. Suspension rates at the elementary schools remain below 1%, and at the middle schools, all 3 showed above 95% positive parent



rating. Some areas for growth include finding opportunities to raise student safety and belonging favorability and improve parent attendance tracking systems. Goal 3 ensures that school facilities are safe and well-maintained, students have access to standards-aligned instruction and materials, and teachers are properly credentialed. All schools met requirements for providing a broad course of study and 100% access to aligned instructional materials and 85% and above favorability for staff safety and belonging across all elementary and middle schools. For high schools, Angelina reported they are showing steady progress across academic, culture, and facility goals. iReady and CAASPP ELA scores, A-G completion, college and career readiness, Math performance, AP pass scores, English Learner reclassification and progress are improving. All schools are above 50% for College and Career Readiness. Graduation rates have decreased at two schools and drop out rates, chronic absenteeism and overall attendance have increased at two schools. She recapped Elijah's presentation about the LCAP financial updates for all schools and highlighted that the projected General Fund revenue totals approximately \$79,791,463 million. Budgeted expenditures are projected at \$78,768,125 million, with \$78,107,679 million outlined in the LCAP, including \$21,638,355 million dedicated to high-need students. Compared to the previous year, spending on high-need students increased from \$20,486,575 million budgeted to \$20,764,928 million actually spent.

There being no comments or questions from members of the public or BSS board members, Andrew Murr called for a motion to approve the LCAPs for all Bright Star Schools. Dr. Roberta Benjamin-Edwards moved and Jen Cole seconded the motion. The votes were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|---|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | | | | (not present at the time vote took place) |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |



12. Vice President of Public Affairs Presentation by Angelina Calderon: Angelina presented the 24-25 Pulse survey highlights including 94% of staff who agree they understand how they contribute to the larger mission and vision of BSS. She also shared the Fall to Spring comparison of the 2024-2025 Staff Pulse Survey Net Promoter Score (NPS), highlighting a 10-point overall improvement for BSS; with high school at 14 point growth, Middle school at 8 point growth, Elementary at 18 point growth. While there's a lot to celebrate on the Pulse Survey results, she highlighted a few areas to monitor including SLC's communication and opportunities for staff to communicate their thoughts regarding important decisions. She also noted a 5% growth or more in believing priorities are on the right track, in "I have the materials to do my job well", "the feedback I received has improved my practice this year" and workplace safety. With a total of more than 350 comments, we saw an overall sentiment of valuing the people with whom they work; one delta highlight includes comments about compensation. Compensation is a multi-year plan that we are working on in order to include every role. School Leadership Teams have seen their pulse survey data; next step is reviewing comments so they can consider it in their plans for next year. In terms of updates on the 2025-2026 Student and Family Handbooks, Annual Notices, and Organization-Wide Policies, Angelina shared that changes were made that can be seen in the materials.

Angelina also shared charter petition renewal updates for 3 Bright Star Schools - RKES, SMCA and VAHS, and indicated that petition requests for each will be submitted in August. Gearing up for advocacy, RKES and RKMS hosted a visit from Assemblymember Mark Gonzalez; Stella Middle Administrators attended BD 1 town hall with Board member Sherlett Hendy Newbill; and Valor Academy High School held a town hall to inform families about the Renewal process. The Levine Act is no longer applicable to charter petitions and additional communication about required board resumes and questionnaires will be shared with the board in July. Also, if any board members are planning to be out of office during July/August, they should provide those dates to Lydia Garcia.

13. BSS Board Resolutions for Approval: Before Angelina presented, Board member Roberta Benjamin requested for a 2-week advance email. Angelina presented three board resolutions to submit charter petition renewals for Rise Kohyang Elementary (RKES), Stella Middle Charter Academy (SMCA), and Valor Academy High (VAHS). Each renewal lists the school principal as the lead petitioner, with Ana Martinez named as CEO and Elijah Sugay as the On-site Financial Manager.

Andrew Murr called for a motion to approve the board resolutions to submit charter renewals. Jason Rudolph Moved and Jen Cole seconded the motion. The votes for RKES were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|---------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko | х | | | |



| Wheaton-Greer | | | | |
|----------------------|----|---|-----|---|
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |
| Total | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Motion Carries? | | | Yes | |

The votes for SMCA were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |



| Total | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
|-----------------|----|---|------------|---|
| Motion Carries? | | , | Yes | |

The votes for VAHS were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | x | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |
| Total | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Motion Carries? | | , | Yes | |

14. Manager of Compliance and Special Projects updates by Lydia Garcia: Lydia presented a board resolution to request a location change for Valor Academy Elementary School. It will require that we submit additional documentation to LAUSD along with a copy of today's minutes, agenda, and the resolution. She also shared updates on the California Local Indicators that have been completed by all schools. Each area is linked to specific LCAP goals and is reported to track progress. Lydia also presented updates on the SPSA for RKMS, VAMS, and RKHS. Lydia also shared that for the remaining schools, the LCAP can be used in place of the SPSA, as their SSCs met the necessary compliance requirements. Next year we hope to do the same for these three schools.

15. New Academic Committee Chair Appointment by Ana Martinez, Lead/Chief Executive Officer

 Discussion and action to accept resignation of Lois Levy as Academic Committee Chair, and appoint Dr. Roberta Benjamin Edwards as the new Academic Committee Chair effective July 1, 2025. Andrew Murr noted that Lois Levy will stay on the committee.



Andrew Murr called for a motion to appoint Dr. Roberta Benjamin-Edwards as Chair of the Academic Committee effective July 1. Marisol Leòn moved and Jen Cole seconded the motion. The votes were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | x |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |
| Total | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Motion Carries? | | , | Yes | |

- **16. Committee Reports**: Committee Chairs gave updates from their respective committee meetings and allowed members from other committees to further comment and/or ask questions.
 - Dr. Roberta Benjamin-Edwards added that Small Group Instruction was also covered in the academic committee meeting
 - Louisa Wee highlighted the welcomed news of added grants for mental health, community schools and the ERC funds. The Fiscal Responsibility group is working to provide guidance for the outlook years.
 - Andrew Murr notes the high completion rates of 2x2 of over 99%; the handbook that does
 not have major changes for 2025-26 school year; and the Staff Pulse Survey results. He
 also noted that the new Board calendar allows a one-week buffer week for Board
 members to have more time to review the materials.
 - Dr. Roberta Benjamin-Edwards seeks clarity on whether committee members should recommend what to present at the board meeting. Andrew Murr clarified that each committee can decide what works for them.



17. Approval of Consent Agenda - Andrew Murr asked board members if they would like to remove or vote on any items separately from the consent agenda. With no objections from members of the public or BSS board, he then called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jen Cole moved and Dr. Roberta Benjamin-Edwards seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Governance

- Minutes of the BSS Board meeting on May 6, 2025
- Minutes of the BSS Special Board meeting on June 6, 2025
- Minutes of the Governance Committee meeting on June 13, 2025
- Minutes of the Academic Committee meeting on June 20, 2025
- Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on June 20, 2025
- o 2025-2026 Board Meeting Calendar & Structure
- BSS Board Covenant

Finance and Facilities

- Third Quarter Financials ending April 30th, 2025 (BSS Dashboard, Consolidated P&L, Consolidated BS, Cash Flow, and YE Estimates)
- FY26 Preliminary Budgets
- Board Designation of Employee Retention Credit (FY26)
- MacKenzie Scott Fund Reallocation & Timeframe
- Deferred Revenue Reclassification (LAWA Settlement)
- Valor Academy Elementary School Summer Lease Extension
- Consolidated Application and Reporting System (CARS)
- Education Protection Account (EPA)
- o 2025-2026 Fiscal Policies and Procedures Handbook
- o 2024-25 Prop 28 Reports
- Resolution for a Non-Material Revision Valor Academy Elementary School Location Change

Academic

- EL reclassification approval: i-Ready Diagnostic Criteria (Grades 8-12) and BSS
 EL Master Plan
- Ethnic Studies approval: Thinking Nation 25-26 SY adoption
- Action and Monitoring Plan for Rise Kohyang Elementary School
- o 2025-26 After-school MOUs

Operations

- Schools In Action Food Service Agreement
- SHCA Bus Contract
- Local Indicators for Stella Elementary Charter Academy, Stella Middle Charter Academy, Stella High Charter Academy, Valor Academy Elementary School, Valor Academy Middle School, Valor Academy High School, Rise Kohyang Elementary School, Rise Kohyang Middle School, and Rise Kohyang High School
- 2025-2026 Student & Family Handbooks, Annual Notices & Org-Wide Policies
 - Approval of updated Attendance Policy
 - Approval of updated Internet Safety and Technology Use Policy
 - Approval of updated Title IX Policy Prohibiting Discrimination on the Basis of Sex
 - Approval of updated Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy



- Approval of updated Suspension and Expulsion Policy
- Approval of updated Uniform Complaint Policy
- Approval of updated Educational Records and Student Information Policy
- Approval of updated Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy
- Approval of updated Nondiscrimination Statement
- Approval of updated Education for Homeless Children and Youth Policy
- Approval of updated Youth Suicide Prevention Policy
- Approval of updated Non discrimination policy
- Approval of updated College Preparatory Courses
- Approval of updated Oral Health Assessment
- Approval of updated CCGI Notice
- Approval of updated AED on campus
- Approval of updated Work Place readiness week and work permits
- Approval of updated Newcomer Pupil
- Approval of updated Physical exams and the right to refuse
- Approval of updated Cal Grant Program Notice
- Approval of updated Dangers of Synthetic drugs
- Approval of updated Information regarding Financial Aid
- Approval of updated school Safety Plan
- Approval of Updated 2025-2026 Employee Handbook
- School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Valor Academy Middle School (VAMS), Rise Kohyang Middle School (RKMS), and Rise Kohyang High School (RKHS)
- o Non-Material Revision Stella Middle Charter Academy Enrollment Modification

The votes to approve the consent agenda were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | x |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |



18. Closed session: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).) Title: Lead Executive Officer. At 6:47 p.m., all BSS board members entered a closed session. They returned at 7:44 p.m. Andrew Murr reported a recommendation of Salary increase of 2.5% for FY 25-26. Andrew Murr called for a motion to approve the recommendation. Jason Rudolph moved and Marisol León seconded the motion. The votes were recorded as follows:

| Board Member | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Andrew Murr | х | | | |
| Dr. Marissiko Wheaton-Greer | х | | | |
| Jennifer Cole | х | | | |
| Lois Levy | | | | х |
| Louisa Wee | х | | | |
| Marisol León | х | | | |
| Stephen Green | х | | | |
| Jason Rudolph | х | | | |
| Dr. Roberta Benjamin | х | | | |
| Alyce Johnson | х | | | |
| David Chang | х | | | |
| Total | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Motion Carries? | | , | Yes | |

19. Adjournment: There being no further business, Andrew Murr called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jen Cole moved, and Alyce Johnson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

| Signed by: | DocuSigned by: |
|--------------------------|---|
| andrew Murr | lydia Garcia |
| Andrew Murr, Board Chair | Lydia Garcia, Manager of Compliance & Special |
| | Projects & Board Secretary |