

Connections Public Charter School

Governing Board Minutes

August 26, 2026

Kress Building 3:15 pm

Call to Order: Mr. Garcia called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm

Members Present: Damon Murphy, Christina Wilbourn, Kathy Booth, Heather McDaniel, Romeo Garcia, Clint Kolyer, Sherri Kolman

Members Absent: Nalu Tufui

Guests: PJ Foehr, Charter Schools Commission School Lead

Recorder: Minutes for today's meeting are recorded by Mrs. McDaniel.

Public Input: none

Approval of Agenda: *A motion was made by Ms. Kolman to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. McDaniel and was approved with consensus.*

Approval of Minutes for July 22, 2026 meeting: Members reviewed the minutes from the meeting on July 22, 2026.

A motion was made by Mrs. McDaniel to approve the July 22, 2026 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

Correspondence & Communication: Deputy AG contacted Mr. Murphy for arbitration for non-renewal of contract.

Commission School Lead Report: Thanks to Mr. Garcia for agreeing to be charter school statewide liaison.

Continuing Business:

Seating of Board Vice Chair for SY 2026-2027: Members discussed nominations for vice chair. Mrs. McDaniel rescinded her nomination.

A motion was made by Mrs. McDaniel to seat Ms. Kolman as vice chair for SY 2026-2027. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Booth and was approved with consensus.

Seating of Administrative Representative for SY 2026-2027: Members discussed options for this role group. The item is tabled. Mr. Murphy will bring a nomination to the September meeting.

Approval of New Substitute Teachers: Mr. Murphy reported that Hana Tucker, PPT, can be added to the list.

A motion was made by Ms. Wilbourn to approve a new addition to the list of substitute teachers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kolyer and was approved with consensus.

Review of Governing Board Policies: none

Operations Report:

Financial Officer's Report: Financial documents have been reviewed by Mr. Garcia, in Ms. Tufui's absence. Ms. Gravela provided the Operations Statements for July, and addressed notable items to Mr. Garcia. Members discussed the Operations Statement.

A motion was made by Ms. Kolman to approve the Financial Statements for July, 202, including the projected budget for SY 2026-2027. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

Administrator's Report:

Current enrollment: 307

Mr. Murphy reported on some staffing changes to the secondary math department, to address challenges that have impacted enrollment. In elementary, minor adjustments are being made. Other internal and external programs are being folded in to support math.

Federal Programs Report: Mr. Murphy reported on CSI, TANF and other after school programs. Title I budget is focused on support staff.

Student Achievement Report: Mr. Murphy reported on progress with the *i-Ready* test instrument.

Performance, Growth and Accreditation Initiatives Report: Mr. Murphy reported on progress with Cognia. Work will commence toward a two year initiative for accreditation.

Administrators' Evaluations Report: Mr. Garcia reported on the evaluation for Mr. Murphy. Due to the storm, the report will be extended to next month. Members discussed the possibility of a consultation contract with Mr. Thatcher to assist.

SY 2026-2027 Staff Recommendations List Revision: Mr. Murphy asked to postpone the revision until next month, and to go into executive session.

Mrs. McDaniel made a motion to go into executive session at 4:28 pm to discuss staffing issues. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kolman and was approved with consensus.

A motion was made by Mrs. Booth to go out of executive session at 4:50pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kolyer and was approved with consensus.

Next Meeting: September 16, 2026 at 3:15 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Romeo Garcia

Connections Governing Board Chair

