

LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY

900 W. LINDLEY AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

DATE & TIME:
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney Board of Trustees is hereby called to order. The time is 6:08 P.M. My name is Reginald Howard. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

This meeting is being held via video teleconference. This is a public meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney that was properly advertised pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The public notice included instructions for how the public could participate in tonight's meeting. The public meeting schedule is posted at the school and on the website in the monthly calendar.

All members of the public are welcome to sit and listen to the Board of Trustees conduct its business tonight. Members of the public who have registered with the Administrative Office to participate in public comment by 5:00 P.M. on the day before this scheduled meeting may participate in public comment. At this time, I would ask that the Executive Administration submit the list of commenters to our General Counsel. Comments will be limited to three minutes unless the Board decides to grant additional time.

At this time, I will ask that Roll Call be taken.

A. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:	By Invitation: Non-Board Members:
Reginald Howard — President Sandra Farmer — Vice President Anita Vega-Kaiser — Secretary Barbara L. Saunders — Treasurer Regina Felder — Trustee Board Members Absent: Evette Alliston — Trustee	Dr. Margery Covello, CEO Nancy White, Principal Craig Wise, Assistant Principal Ashley Redfearn, CEO, APS Kristine Magargee, Chief Academic Officer, APS Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC Samuel Mercanti, Santilli & Thomson, LLC Abigail Lipow, Esq. Dr. Kathleen Taylor, Advisory Trustee Dr. Kaitlin K. Moran, Advisory Trustee Kenya Foster, Parent

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY REGINALD HOWARD

I'd like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on September 16, 2025 the Board of Trustees will meet in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: BS SECOND: SF VOTE: X PASS [] FAIL	<p>Resolution 250916.01 Approval of the September 16, 2025 Agenda</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the September 16, 2025 Agenda.</p> <p><i>Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>Who</i></th> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>What</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Board</i></td> <td><i>General Discussion</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>
<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>				
<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>				

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: AVK SECOND: BS	<p>Resolution 250916.02 Approval of the August 19, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes</p>
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VOTE:
X PASS
[] FAIL

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the Minutes of the **August 19, 2025** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>

SECTION II: REPORTS

A. COMMUNITY COMMENT

Community Comment Colloquy (General Counsel)

Good evening. My name is Abigail Lipow, and I am with Sand & Saidel, P.C., General Counsel to the Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney Board of Trustees. Will you please state your name for our records?

You will have three minutes to address the Board of Trustees. Any documents or communications with which you might supplement your comment should be submitted to me. I will keep the time and notify the Board when three minutes have elapsed.

This Board may choose not to comment, question, or respond in any way to your public comment. I will begin the time now.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

A. LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY CEO

Dr. Covello presented the monthly written CEO report, a copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting:

- *Presented current enrollment and waitlist numbers*
 - o *Reviewed current special education numbers*
- *Discussed company hired by the District to review the Charter Framework*
- *Discussed community outreach and opportunities to work with local groups*
- *LACS has been adopted by Musicopia for the fourth year in a row*
 - o *A percussion teacher will be at LACS every Wednesday to work with the music program*
- *Provided an update on the renewal process to the Board*
- *Reviewed various facilities updates*
- *Discussed feedback from staff after professional development with the Board*

B. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

P. Costa presented the monthly written financial report, a copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting:

- *The audit began on September 15, 2025*
- *Current accounts have been reviewed with the Board*

- *Currently reviewing the adopted budget to determine whether certain line items should be revised based on projections*
 - o *Currently showing a surplus for the year*
- *Announced his retirement from Santilli & Thomson, LLC*

C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

K. Magargee presented the monthly written APS report, a copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting:

- *Presented HR Updates*
 - o *APS is finding ways to support certification for teachers*
 - o *Reviewed Talent Times update*
 - o *A. Redfearn will be going to Harrisburg on September 25, 2025 to present to the State Apprenticeship Council on the APS Teacher Apprenticeship Program*
 - o *Reviewed upcoming recruiting events for teachers*
- *Presented Academic Report*
 - o *Facilitated launch sessions for Fishtank to ensure teachers were comfortable with the new program*
 - o *Now using standards-based learning at LACS in K-5*

SECTION III: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

SF

SECOND:

AVK

VOTE:

X PASS

[] FAIL

Resolution 250916.03 Approval of Reports

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney accepts the report of the CEO of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney accepts the report of American Paradigm Schools and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby reviews and accepts the Financial Report of Peter Costa of Santilli & Thomson and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the Treasurer’s Report and the documents presented by Peter Costa to the board.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>

MOOT

Resolution 250916.04 Professional Services Contracts

RESOLVED, the contract/s and associated report/s listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate contract/s for the professional services described below;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effectuate this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>

MOTION:

AVK

SECOND:

BS

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

Resolution 250916.05 Human Resources

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the human resources changes, as presented.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>M. Covello</i>	<i>HR updates are all new hire that are high quality and experienced teachers</i>

MOTION:

SF

SECOND:

BS

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

Resolution 250916.06 Foster Grandparent Program Memorandum of Understanding

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves of the Foster Grandparent Program Memorandum of Understanding between itself and the City of Philadelphia, as presented.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>M. Covello</i>	<i>Reviewed Foster Grandparent Program with the Board</i>

UPON MOTION OF BARBARA L. SAUNDERS, AND SECOND OF ANITA VEGA KAISER, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS.

UPON MOTION OF BARBARA L. SAUNDERS AND SECOND OF SANDRA FARMER, THE BOARD MOVED TO ENTER OPEN SESSION.

MOTION:

AVK

SECOND:

SF

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

Resolution 250916.07 Student MJ: Expulsion

RESOLVED, that student MJ (Student Id No. 10020553) be permanently expelled from Lindley Academy Charter School effective September 16, 2025;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Disciplinary Committee are hereby adopted and shall be made a part of MJ's permanent record;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the record of the September 9, 2025 formal expulsion hearing of MJ is hereby adopted.

By Roll Call Vote:

- Reginald Howard - *aye*
- Sandra Farmer - *aye*
- Anita Vega-Kaiser - *aye*

- Barbara L. Saunders - *aye*
- Regina Felder - *aye*
- Evette Alliston - *absent*

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General Discussion</i>

B. UPCOMING EVENTS

- NEXT BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 21, 2025 AT 6PM
- RENEWAL SITE VISIT: OCTOBER 21, 2025
- ACADEMIC COMMITTEE: OCTOBER 1, 2025 AT 6 PM

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:21 PM

MOTION: RF

SECOND: BS

VOTE:

X PASS

[] FAIL
