

# LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY

900 W. LINDLEY AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

LOCATION:  
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

DATE & TIME:  
DECEMBER 2, 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 6:11 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**

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	<b>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</b>
Reginald Howard — President Sandra Farmer — Vice President Barbara L. Saunders — Treasurer Evette Alliston — Trustee  <b>Board Members Absent:</b> Anita Vega-Kaiser — Secretary Regina Felder — Trustee	Dr. Margery Covello, CEO  Ashley Redfearn, Chief Executive Officer, APS Kristine Magargee, Chief Academic Officer, APS Scott Kramer, Chief Talent Officer, APS  Samuel Mercanti, Santilli & Thomson, LLC  Abigail Lipow, Esq.  Eric Strauss, WithumSmith+Brown, P.C. Michael Stern, WithumSmith+Brown, P.C.

**B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY REGINALD HOWARD**

*I'd like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that the Board of Trustees did not meet in Executive Session.*

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION:  
SANDRA FARMER

**Resolution 251202.01 Approval of the December 2, 2025 Agenda**

SECOND:  
BARBARA L.  
SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the **December 2, 2025** Agenda.

VOTE:  
X PASS  
[ ] FAIL

*Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

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

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION:  
EVETTE  
ALLISTON

**Resolution 251202.02 Approval of the November 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes**

SECOND:  
BARBARA L.  
SAUNDERS

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the Minutes of the **November 18, 2025** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney.

VOTE:  
X PASS  
[ ] FAIL

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>
<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:**

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

**A. LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY CEO**

+*Dr. Covello presented the monthly CEO report, copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting the following:*

- *Reviewed the December Mission Moment:*
  - *National Homeless Awareness Day – all students wore red and brought canned goods in*
  - *Balloons over Broadway – Autistic support 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders recreated their version of the Macy’s Day Parade*
  - *Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*

**B. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO**

+*A. Redfearn presented the monthly APS report, copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting the following:*

*S. Kramer presented the following HR updates:*

- *Food Insecurity Plan*
  - *A. Redfearn collaborating with Dr. Covello to provide food to insecure families via grants to the school from APS*
- *APS received formal approval from the PA Apprenticeship and Training Council for its PK-4 Elementary Teacher Post Bac Registered Apprenticeship Program*
  - *First time a charter organization has been granted such approval*
  - *Will help build a sustainable teacher pipeline*

- *Will now be eligible for DOL Apprenticeship Expansions, Local Workforce Board Funding Opportunities and PA Apprenticeship & Training Grants*

*K. Magargee presented the academic team highlights:*

- *Presenting professional development on FishTank and writing for students to staff*
- *Coaching team is working on maximizing instructional time, helping teachers plan their class time effectively*
- *Math team has been helping LACS teachers use total participation techniques*

**C. BUSINESS CONTROLLER**

*+E. Strauss and M. Stern, auditors from WithumSmith+Brown, P.C., presented the draft audit report to the Board, copy of which is incorporated by reference herein.*

**SECTION III: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NONE**

**SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION:  
SANDRA FARMER  
  
SECOND:  
EVETTE ALLISTON  
  
VOTE:  
X PASS  
[ ] FAIL

**Resolution 251202.03 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 Samuel Mercanti of Santilli & Thomson and hereby incorporates into these minutes by reference the Treasurer’s Report and the documents presented by Samuel Mercanti to the board.

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

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

**B. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- NEXT BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 20, 2026 AT 6PM

- ART SHOW - DECEMBER 17, 2025 AT 5PM
- FREE FARMERS MARKET AND FREE GROCERY SHOPPING EXPERIENCE AT 1:15PM
  - FRIDAY, 12/5 - GROCERIES (SPONSORED BY THE APS' GRANT)
  - FRIDAY, 12/12- GROCERIES (SPONSORED BY THE APS' GRANT)
  - FRIDAY, 12/19 – FRESH PRODUCE (SPONSORED BY LACS); GROCERIES (SPONSORED BY THE APS' GRANT)

---

### ADJOURNMENT AT 7:09 PM

---

MOTION:

BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:

X PASS

[ ] FAIL

---