

LINDLEY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AT BIRNEY

900 W. LINDLEY AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19141

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

DATE & TIME:
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026
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 6:02 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 Dr. Kathleen Taylor – Treasurer Dr. Kaitlin Moran - Trustee Board Members Absent: Evette Alliston — Secretary Regina Felder — Trustee	Dr. Margery Covello, CEO Nancy White, Principal Kristine Magargee, Chief Academic Officer, APS Scott Kramer, Chief Talent Officer, APS Samuel Mercanti, Santilli & Thomson, LLC Abigail Lipow, Esq.

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 prior to this meeting.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:
SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:
KATHLEEN
TAYLOR

VOTE:
☒ PASS
☐ FAIL

Resolution 260915.01 Approval of the September 15, 2026 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the **September 15, 2026** Agenda.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:
SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:
KATHLEEN
TAYLOR

VOTE:
☒ PASS
☐ FAIL

Resolution 260915.02 Approval of the August 18, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves the Minutes of the **August 18, 2026** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General Discussion

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:

Who	What
<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:

- *Mission Moment: September 12 community event – partnered with local drill team for showcase*
- *Reviewed current enrollment numbers with the Board*
- *Grants: The Mayor's office has offered Spring Board ESY/ESD program, as well as Junior Barber Academy ESY/ESD program*

B. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

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

- *CEO Meeting Topics*
 - *Renewal, staff certifications*
- *HR Updates*
 - *Team went to each school and provided training on Employee Handbook, and provided information on teacher apprenticeship programs*
 - *Will present SPED teacher apprenticeship program to the State in October*
 - *APS will donate \$3,500 in books to all three schools in memory of Gerald Santilli*
 - *APS will be presenting at AASPA on Teacher Apprenticeship Program*
 - *Communicated new employee benefit update regarding federal income tax for overtime under FLSA*
- *Academic Team Updates*
 - *Working closely with Mrs. White on science of reading for grades 3-5*
 - *Teachers received word-mapping professional development*
 - *All classes receive Tier 1 intervention in all classrooms 3-6 on reading fluency*

- *Brought in a coach to help with writing skills for students and a math coach to support the math team with small group instruction*
- *Providing additional training on safety and de-escalation techniques*
- *Academic committee meeting on October 7*
- *Still waiting for SDP to send out their testing data*

C. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

S. Mercanti presented the monthly financial report, copy of which is incorporated by reference herein, highlighting the following:

- *Reviewed August financials with Board*
- *Will do reconciliation in October to bring the numbers current*

SECTION III: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:
KATHLEEN
TAYLOR

SECOND:
SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:
X] PASS
[] FAIL

Resolution 260915.03 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:

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

MOTION:
KAITLIN MORAN

SECOND:
KATHLEEN
TAYLOR

VOTE:
☒ PASS
☐ FAIL

Resolution 260915.04 Title I Schoolwide Comprehensive Plan

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby approves of the Title I Schoolwide Comprehensive Plan and its submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, as required.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Dr. Covello</i>	<i>Reviewed Title I Schoolwide Comprehensive Plan with the Board.</i>

MOTION:
SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:
KATHLEEN
TAYLOR

VOTE:
☒ PASS
☐ FAIL

Resolution 260915.05 Public Bidding

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney hereby authorizes Chief Executive Officer Dr. Margery Covello, to solicit and publicly bid, negotiate with prospective contractors, and enter into an agreement for repair of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney's boiler on behalf of the Board, subject to the limitations set forth below;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Corporation hereby authorizes and empowers the Chief Executive Officer, or the CEO's duly authorized designee, in consultation with General Counsel, to:

1. Publicly bid and solicit proposals for the boiler repair project, including issuing bid solicitations, specifications, requests for proposals, and related procurement documents;
2. Evaluate and negotiate with prospective contractors and vendors concerning the boiler repair;
3. Select the most competitive eligible bidder, approve the final scope of work for the Project, provided that the total contract amount, including any authorized amendments or change orders, does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000) without further approval of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney;
4. Execute and deliver on behalf of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney any document reasonably necessary to carry out the boiler repair project, provided the aggregate amount does not exceed \$250,000;
5. Take all other actions reasonably necessary or appropriate to implement this Resolution and complete the authorized procurement and contracting process.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chief Executive Officer shall exercise the foregoing authority in accordance with the authorization of the Board of Trustees of Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney, applicable law, state and local procurement requirements, and any applicable policies or procedures.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of the Board of Trustees are authorized and directed to take such further actions and execute such additional documents as may be reasonably necessary to give effect to this Resolution.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Dr. Covello</i>	<i>Reviewed current issues with LACS boiler and process to request bids for boiler repair</i>

B. UPCOMING EVENTS

- NEXT BOARD MEETING: OCTOBER 20, 2026 AT 6PM
- OCTOBER 23: FALL CARNIVAL 4:30 – 6 PM AT LINDLEY

UPON MOTION OF SANDRA FARMER, AND SECOND BY KATHLEEN TAYLOR, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY MOVED TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH A PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR AND DISCUSSING CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS.

UPON MOTION OF SANDRA FARMER, AND SECOND BY KAITLIN MORAN, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UNANIMOUSLY MOVED TO ENTER OPEN SESSION.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:33 PM

MOTION:
SANDRA FARMER
SECOND:
KAITLIN MORAN
VOTE:
[X] PASS
[] FAIL
