



Literacy, Leadership, & Personalized Learning

Vision: STRIVE Collegiate Academy will cultivate college- ready high school graduates who will achieve post-secondary success and become leaders in their communities, Nashville, and beyond.

Mission: At STRIVE Collegiate Academy, our mission is to prepare middle school students for success in high school, college, and career. We will achieve this by empowering each student with a literacy-based curriculum aligned across all content areas in a culture that encourages leadership, virtue, and excellence as the foundation for success in all of their endeavors.

Board Minutes – August 26, 2025

I. Attendance

- A. Board Members: Scott Emerson (Board Chair), Norma Shirk (Vice Chair), Dr. Aikyna Finch (Secretary), Sarah Ann Ezzell, and Diane Quarles-Hartman
- B. Absent Board Member(s): As of June 18th, Cari Isham, Jordan Walters (Treasurer), and Stephanie Huffman, resigned from the board
- C. Others Present: LaKendra Butler
- D. Minutes taken by Dr. Aikyna Finch

II. **Proceedings:** Called to order by Scott Emerson at 6:04 p.m.

III. **Approval of June’s Board Minutes:** Motion to approve made by Sarah Ann Ezzell and seconded by Scott Emerson.

IV. **Approval of August’s Agenda:** Motion to approve made by Dr. Aikyna Finch and seconded by Sarah Ann Ezzell.

V. Board Committees

The following is historical information provided here for continued emphasis.

- The committee members are:
 - Academic: Sarah Ann Ezzell (Chair), Dr. Aikyna Finch, and Scott Emerson
 - Development: Norma Shirk (Chair), Diana Quarles-Hartman, and Scott Emerson
 - Finance: Scott Emerson
 - Governance: Dr. Aikyna Finch (Chair) and Scott Emerson

VI. Board Committee Reports and Discussions

A. School Report

- Current enrollment 86-6th grade, 58-7th grade, and 58-8th grade
- Staff is fully hired, but one position
- Students and Staff started strong this year.
- Increased Overall TCAP Scores – ELA-31.5 and Math-41.2 – Highest scores in the McGavock Cluster

B. Finance

- The Budget should end at 175,646 as of June 30, 2026
- There is a Pinnacle Bank Line of Credit that has never been used for 300k
- Motion for approval to renew the Pinnacle Bank Line of Credit made by Sarah Ann Ezzell and seconded by Dr. Aikyna Finch. The vote to renew was unanimous.

C. Governance

- Board Training is done. Thank you to all the board members
- Lease Addendum should be 450k from 12/1/25 – 6/30/26 if sell goes through
- December 1 – Begin paying for Janitorial Service
- June 30 – End of Lease
- Time to have the 2026-27 School Year discussion

D. Updates

- The October 25th Meeting was moved to October 6th so all Board Members can attend
- Brainstorm ideas for spaces
- Connect with the Charter Center and the NCC for help
- Charter enrichment on Sept 15th with the Scarlett Foundation
- Meet with LEAD CEO on Sept 5th
- Friends of Education event on Sept 24th
- Fall Visit from MNPS on Sept 18th

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM. The next Board meeting is on October 6, 2025, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm