

Minutes of the Special Meeting of
STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
OKLAHOMA HISTORY CENTER
800 NAZIH ZUHDI DR.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
May 11, 2026

The Statewide Charter School Board met in special session at 9:05 a.m. on Monday, May 11, 2026, at the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Members of the Statewide Charter School Board Present:

Brian Shellem
Bill Pearson
Amber Wise
Jared Buswell
Britni Tomcho
Damon Gardenhire
Kitty Campbell, designee for State Auditor and Inspector, Cindy Byrd
Courtney Anderson, designee for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Lindel Fields
Stephanie Savage

Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Wilkinson, Executive Director
Skyler Lusnia, Director of School Performance
Emily Witwer, Secretary to the Board
Merin Gracey, Organizational Compliance Officer
Lecrecia Schmidt, Operations Officer
Jaycie Smith, Academic Compliance Officer
Ellie Rivas, Financial Compliance Officer
Lisa Daniels, Director of Horizon: Digitally Enhanced Campus
Shelly Hickman, Communications Director
Thomas Schneider, Deputy General Counsel
John Hadden, Assistant Attorney General
Kwame Mumina, Attorney for Proud to Partner Leadership Academy, Inc.
Cynthia D'Antonio, Attorney for Proud to Partner Leadership Academy, Inc.
Sharri Coleman, Board President for Proud to Partner Leadership Academy
Dawn Bowles, Superintendent for Proud to Partner Leadership Academy

Other general public in attendance are shown as an attachment.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Brian Shellem – Present
Bill Pearson – Present
Amber Wise - Present
Jared Buswell – Present
Britni Tomcho – Present
Damon Gardenhire – Present

Kitty Campbell - Present, designee for State Auditor and Inspector, Cindy Byrd
Courtney Anderson – Present, designee for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Lindel Fields
Stephanie Savage – Present

2. **Hearing/Individual Proceeding and Decision:** *In re: Termination of Charter Contract with Proud to Partner Leadership Academy, Inc., the governing board for Proud to Partner Leadership Academy Charter School, Case No. 2026-01.*

Chairman Brian Shellem announced that this meeting is a continuation of the hearing in Case No. 2026-01 which was held on April 29, 2026. Attorney Thomas Schneider was present on behalf of the Petitioner, the Statewide Charter School Board (“SCSB”). Attorneys Kwame Mumina and Cynthia D’Antonio were present on behalf of the Respondent, Proud to Partner Leadership Academy, Inc. (“PTPLA”). Jenny Longley, a court reporter with Professional Reporters, was present and transcribed the proceeding. Dawn Bowles was sworn in by the court reporter and Ms. D’Antonio called Ms. Bowles as Respondent’s final witness.

Ms. Bowles testified as to her work and education experience, her role with PTPLA, PTPLA’s application and contract history, PTPLA’s founding and early operations, her communications with SCSB staff, PTPLA’s funding and staffing, and the procedural history of the probation and notice of intent to terminate. Mr. Schneider cross-examined Ms. Bowles and asked additional questions regarding her previous testimony and PTPLA’s academics and testing. Ms. D’Antonio conducted the redirect examination of Ms. Bowles for Respondent. Ms. Bowles testified further about PTPLA’s academics. Ms. Bowles answered board members’ questions regarding her testimony. Ms. Bowles was then dismissed as a witness.

Mr. Schneider presented the closing argument for Petitioner. Mr. Mumina presented the closing argument for Respondent. Assistant Attorney General John Hadden acknowledged the Motion to Dismiss filed by SCSB and Objection filed by PTPLA and announced that the Board’s ruling on both would be included in the final administrative order. Chairman Shellem confirmed that both parties had completed their arguments and Case No. 2026-01 was considered submitted to the Board.

3. **Possible Executive Session** – pursuant to 25 O.S. 2021, § 307(B)(7)-(8), for the purposes of discussing matters or receiving evidence where disclosure of information would violate federal or state law and engaging in deliberations, rendering a final or intermediate decision in an individual proceeding pursuant to Article II of the Administrative Procedures Act.

- a. Vote to enter Executive Session. At 12:33 P.M., Jared Buswell made a motion to enter Executive Session. Dr. Kitty Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Brian Shellem – Yes
Courtney Anderson – Yes
Bill Pearson – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Yes
Jared Buswell – Yes
Britni Tomcho – Yes
Amber Wise – Yes
Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Stephanie Savage – Yes

- b. EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with 25 O.S. § 307(B)(7)-(8);

- c. Vote to exit Executive Session. At 1:09 P.M., Bill Pearson made a motion to exit Executive Session. Damon Gardenhire seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Brian Shellem – Yes
Courtney Anderson – Yes
Bill Pearson – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Absent
Jared Buswell – Yes
Britni Tomcho – Yes
Amber Wise – Yes
Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Stephanie Savage – Yes

- d. Possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Brian Shellem announced that the Board needed more time to deliberate and there was no action taken.

4. Invocation

Note: This item was not on the original Agenda but was shifted from the Board's regularly scheduled meeting to accommodate the schedule of the speaker.

5. Adjournment

Bill Pearson moved to adjourn the hearing. Jared Buswell seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Amber Wise – Yes
Britni Tomcho – Yes
Bill Pearson – Yes
Courtney Anderson – Yes
Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Brian Shellem – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Yes
Jared Buswell – Yes
Stephanie Savage – Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 1:11 p.m.



Brian Shellem, Chairman of the Board



Emily Witwer, Secretary of the Board

ATTACHMENTS:

OTHER GENERAL PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

**STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
 SPECIAL MEETING - MAY 11, 2026
 Meeting Sign-In**

Please PRINT Name	Business - School - Agency	Address
Jenny Longley, CSR	Professional Reporters	
Arneon Cooper	Support	
Delphine Dorsey	Support	
Alan Washington	PTPLA	
Tracy McDowell	Support	
Amaral & Wilber	Support	
Jan Jordan	Support	
Nuria Martinez-Keed	Oklahoma Voice	
Jonathan Jossell	Turn Verde - Support	
Charlesette Jossell	PTPLA Board member	
Susan Baldwin	Support	
Des Chew	PTPLA - Support	
Adria Oliver	PTPLA - Support	
PARAY STAMPEZANOACH	OACSA	
Rachel Brannard	PTPLA	
Judith CHRISTIAN	PTPLA	

**STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
 SPECIAL MEETING - MAY 11, 2026**

Meeting Sign-In

Please PRINT Name	Business - School - Agency	Address
REV. GUS D. CHRISTIAN	PTPLA	
MOOLISABE KUMAZA	PTPLA Teen	Norman, OK 73069
Helen Brown	PTPLA	3204 Penton St. OKC 73120
Judith Christian	PTPLA	10900 S. Pennsylvania Ave OK
Stacy Johnson	PTPLA	2213 E Madison OKC OK 73111
Camellia Johnson	PTPLA	620 N Kellam Ave OKC OK 73117
Inezia Shambles	MILCO OF PTPLA	MILCO OF
Deloris Barnett	PTPLA - Support	
Ormy Notar	Thrive Point	1712 NE 27th
Creighton Kinchen		1509 NE 34
Marva Williamson	Marva Williamson	4400 Hemingway Drive
Nathan Tossell	PTPLA	
William Evans	Thrive Point of OK	
Sharon Ross	Epic Charter	
Dorothy Brown	Epic Charter Schools	