

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
OKLAHOMA HISTORY CENTER
800 NAZIH ZUHDI DR.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
September 14, 2026**

The Statewide Charter School Board met in regular session at 1:02 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 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
Marshall Baker
Kitty Campbell, designee for State Auditor and Inspector, Cindy Byrd
Courtney Anderson, designee for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Lindel Fields

Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Wilkinson, Executive Director
Skyler H. Lusnia, Director of School Performance
Emily Witwer, Secretary to the Board
Lecrecia Schmidt, Operations Officer
Jaycie Smith, Academic Compliance Officer
Merin Gracey, Organizational Compliance Officer
Shelly Hickman, Communications Director
John Hadden, Assistant Attorney General

Other general public in attendance are shown as an attachment.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Jared Buswell – Present
Brian Shellem – Present
Bill Pearson – Present
Amber Wise - Present
Marshall Baker – 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 – Absent

2. Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Salute to the Oklahoma State Flag, and Moment of Silence

3. (Action) Discussion and possible action regarding minutes of the August 10, 2026, Regular Board Meeting.

Jared Buswell moved to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2026, regular board meeting as

presented. Marshall Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Kitty Campbell – Yes
Bill Pearson – Yes
Courtney Anderson – Yes
Amber Wise - Yes
Brian Shellem – Yes
Marshall Baker – Yes
Jared Buswell – Yes
Stephanie Savage – Absent

4. Chairman's Opening Comments

Chairman Brian Shellem presented a short clip from Top Gun: Maverick and noted that it had inspired him. Mr. Shellem explained that in the clip Maverick had a target, but the target was lowered by his commander. Mr. Shellem likened this to education in Oklahoma and expressed his wish that instead of lowering the target, we raise standards, set high standards for schools, and encourage others to do the same.

5. Public Comment

The Statewide Charter School Board shall hear public comment on any action item listed on the current board meeting agenda. Public comments will be limited to only those subject matters covered in the current meeting agenda. Public comment will not be taken on issues relating to: (1) pending litigation against SCSB or agency employees; (2) a pending grievance; (3) an employee complaint; (4) complaints against SCSB employees; (5) disciplinary action, suspension, or termination of an SCSB employee; or (6) any administrative proceeding initiated by the Board pursuant to the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. A sign-up sheet will be posted at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the Board Meeting. Sign up must be completed prior to the scheduled start time of the meeting. Only individuals who have signed up to speak will be recognized during the Public Comment period and will be recognized in the order in which they have signed in. Each speaker will be allocated three (3) minutes for presentation. The Board Chairperson may interrupt and/or terminate any presentation during public comment which does not conform to the procedures outlined under this Section. The Board Chairperson reserves and retains the right to interrupt, terminate, or postpone public comment as necessary to effectuate the management of the public meeting.

There was no public comment.

6. BOARD SPOTLIGHT – Horizon: Digitally Enhanced Campus

Executive Director Rebecca Wilkinson provided a brief update on Horizon, noting that a more in-depth review would be provided at a later meeting. Dr. Wilkinson stated that Horizon's goal was to serve 450 school districts by 2030, and as of September 2026 they had already reached 420 districts with continuing demand. Mr. Shellem commended the high pass rates and scores in the Horizon program.

7. Presentation and possible discussion regarding the Statewide Charter School Board Working Groups: Budget, Performance Framework Task Force, Governance, and Facilities Funding Steering Committee

Jared Buswell, Chair of the Budget Working Group, had no report. Dr. Wilkinson noted the board members serving on the Performance Framework Task Force and that the Performance Framework would be presented in October. Marshall Baker and Courtney Anderson both commented on their work on the Task Force and Dr. Baker stated that the Board needs to be ready to execute based on the new Framework. Dr. Wilkinson provided a preliminary update on legislative priorities for the fall, including SB2048, HB2154, SB704, and HB3069. Bill Pearson spoke about the work of the Facilities Funding Steering Committee, explaining the two bills passed and the committee's work to draft administrative rules, procure a financial administrator, and get money added to the fund through philanthropic efforts.

8. Administration

- a. (Action) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Le Monde International School charter contract

Dr. Wilkinson informed the Board that Le Monde's counsel was out of the country and unavailable to review the proposed contract, so the agenda item was tabled.

- b. (Action) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Tulsa Honor Academy charter contract

Dr. Wilkinson informed the Board that Tulsa Honor Academy's counsel was out of the country and unavailable to review the proposed contract, so the agenda item was tabled.

- c. (Action) Review, discussion, and possible action regarding the request to amend the charter contracts for the following virtual charter schools to expand the students served to include students over the age of twenty-one (21) and under the age of thirty (30):
 - i. Insight School of Oklahoma
 - ii. Epic Charter Schools
 - iii. ThrivePoint Academy of Oklahoma

Director of School Performance, Skyler Lusnia, explained that the three schools listed all have an adult education program that was not included in the schools' applications, and that amendments are necessary to approve the change in school models. Mr. Lusnia first explained Insight School of Oklahoma's program, including the number of students served, the curriculum used, and the school's policy for the program. Dr. Wilkinson further explained the history of the adult programs and the events leading to the proposed amendments.

Dr. Baker brought up multiple concerns and questions related to the proposed amendments as a whole, including a lack of metrics to determine success and a lack of consideration. Dr. Baker asked what performance metrics would be used and Mr. Lusnia explained that they were not included in the proposed amendments and would need to be considered. Dr. Wilkinson added that the reason for the adult program statute was to allow more students to graduate and suggested that would be the metric to use to measure the success of the programs. Jared Buswell shared similar concerns about measuring success, regulatory ramifications, and schools operating outside of their contracts. Dr. Baker requested further work on the draft amendments, including definitions of program success. Mr. Shellem requested further information on all three programs.

Mr. Lusnia provided additional information about Insight School's adult program, including what requirements adult students are required to meet. Insight's Executive Director, Dr. Jennifer

Wilkinson, briefly addressed the Board to answer questions regarding these requirements. Mr. Lusnia then provided details about Epic Charter Schools' adult program, including the history of the program and data from recent years on students served and graduated. Mr. Shellem inquired about the funding for adult students and timeline of graduation. Dr. Wilkinson of Insight and Dr. Shaun Ross, Superintendent for Epic, both took the podium to address the Board. Dr. Wilkinson explained how Insight codes and tracks adult students and Insight's goal to provide diplomas to students who may not otherwise have the opportunity. Dr. Ross provided statistics on the monetary difference between individuals with and without a high school diploma and how Epic currently measures the success rate of its program. Dr. Wilkinson further discussed what an adult student schedule looks like and how their credits are earned. Board members further discussed the need to develop a more robust contract including metrics for success and agreed to table the amendments for Insight School of Oklahoma and Epic Charter Schools.

Mr. Lusnia discussed the final school, ThrivePoint Academy of Oklahoma, and its proposed adult education program. Mr. Lusnia explained that ThrivePoint is opening for its inaugural year and provided student enrollment data and planned curriculum for the program. Mr. Shellem expressed concern about the recent addition of ThrivePoint's adult program. Mindy Direen, Founding Director of ThrivePoint, addressed the Board to answer questions about ThrivePoint's adult program and plan for credit recovery and career growth. Board members discussed the dilemma of approving a school with a new program before having a robust contract in place and how to consistently measure success given the difference in all three programs. Following further discussion, Mr. Shellem tabled ThrivePoint's amendment as well.

- d. Presentation and possible discussion regarding proposed amendments to title 777, Chapter 1 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code as set forth below:

Title 777. STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

CHAPTER 1: Administrative Operations

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

777:1-1-4. Organization (Amended)

777:1-1-6. Records requests (Amended)

777:1-1-7. Procedures for declaratory rulings (Amended)

777:1-1-8. Petitions for adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule (Amended)

777:1-1-9. Individual proceedings (Amended)

Secretary to the Board and Legal Secretary, Emily Witwer, explained the proposed changes to Chapter 1. Aside from grammatical and formatting corrections, most changes were to the Individual Proceedings section. Ms. Witwer explained the addition of language to clarify that an independent hearing officer may be used for proceedings and to define the role of the hearing officer, as well as clarify the deadline for a final agency order. Assistant Attorney General John Hadden provided additional input and suggestions related to the Individual Proceedings section.

- e. Presentation and possible discussion regarding proposed amendments to title 777, Chapter 10 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code as set forth below:

Title 777. STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

CHAPTER 10: Charter Schools and Statewide Virtual Charter Schools

Subchapter 3. Charter School and Virtual Charter School Sponsorship

777:10-3-3. Applications to sponsor charter schools and virtual charter schools; renewal and termination of contracts for sponsorship of charter schools and virtual charter schools (Amended)

777:10-3-5. Full-time charter schools – succession of contractual rights and reversion of property to Statewide Charter School Board (Amended)

777:10-3-6. Charter Schools Incentive and Closure Reimbursement Fund (New)

Ms. Witwer then presented the proposed amendments to Chapter 10 to the Board. The proposed changes included the removal of unnecessary language, grammatical corrections, and added language to clarify that a school termination hearing would follow the Individual Proceedings rules. Ms. Witwer then explained the many proposed changes made to the School Closure Process section. These changes included new and clarified deadlines for closure activities, designated parties responsible for each closure task, stricter guidance on school records and finances, and re-organization of the entire section for clarity. Ms. Witwer noted that a new section to Chapter 10 would also be presented to the Board in October related to the Charter Schools Incentive and Closure Reimbursement Fund.

- f. Presentation and possible discussion regarding the closure status of Proud to Partner Leadership Academy

Mr. Lusnia recapped the closure activities conducted since May and informed the Board of a legal dispute with the school's landlord over the school's records, which led to the filing of a lawsuit for injunction. Following this, agency staff were able to retrieve records and Mr. Lusnia stated that staff would continue working to review and determine the completeness of documents and complete the closing audit. John Hadden further discussed the lawsuit and added that a dispute remains with the landlord regarding unpaid rent and remaining school assets that would need to be resolved.

9. New Business

Discussion and possible action of any item that could not have been known or reasonably foreseen prior to time of posting agenda (As defined in Oklahoma Statutes Title 25, Section 311 (A)(9)).

There was no new business.

10. Adjournment

Marshall Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Courtney Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Amber Wise – Yes

Marshall Baker – Yes

Bill Pearson – Yes

Courtney Anderson – Yes

Brian Shellem – Yes

Kitty Campbell – Yes

Jared Buswell – Yes

Stephanie Savage – Absent

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The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 p.m.



Brian Shellem, Chairman of the Board



Emily Witwer, Secretary of the Board

ATTACHMENT:

OTHER GENERAL PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

**STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING - SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

Meeting Sign-In

Please PRINT Name	Business - School - Agency	Address
Kylie Sanders	E-School Virtual Charter Acad	2403 S Division Ste B, Guthrie
Wendy Plummer	OVCA	MWC
Jennifer Wilkins	ISD	MWC
Kendra Cape	OYACS	
Nuria Martinez-Keel	Oklahoma Voice	OKC
Sharon Ross	Epic Charter Schools	OKC
Emre Ozturk	Dove Virtual Academy	Warr Acres, OK
Kindy Dineen	ThrivePoint Academy	600 N Robinson Ave OKC
Melissa Gregory	Connections	Prattville