



**PCCS Board of Directors’
Meeting Minutes
June 1st, 2026 at 7:00PM
Fine Arts Building
1601 Jones Point Road Grayslake, IL 60030**

Board Present

Matt Earl
Josh Pejsach
Leah Stender

Steve Heroux
Gabi White
Meghan Dawson

Staff Present

Geoff Deigan

Call to Order – Matt Earl called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Public Comment – No public present.

Discussion Items

- 1. FY27 Proposed Budget/Cost Analysis Comparison** – Matt Earl shared that we are here to discuss the Proposed Budget included in packet, along with a side-by-side comparison. There was also a request for detailed cost breakdowns by role and GL code which was also included. Additionally, Matt shared some implications of not having an approved budget, including inability to meet out deliverables with ISBE, inability to enter contracts with teachers and vendors, and an inability to enter contract negotiations. Finally, Matt shared some details of past precedents in terms of honouring the guidance of the Finance Committee.

Gabi White shared her concerns that while they could attend the Finance Committee meeting, they don’t have a voice on the committee unless they join. Additionally, Meghan Dawson shared that the packets were not emailed out to all Board members, which she felt created an ill-prepared presentation of the budget.

Ankur Bhatia shared that there was a deep dive on the proposed budget in the Finance Committee meeting, and that this has been the norm for Board governance for the past 6 years.

There were additional detailed questions, fielded by Ankur Bhatia and Geoff Deigan. Rebekka Herrington shared that she doesn’t feel there is enough time built into the budget cadence to ensure adequate Board discussion, and that moving forward the budget discussion should begin sooner in the calendar year. Additionally, Rebekka had some additional specific questions surrounding year-over-year variances.

Josh Pejsach asked for clarification about how this budget aligns with our cultural priorities discussed previously and Matt Earl confirmed that this budget aligns staffing and administrative priorities with the school’s cultural pillars.

Josh Pejsach asked Geoff Deigan about staff versus administration salaries, and Geoff shared his projections of the future cost allocations.

- 2. FY27 Board and Committee Cadence of Meetings** – Matt Earl shared that he looked these over and they worked for Academic Excellence and Executive Committee. Rebekka Herrington shared that in her view, the committee meeting cadence in general should be increased to six (6)/year rather than quarterly. Geoff Deigan agreed, recommending the Board approve the Board meeting schedule and table the Committee Meeting schedule pending future discussion and alignment.

Rebekka Herrington additionally shared that she believes the Executive Committee should also meet quarterly.

Action Items

- 1A. Approve the FY27 Proposed Budget** – Moved by Rebekka Herrington, 2nd by Leah Stender;
Roll call:
- a. Matt Earl – Yes
 - b. Rebekka Herrington – Yes
 - c. Ankur Bhatia – Yes
 - d. Steve Heroux – Yes
 - e. Leah Stender – Yes
 - f. Gabi White – Yes
 - g. Josh Pejsach – Yes
 - h. Meghan Dawson – Yes

Ayes – 8
Nays – 0
Motion carries.



2A. Motion to Approve the FY27 Board Meetings Calendar – Moved by Rebekka Herrington, 2nd by Leah Stender; all votes aye.

New Business – Matt Earl committed to clarifying the committee meeting cadence at a future meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Steve Heroux, 2nd by Leah Stender; all votes aye.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Heroux, Secretary.

Board documents for this meeting are available for viewing on the school web site.

Thank you for attending the meeting of the PCCS Board of Education. Individual board members do not respond to public comment. For questions or comments, please e-mail the Board at board@pccharterschool.org . The PCCS Board of Directors consists of:		
President: Matt Earl	Vice President: Rebekka Herrington	Treasurer: Ankur Bhatia
Secretary: Steve Heroux	Meghan Dawson	Josh Pejsach
Peyton Schrag	Leah Stender	Gabi White