

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of
STATEWIDE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
OKLAHOMA HISTORY CENTER
800 NAZIH ZUHDI DR.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
November 18, 2024**

The Statewide Charter School Board met in special session at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2024, in the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Members of the Statewide Charter School Board Present:

Brian Shellem
Angie Thomas
Kathleen White
Damon Gardenhire
Dr. Kitty Campbell, designee for State Auditor and Inspector, Cindy Byrd
John Tautfest, designee for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ryan Walters

Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Wilkinson, Executive Director
Jaycie Smith, Academic Compliance Officer
Skyler Lusnia, Financial Compliance Officer
Lecrecia Schmidt, Operations Officer
Shelly Hickman, Communications Officer

Other general public:

Kristi Lee, OAG
Jerry Beasley
Sasha Ndisabiye, NonDoc
Wren Hawthorne, The Academies of Oklahoma
Jennifer Robinson, The Academies of Oklahoma
Kendra Cope, OYACS
Jason Mack, OKCPS
Spencer Guinn, Guinn Strategies

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Brian Shellem – Present
Angie Thomas – Present
Kathleen White – Present
Becky Gooch – Absent
Damon Gardenhire – Present
John Tautfest – Present, designee for Superintendent Ryan Walters
Kitty Campbell – Present, designee for State Auditor and Inspector Cyndi Byrd
Jared Buswell – Absent

2. **INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SALUTE TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG, AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**
3. **(Action) Discussion and possible action regarding the minutes of the October 16, 2024, Statewide Charter School Board Special Board Meeting**

Damon Gardenhire made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2024, Statewide Charter School Board Special Meeting. John Tautfest seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Angie Thomas – Yes
Kathy White – Yes
Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Abstain
John Tautfest – Yes
Brian Shellem – Yes

4. **Chairman's Opening Comments** – Chairman Shellem welcomed board members and audience and gave a brief overview of The National Summit on Education held in Oklahoma City, November 13-15.
5. **Board Spotlight – Horizon: Digitally Enhanced Campus Pilot Program, Prisms Virtual Reality**

Shelly Hickman presented the Prisms Virtual Reality program underway in Oklahoma. Prisms is a mathematics program allowing spatial and kinesthetic learning in the areas of math and science. Kingfisher, Tahlequah, Tulsa, and Tulsa Union are participating in the pilot with two area consultants providing management and data collection.

6. **Presentation and possible discussion regarding Statewide Charter School Board Working Group Reports: Budget, Communications, Governance, and Horizon: Digitally Enhanced Campus**

The Communications Working Group informed members that the Oklahoma Charter School Conference portal is now open. The Charter Connect newsletter is ready to launch. There was not a Budget, Governance, or Horizon: Digitally Enhanced Campus Working Group presentation.

7. **Presentation and possible discussion regarding the Statewide Charter School Board staff and board visit to Phoenix, Arizona, for the purpose of meeting with charter schools and charter school stakeholders**

Three staff members and three board members met with charter school stakeholders in Phoenix, Arizona on October 28-30, 2024. The purpose of the visit was to learn more about the Arizona charter school landscape. The trip included both discussions with the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, Arizona Charter School Association, and Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and tours of five successful charter schools. Those attending presented their own key takeaways from the trip.

8. **Administration**

a. Presentation and possible discussion regarding the March 2025 Oklahoma Charter School Conference

The conference graphic and logo were shared with the board. The focus for day one of the conference will be for charter school board members and authorizer training. On the second day, there will be a general session and breakout sessions for all participants with specific area tracks provided.

b. (Action) Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Statewide Charter School Board Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

The Budget Cycle Timeline and Fiscal Year 26 Budget Request was presented to the board.

Damon Gardenhire made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 26 Budget as presented. Kitty Campbell seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Kathy White – Yes
Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Yes
John Tautfest – Yes
Brian Shellem – Yes
Angie Thomas – Yes

c. Presentation and possible discussion regarding Oklahoma Youth Academy

Melissa White, Director of Oklahoma Youth Academy Charter School (OYACS), presented school highlights. OYACS is operated by the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

9. Adjournment

Damon Gardenhire made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy White seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Damon Gardenhire – Yes
Kitty Campbell – Yes
John Tautfest – Yes
Brian Shellem – Yes
Angie Thomas – Yes
Kathy White – Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.



Brian Shellem, Chairman of the Board



Amy Gibson, Secretary of the Board