



Atlas Board Meeting Agenda/Minutes

October 26, 2023

5 PM Central

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www.atlaspublic.org

Board of Directors

Russ Kirk, Board President
Scott Malin, Board Treasurer
Nancy Wild, Board Secretary

Alice Dickherber, Member
Kwofe Coleman, Member
Lorna Sanchez McClellan, Member
Mark Minden, Board Member

Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Atlas Public Schools Board of Directors will hold a digital board meeting on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. To join by Zoom copy and paste the following URL in a web browser:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83514262935?pwd=UitLU0hTTkIxR1lXVHo2aDZJaDBtdz09>

Any individual wishing to make a public comment must notify the Atlas Board Chairman via email at russ.kirk@atlaspublic.org by noon the day of the meeting. An individual has a maximum of three (3) minutes for its public comment(s).

The Board of Directors retains the right to return to a closed Executive Session for reasons permissible under Section 610.021 of the Missouri Revised State Statutes.

Our Mission: The mission of Atlas Public Schools is to educate the whole child by combining a rigorous academic program with authentic, real-world experiences so all students thrive in middle school, high school and beyond.

Our Vision: At Atlas we envision a time when all students in St. Louis have the skills and habits needed to be successful in the 21st century, and where St. Louis is heralded as a model of a flourishing, diverse, and empowered community. We believe that high quality public schools will be the catalyst for community transformation that will result in a thriving city.

Meeting Agenda

Salutation: 5:00 pm

Russ Kirk, Board President

Call to Order + Roll Call + Welcome

Present: Russ Kirk, Mark Minden, Lorna Sanchez, Alice Dickherber and Colby Heckebdorn. **Not present, but provided written approval for proxy voting:** Scott Malin, Kwofe Coleman, Nancy Wild. **Scott Clithero, an Academic Oversight Committee member was also present.**

Scheduled Public Comments

No public comments.

Minutes

- Review [MINUTES](#) from September Meeting

There were no questions or comments on the September Minutes. Alice voted to approve; Mark seconded. Unanimously approved (including the three proxies).

Board Chair Report: 5:05-5:10 pm

Russ Kirk, Board President

- Missouri Charter Public School Association Conference (MCPSA): Wednesday and Thursday, November 8-9 in Columbia, Mo.
- November/December–holiday months–Board meetings are early in the month. November 16 and December 14.

Notes: Russ, Colby and Genevieve Backer will represent Atlas at the MCPSA conference. In November and December, the Board will meet on the third Thursday of the month due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Governance Committee Report: 5:10-5:20 pm

Alice Dickherber, Governance Committee

- Governance Committee [MINUTES](#)
 - Executive Director Review

The Committee has completed its review of Colby–with input from all Board members and Alice provided a report of the review.

- Vote to approve changes to the Executive Director Review Process

Alice presented a change to the ED review process–moving the review to late January/February vs. September, beginning in 2024 and asked the Board to approve the change. Russ voted to approve; Lorna seconded. Unanimously approved (including the three proxies).

Finance Committee Report: 5:20-5:30 pm

Scott Malin, Committee Chair

- Finance Committee [MINUTES](#)

With Scott absent, Finance Committee Secretary Russ Kirk presented the report for September. Highlights included (Kent Peterson from the Strategic Organization was an observer):

- Continued strong financial position

- **There was a more focused view of the financials as Intacct, Ramp and LDR worked out final challenges in the integration and report formats.**
- **Cash on hand: 123 days-up from 87 in the previous month.**
- **Both revenue and expense budgets are tight on target.**

September's Financial Statements:

- [Cash Flow Statement](#)
- [Statement of Activities](#)
- [Balance Sheet](#)
- [Ramp Register](#)
- [Bank Account Register](#)
- [Bank Reconciliation](#)
- [Summary Page from Jim Torti](#)

Development Committee Report: 5:30-5:40 pm

Mark Minden, Committee Chair

- Development Committee [MINUTES](#)

Mark presented to the Board the Development Committee meeting minutes from October 23 (Kent Peterson from the Strategic Organization was an observer). Highlights included:

- **Colby and staff's first draft of a Statement of need. Committee would also like a 3-5 slide deck on "Who is Atlas". With this information, the Committee can begin to craft communication materials.**
- **Board members to research and provide 1-2 prospective donors.**
- **Nancy will create a spreadsheet to track prospective donors including what levels of funding they can provide.**
- **Mark will spearhead a "between the monthly meetings" meeting to keep momentum going**

Academic Oversight Committee Report: 5:40-5:50 pm

Lorna Sanchez, Committee Chair

- Academic Oversight Committee [MINUTES](#)

Lorna presented the minutes from the AOC meeting. Of note, Lorna and team were complimentary of Colby and his team's data that was presented and the next steps to address areas of concern. The meeting was spirited with solid discussions of the data.

Consent Agenda: 5:50-5:55 pm

Board President: Russ Kirk

- Vote to approve the following discussed items:
 - **Governance**
 - September Minutes (**See above**).
 - **Finance:**
 - September Financials & Bank Register

Lorna voted to approve; Mark seconded. Unanimously approved (including the three proxies).

Executive Director Report: 5:55-6:15 pm

Colby Heckendorn, Executive Director

- Update on Beyond School Programming

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Colby proudly announces that Atlas has earned a \$250,000 Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF) Spark Grant over two years to be used toward Beyond School Programming/Intersession opportunities.

- Early Childhood Programming (ECP)

Colby is putting an emphasis on creating a “pipeline of great students” to Atlas through early childhood partnerships that could include having Atlas host and ECP.

- Human Resources Systems & Procedures

Colby noted that there will be potential changes within HR systems and procedures and that the Board could be asked to review and approve in the near future.

Q&A + Announcements: 6:15-6:20 pm

- [Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule](#)

Motion to Adjourn: 6:20 pm

Russ voted to adjourn the meeting; Lorna seconded the motion. Unanimously approved (including the three proxies).

Russ Kirk, Board Chair