



## Atlas Board Meeting/Minutes

October 24, 2024  
5 PM Central

Posted publicly August 30, 2024 online at  
[www.atlaspublic.org](http://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, Member  
Victor Thomas, 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, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. To join by Zoom copy and paste the following URL in a web browser:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84973340000?pwd=hKbFcAylgNrOLMaGyMqvuYdldUgnj7.1>

Any individual wishing to make a public comment must notify the Atlas Board Chairman via email at [russ.kirk@atlaspublic.org](mailto: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: 5:00-5:05 pm

Russ Kirk, Board President

### Call to Order + Roll Call + Welcome

**Russ, Alice, Kwofe, Lorna, Scott, Nancy, Victor and Colby present. Mark absent. Also attending, Scott Clithero from the AOC and Lindsay Richard –Atlas consultant on building renovation.**

### Scheduled Public Comments

**There were no public comments.**

### Minutes

- Review [MINUTES](#) from September board meeting

**There was no discussion/comments or edits to the September minutes.**

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

Russ Kirk, Board President

- **Update on Robbyn Wahby meeting**
- **Update on The Opportunity Trust Fall Leadership Meeting**
- **Update on the Missouri Charter Public School Association Conference**
  - **Colby is now a Board member for the Association!**

## Governance Committee Report: 5:10-5:15 pm

Alice Dickherber, Governance Committee Chair

- Governance Committee [Minutes](#)
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**Key highlight: The Committee is working on Colby's performance goals and will spend the next two months finalizing and presenting to the full Board for approval in January.**

## Finance Committee Report: 5:15-5:25 pm

Scott Malin, Committee Chair

- Finance Committee [Minutes](#)
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- [September Financial Dashboard](#)

September's Financial Statements:

- [Budget by Month](#)
- [Cash Flow Statement](#)
- [Statement of Activities](#)
- [Balance Sheet](#)
- [Ramp Register](#)
- [Bank Account Registers](#)
- [Bank Reconciliations](#)

## Highlights from the review:

- **Cash on hand: 130 days. Up from previous month as Federal/state revenue catches up.**
- **Total assets are approximately \$17,869,700 and total liabilities approximately \$15,941,800 resulting in net assets of approximately \$1,927,900.**
- **Actual revenue YTD is approximately \$1,902,900 which is 2% lower than budgeted on an annual basis.**
- **Actual expenditures are approximately \$1,731,800 which is 3% lower than budgeted on an annual basis.**
- **Net Revenue: \$171,099.**
- **Cash on hand: \$2,464,769.**
- **Statement of Activities question regarding Capital Projects/Loan PMTS on the YTD \$32,162 number vs. a budgeted forecast of \$25,000: Answer, \$28,662 was a payment to HWK—our architect for preliminary work on 3rd/4th floor renovations.**
- **Interest earned on the Commerce account: \$3,570.**

## Consent Agenda: 5:25-5:30 PM

Board President: Russ Kirk

- Vote to approve the following discussed items:
  - **Governance:**
    - September Minutes
  - **Finance:** September Financials & Bank Register

**Scott made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Nancy seconded. Unanimously approved**

## Executive Director Report: 5:30-6:15 pm

Executive Director: Colby Heckendorn

- [Emerson Early Literacy Grant](#)

**Atlas and three other schools were awarded \$250,000 Grants from Emerson!**

- **Atlas Public Schools**
- **Premier Charter School**
- **Barbara C. Jordan - University City**
- **Commons Lane - Ferguson-Florissant**

- [Ignite Tutoring Program](#) in Partnership with Teach For America

**Ignite is a high-dosage virtual tutoring program TFA developed after the pandemic to support learning loss, acceleration, and belonging. The Ignite program supports literacy and math outcomes in schools all over the country. Tutors are mostly college students.**

**Atlas is piloting this program with 27 brilliant third-graders this year!**

○ **The students participating in Ignite are students who are not yet ready for the grade-level skills block and are receiving small group foundational skills instruction.**

- Phase II Building Update

Lindsay Richard and Colby presented the progress of Phase II renovations. Highlights included a focus on the 4th floor and a partial buildout for the 3rd floor; working towards a final budget and timeline—to be completed in fall of 2025. More details to come in November and December.

### Q&A + Announcements: 5:55-6:00 pm

- **November Board meeting on third Thursday: November 21, 2024 at 5 pm Central**
- [Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule](#)
- [Board Member Professional Development Tracker](#)

### Motion to Adjourn: 6:15 pm

Nancy made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Alice seconded the motion; Unanimously approved.

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Russ Kirk, Board Chair