



## Atlas Board Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2025

5 PM Central

Posted publicly January 27, 2025 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, February 27, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. To join by Zoom copy and paste the following URL in a web browser:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86976997226?pwd=D9JOpBi5GLEBYXoqwCsG490xlu2m7q.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, Lorna, Scott, Nancy, Victor and Colby present; Kwofe and Mark absent (note: Nancy has Kwofe's proxy vote and Russ has Mark's proxy vote).**

### Scheduled Public Comments

**There were no public comments.**

**Minutes:** Review [MINUTES](#) from the January 23rd Board Meeting

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

Russ Kirk, Board President

- **Missouri Ethics Commission yearly update: due May 1, 2025**
- **Board Retreat: July 24, 2025: Governing for Student Outcomes II**
  - **Governing in current political environment (guest speakers)**
  - **Strategic Planning**
  - **Committee Goals/results**
  - **July Board meeting**
  - **Place: TBD**

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

Alice Dickherber, Governance Committee Chair

- Governance Committee [MINUTES](#)

### Highlights from the review:

- **Committee discussed the MCPSC's Atlas School Review. Overall the review was very positive.**

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

Scott Malin, Committee Chair

- Finance Committee [MINUTES](#)
- [Budget by Month](#)
- [Cash Flow Statement](#)
- [Statement of Activities](#)
- [Balance Sheet](#)
- [Ramp Register](#)
- [Bank Registers](#)
- [Bank Reconciliation](#)

### Highlights from the review:

- **Cash on hand: 123 days. Budget projections have Atlas finishing the 2024-25 fiscal year with 137 days of cash on hand.**
- **Total assets are approximately \$18,216,000 and total liabilities approximately \$15,782,700 resulting in net assets of approximately \$2,433,300.**
- **Actual revenue YTD is approximately \$5,386,100 which is 8% higher than budgeted on an annual basis.**
- **Actual expenditures are approximately \$4,865,700 which is 5% higher than budgeted on an annual basis.**
- **Cash on hand: \$2,811,074.**
- **In August, the LLC began making payments on the Charter School Growth Fund Loan. The loan balance on December 31, 2024 is \$985,508.**
- **In October, the LLC began making payments on the Local Initiative Support Corporation Loan. The loan balance on December 31, 2024 is \$15,036,327.**
- **Expenditures for the school for the six months ending December 31, 2024 include \$219,413 for capital expenditures.**
- **Interest earned on the Commerce account: \$3,711.46 (Total YTD: \$25,054.01).**
  - **The \$22,141 in line item Board Services was payment to Audit firm Schmersahl Treloar & Co.**
  - **The four payments to Envision Learning Hub were for special services for voice/speech students.**
  - **Atlas received two payments from St. Louis Parking for our partnership providing event parking.**

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

Nancy Wild, Committee Chair

- Development Committee [MINUTES](#)

### Highlights from the review:

- **100% Board donation participation.**
- **Grants and donations received through January 31, 2025: \$669k; \$314 committed for this year; Gap between budget and actual is approximately \$18k.**
- **Committee is researching an “event” for the school (ie, trivia night, etc.).**
- **Committee agreed to make meetings monthly vs. ad hoc.**

### Consent Agenda: 5:40-5:45 PM

Board President: Russ Kirk

- Vote to approve the following discussed items:
  - **Governance:**
    - January Board Meeting Minutes

- **Finance:**
  - January Financials & Bank Register
  - [2023 Form 990](#)
  -

**Nancy moved to approve the January Board meeting minutes and the January Financials & Bank register and the 2023 Form 999; Scott seconded; Unanimous approval (including two proxy votes).**

### **Executive Director Report: 5:45-6:15 pm**

Executive Director: Colby Heckendorn

- [Phase II Building Update](#)
- Review and Discuss [Board Resolutions](#)
  - Vote to approve Board Resolutions
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**Lindsay Richard joined the meeting and provided the Board with an update on the Phase II Building expansion. Project is on schedule and there is a tentative date of Wednesday, March 5 as a closing date. Additionally, Lindsay walked the Board through the DECLARATION AND CONSENT WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL INTENT OF ATLAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM PROCEEDS OF INDEBTEDNESS AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS. Board approval of the resolutions is needed:**

**Alice moved to approve the DECLARATION AND CONSENT WITH RESPECT TO THE OFFICIAL INTENT OF ATLAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES FROM PROCEEDS OF INDEBTEDNESS AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF CERTAIN OTHER DOCUMENTS Resolutions; Scott seconded; Unanimously approved (including two proxy votes).**

### **Q&A + Announcements: 6:15 pm**

- [Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule](#)
- [Board Member Professional Development Tracker](#)

**Scott Clithero, President of the Atlas Athletic Association, gave a brief update: currently in the basketball season Atlas has four teams and between 35-40 children playing!**

### **Motion to Adjourn: 6:15 pm**

**Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Victor seconded; Unanimously approved (including two proxy votes).**

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**Russ Kirk, Board Chair**