



Atlas Board Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2024
5 PM Central

Posted publicly July 25, 2024 online at
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, August 29, 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/83542053229?pwd=u2g0DjqkzE7bRLSWlpa3Dq5oQOnRgM.1>

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: 5:00-5:05 pm

Russ Kirk, Board President

Call to Order + Roll Call + Welcome

Alice, Victor, Nancy, Scott, Lorna, Kwofe, Russ and Colby present; Mark absent.

Scheduled Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Minutes

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

There were no edits, comments or questions of the July Board meeting minutes.

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

Russ Kirk, Board President

- **Kudos to Colby/LDR/Lindsay Phillips and Finance Committee: Dashboard**

Governance Committee Report: 5:10-5:25 pm

Alice Dickherber, Governance Committee Chair

- Governance Committee [MINUTES](#)
- Committee Voted to Approve:
 - [Staff Handbook](#)
 - [Contract Amendment 4](#)
- Review and Discuss: [Contract Amendment 4](#)
 - Vote to Approve Contract Amendment 4
 -

Following Colby's presentation of the Contract Amendment 4, Scott motioned to approve the Contract Amendment 4; Kwofe seconded. Roll call unanimously approved the motion.

Finance Committee Report: 5:25-5:35 pm

Scott Malin, Committee Chair

- **The Finance Committee met on 8/29 at 4:30 pm prior to board meeting, minutes will be circulated when available. The financials represented Atlas' first month of the new fiscal year. Committee recommended approval of the July Financials.**

July's Financial Statements:

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

- [Bank Reconciliations](#)

Review and Discuss agreement with [St. Louis Parking](#)

- Vote to approve agreement with St. Louis Parking
-

Development Committee Report: 5:35-5:45 pm

Nancy Wild, Committee Chair. [HERE](#) was the Committee's agenda and highlights follow:

- **Committee met on August 21. Key discussions focused on:**
 - **Database development:**
 - **100 for \$1000 campaign**
 - **Board commitment to spearhead this the campaign with personal/partner donation(s)**
 - **Committee will begin regular meetings**

Consent Agenda: 5:45-5:50 PM

Board President: Russ Kirk

- Vote to approve the following discussed items:
 - **Governance:**
 - [July Minutes](#)
 - [Staff Handbook](#)
 - **Finance:** July Financials & Bank Register

Scott motioned to approve the Consent agenda; Nancy seconded the motion. Roll call unanimously approved the Consent agenda motion.

Executive Director Report: 5:50-6:10 pm

Executive Director: Colby Heckendorn

- Student Enrollment Update
 - **Preschool Classroom has 20 students with two certified teachers**
 - **34 students on the preschool waitlist**
 - **We aim to open one additional preschool classroom for the 2025-2026 school year**
 - **Kindergarten-4th Grade Enrollment:**
 - **Fully enrolled with a waitlist in every grade**
- Staffing Update
 - **We are starting the school year fully staffed with a certified teacher in every classroom**
 - **Three Building Support Specialists who serve as substitute teachers**
 - **Eight of our Associate/Resident Teachers are on a path to becoming a certified teacher**
 - **Demetrius Upchurch, Director of New Teacher Development, will support their growth**
- Building Update
 - **Classrooms are ready for students!**

2024-2025 Enrollment Summary			
Grade Level	Target Enrollment	Registration Complete	Waitlist
Kindergarten	104	104	14
First Grade	104	105	10
Second Grade	78	80	4
Third Grade	78	82	6
Fourth Grade	52	55	6
	416	426	40

- **Exterior signage went up on the south and north sides of the building**
- Phase II Construction Project: **Lindsay Richards presented along with Colby**
 - **Includes renovating the 3rd floor of the building, adding classroom, office, food prep, and common area space**
 - **Review and Discuss Proposal from [HKW Architects](#)**
 - **Vote to approve contract with HKW Architects**

Alice made a motion to approve the HKW Architects' contract for Phase II; Scott seconded the motion. A roll call of the Board voted unanimously to approve the HKW Architects contract for Phase II construction.

- **Review and Discuss Proposal from [BSI](#)**
 - **Vote to approve contract with BSI**

Nancy made a motion to approve the BSI contract for Phase II; Kwofe seconded. A roll call of the Board voted unanimously to approve the BSI contract for Phase II construction.

- **[Preliminary Preconstruction Schedule](#)**

Q&A + Announcements: 6:10-6:15 pm

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

Motion to Adjourn: 6:15 pm

Nancy made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Scott seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

