



## Atlas Board Meeting Agenda/Minutes

April 25, 2024  
5 PM Central

Posted publicly March 29, 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, Board Member

### Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Atlas Public Schools Board of Directors will hold a digital board meeting on Thursday, April 25, 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/89663271370?pwd=SGxqcW11WlBzbnlpU2lWWTJVO2crZz09>

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

**Roll Call: Alice, Kwofe, Lorna, Mark, Scott, Nancy and Russ all present.**

### Scheduled Public Comments

**There were no public comments.**

### Minutes

- Review [MINUTES](#) from March Meeting

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

Russ Kirk, Board President

- Board Retreat Update: July 22

**Feedback was positive on the date for Atlas' second-annual Board Retreat. A draft of the Retreat will be prepared to be presented to the Governance Committee on May, 9.**

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

Alice Dickherber, Governance Committee

- Governance Committee - No Meeting in April
- Missouri Ethics Commission - Personal Financial Disclosure (PFD)
- Victor Thomas, Potential Board Candidate

**As stated above, there was no Governance Committee meeting in April. Two other notes: all Board members have completed the Missouri Ethics Commission Personal Financial Disclosure and communications continue with Alice and Russ with a potential Board Candidate, Victor Thomas.**

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

Scott Malin, Committee Chair

- Finance Committee [MINUTES](#)
- Days Cash on Hand: 158

March's Financial Statements:

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

- [Bank Reconciliations](#)
- [Budget by Month](#)

**Scott reported highlights from the Committee's review. The Committee recommends approval:**

- **Cash on hand: 158 days. This was calculated using an estimate of monthly expenses of \$464,211.**
- **Consolidated assets are approximately \$17,762,700 and total liabilities are approximately \$14,941,200 resulting in net assets of \$2,821,500. (These amounts exclude any depreciation of the property and equipment for the 2024 fiscal year.)**
- **Actual revenue year-to-date is approximately 83% of the Board budget, which is approximately 8% more than budgeted on an annualized basis.**
- **Actual expenditures are approximately 72% of the Board budget which is approximately 3% less than budgeted on an annualized basis.**
- **Ending the month with \$2,422,501 in cash.**

### **Development Committee Report: 5:25-5:45 pm**

Nancy Wild, Committee Chair

- Development Committee [MINUTES](#)

**Nancy reported highlights from the April 24 Committee meeting:**

- **Atlas has hired Katy O'Sullivan as Chief Communications and Development Officer. Katie started on April 1.**
- **Katie has hit the ground running:**
  - **Creating the infrastructure needed to institute a donor-focused giving program.**
    - **Finalized slide-version for Case for Support and now working on printing version(s).**
  - **Refining Atlas' databases so it can communicate with specific constituency groups.**
- **Colby reported four Grants earned:**
  - **The Opportunity Trust: \$628,000 for additional staff personnel**
  - **DESE: \$50,000 for security film on first floor windows; fencing on northwest side of the building**
  - **Charter School Growth Fund: \$10,000 for participation in a Teach Retention study.**
  - **Missouri Afterschool Network: \$40,000—the fourth enrichment grant earned by Atlas for the afterschool program.**
- **Colby and staff are preparing a draft of the 2024-25 budget and a big part of it will be how Atals will update its facility.**
- **Nancy and the team set some key milestones for the Committee and Board to move the Development committee forward.**

### **Consent Agenda: 5:45-5:48 pm**

Board President: Russ Kirk

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

**Scott made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; Alice provided the second. Roll Call: Kwofe, Alice, Lorna, Mark, Scott, Nancy, Russ voted unanimously to approve. Motion passed.**

## Executive Director Report: 5:48-6:10 pm

Colby Heckendorn, Executive Director

- **April ADA: 90.86% Overall ADA: 90.72% Current Enrollment: 301**
- [Student Recruitment Dashboard](#)
  - **87 active KG applications to date for the 2024-2025 school year**

2024-2025 Enrollment Summary							
Grade Level	Enrolled + Completed Registration	Target Enrollment	Available Seats	Accepted Seat	Registration in Progress	Outstanding Offers	Remaining Spots to Offer
Kindergarten	41	104	63	34	1	14	28
First Grade	99	104	5	4	0	3	6
Second Grade	71	78	7	3	2	2	6
Third Grade	76	78	2	1	2	4	1
Fourth Grade	51	52	1	2	0	2	1
	338	416	78	44	5	25	42

- Staffing Update
  - **Additional Support Staff**
    - **Assistant Head of School**
    - **Assistant Literacy Dean**
    - **Assistant Math Dean**
    - **Director of New Teacher Development**
    - **Director of Family and Community Engagement**
    - **Student Success Coordinator**
  - **Review and Discuss Draft of the 2024-2025 [Atlas Organization Chart](#)**
- Budget Update
  - **Modeling a 7% raise for certificated teachers**
  - **Budget includes additional support staff with the ability to sustain all positions in out years**
  - **Phase II construction project**
    - **Renovating the 3rd floor and bring it online by the start of the 2025-2025 school year at an estimated cost of \$4M**
    - **LISC has signaled they are willing to increase our loan**
    - **Budget has \$500k held for our owner's equity contribution + 6 months of loan payments on**

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

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

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

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**Russ Kirk, Board Chair**