

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Board Meeting Minutes, February 26, 2026, 5:30PM.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427
Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools
P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350

I. Call to Order: Matheu Weidenbach called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Roll Call: present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted

Name	Role	Present	Absent
Matheu Weidenbach	Board Member - President	x	
Melanie Spall	Board Member – Vice President	x	
Patty Blake	Board Member- Secretary	x	
Stacey Ray	Board Member- Treasurer	X	
Norah Antil	Board Member	x	
Matthew Goodman	Board Member	x	
Rasheda Jenkins	Board Member	x- 5:50	x
	Board Member		
Mike Reeder	Ex-Officio	X	
Bridget Peterson	Ex-Officio	X	
Kris Gapinski	Board Recorder	x	

Miscellaneous Attendees:
 Myla Johnson Dean of Students
 Eldred Bach Dean of Students
 Julie Wahl parent/employee
 Emily Daniels parent
 John Hildebrandt staff
 Katie Willard parent
 Lorelei McInerny parent
 Annischa Deveaux parent
 Krystal Broasted parent
 Hannah Dommeyer parent
 Adam Dommeyer parent
 Kate Wessel parent
 Titilayo Bediako parent support

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Choral Reading of Beacon Academy Vision Statement

IV. Approve the Agenda

Motion:	To approve the agenda							
Made by:	Matthew Goodman				Seconded by:	Melanie Spall		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins			x-absent	Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	X			Melanie Spall	X		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:	Motion passed							

Notes:

- N/A

v. Public Comment: *In order to allow the Board to conduct the business of the school, members of the public are recognized only during this portion of the meeting. Anyone indicating a desire to speak during Public Comment will be acknowledged by the Board Chair. When called upon to speak, please state your name, connection to the school, and the topic you wish to address. All remarks should be addressed to the Board as a whole, not to any specific member(s) or to any person who is not a member of the Board. The Board Chair reserves the right to limit the time of Public Comment.*

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Notes:

- Kate Wessel- parent- family participation in the discussion- scope and sequence- MDE requires standards be document-comparison to a typical 5th grade year- wanting to know where the class is at to be able to plug holes- communication with administration and others, waited 3 months for replies, standards being questioned as to what is being taught, how is difficult to show these standards being taught, math expression and wonders are what was informed to be taught, but teachers are being allowed to do what they want.
- Krystal Broasted-River 5th grade- echoes what was previously commented
- Lorelie McInerney- 5th grade and 8th grade student- why was the other class allowed to go on a field trip and one class was not-communication was failed-
- Emily Daniels- 5th grade- concern of Wolf Ridge trip- with what happened in today's field trip, feeling hesitant of allowing student to go on Wolf Ridge field trip due to lack of communication that happened for the ice fishing field trip
- John Hildebrandt- facilities custodian- 3 years ago came to the board telling the board that the job is not sustainable. Not a word was responded to him. He is working overtime and not being compensated for it. John is requesting a \$74,000 check to compensate him for the extra time that he has worked. John is retiring at the end of June. John has had conversations with admin, have tried hiring others, but they have not worked out.
- Hannah Dommeyer- 5th grade parent- in on Tuesday to help out, the classroom was not an environment that is conducive to learning, this year has been talked about so much, nothing has really changed, chaos in that hour, high tension, everyone is on edge, everyone is affected, the students are not getting an education, a couple of students causing the most problems, not fair an entire classroom does not get an education because of 2 students, teacher said that the students are not getting what they need to this year.
- Adam Dommeyer 5th grade parent- student coming home saying they are bored and not learning, teacher sharing what was happening in the classroom that was highly inappropriate. Old school discipline needs to be happening. Character development and parent involvement is the reason that they chose Beacon Academy over a school in Wayzata. Are things happening because of backlash from students that are doing the discipline problems.
- Kate Wessel- student staring down other students with a scissors in hand

vi. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: *Board members read the agenda and disclose if they have any real or perceived conflict of interest with any agenda items.*

Notes:

- None

vii. Approval of Consent Agenda: *Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a board member or meeting attendee so requests, in which event the item will be removed as a Consent Agenda item and addressed.*

- a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Regular Board Meeting – 2026.1.15
- b. Policies
 - i. 520 Student Surveys
 - ii. 520 FRM
 - iii. 521 Student Disability Nondiscrimination
 - iv. 522 Student Sex Nondiscrimination
 - v. 524 Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy
 - vi. 526 Hazing Prohibition
 - vii. 534 Enrollment Policy
- c. Beacon Bylaws 2026- Updated for Approval
- d. Language Access Plan
 - i. LAP Memo to Board
 - ii. Language Access Plan
- e. Personal Consent Agenda

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda	
Made by:	Melanie Spall	Seconded by: Stacey Ray
Discussion:		

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Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	X			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:	Motion passed							
Notes:	•							

VIII. Board Reports

- a. Finance Committee
 - i. Enrollment report (informational)

Notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 drops • 512 students enrolled • 6 students moved • 6- unhappy • 1- avoid expulsion • Lottery- kindergarten- beginning of the month- 47 in lottery- 38 last year • application for K-8 121- last year 60 • history around enrollment • ADM- 494 (FY22) 537 (FY23) 526 (FY24) 518 (FY25) est- 510(FY26) • Starting FY26 budget process this is important to know • Losing students in the earlier grades, but growing in the later grades • Continually decline in enrollment since September • Need to pay attention to the enrollment in the summer months- July 558 September 537 • Last summer phone calls went out to families in early August and follow up in late August • Additional staff in the building in the summer to help with to help with enrollment • This does happen in many charter schools, they are seeing the same as Beacon Academy • Creating staffing issues

ii. Review/Approve January Financial Report

Motion:	To approve the January financial report							
Made by:	Matthew Goodman				Seconded by: Stacey Ray			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:	Motion passed							
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,684,774 cash balance at end of the month • \$662,032 state receivable for the beginning of the accrual current year • ADM budgeted 504 • Revised ADM 510 • Actual ADM 515 • 58% of the fiscal year • 57% YTD revenue 							

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- 47% YTD expense
- 28% projected fund balance
- 81 days cash on hand projected as of June 30, 2026- requirement 60
- 1.18 projected debt service coverage ratio as of June 30, 2026- requirement 1.10
- 130 days cash on hand with receivables at June 30, 2026

iii. January 2026 Supplemental Report – Check Register (informational)

- Notes:**
- Short term sub license- same situation as earlier in the year- when ask a para to get a short-term sub license Beacon will pay for it. It is a favor to Beacon to do that
 - Reimbursement for before a card was given
 - Navigate Care Consultant- consultant for the health department
 - Social Work- amount seems high for 2 weeks- same as last month- full time-company contract

iv. Review/approve updated bank signers

Motion: To approve removal of Aaron Price and Wendy Terry as authorized bank signers								
Made by: Patty Blake				Seconded by: Melanie Spall				
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision: Motion passed								

- Notes:**
- Update to Choice Bank

Motion: To approve Stacy Ray and Mathew Wedienbach as authorized bank signers								
Made by: Matthew Goodman				Seconded by: Patty Blake				
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision: Motion passed								

- Notes:**
- Update to Choice Bank

v. Financial training- SPED/ADSIS Finance & State Payments (informational)

- Notes:**
- Read packet

b. Principal, Mike Reeder
 i. Authorizer Update (informational)

- Notes:**
- Read packet

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ii. 5th grade update (informational)

Notes:

- What is happening next in 5th grade?
- Teacher and student issue- combination
- Challenge in getting people
- Made best decision with what we had
- Can't stay where we are
- Families deserve more
- Continuing to go back to the drawing board
- What is acceptable in the next move?
- Students need some mental health work
- They have had a rough 4 years
- Are students going through the discipline process?
- Focusing on academics and education
- Parents wanting to come in and help
- Matheu meet with admin on Friday
- Sit down with parents next week

iii. Staffing Report (informational)

Notes:

- SPED posted level 3 behaviorist case manager
- Where would this environment be?

iv. Insurance Update (Informational)

Notes:

- Short term disability- keeping it- not costing Beacon anything more

v. Board Visibility at Events (informational)

Notes:

- Dances having board members
- Breakfast and Bingo
- School wide tours
- 8th grade graduation
- Night to Unite in August

vi. Special Education Update SPED Director Deana Siekmann (Informational)

Notes:

- Indigo education provided special education for multiple years
- Deana is new to Beacon as the SPED director
- Historical SPED data- 21/22- 62, 22/23- 82, 23/24- 94, 24/25- 83, Fall 25-81
- % of students with IEPs- 17% statewide Beacon has had 13%-17%
- Disabilities served at Beacon- 10 different disabilities
- Settings 1-65.7%, 2- 27.1%, 3-7.1%
- Staffing updates-
- Last year
 - 6.0 FTE Special Education Teachers
 - • 1.0 FTE Special Education Coordinator
 - • 1.0 FTE Special Education Evaluation and Due Process Coordinator
 - • .5 FTE Special Education Office Coordinator
 - • 17 FTE Paraprofessionals
 - • .1 FTE (4 hr/wk) Special Education Director from INDIGO Ed
 - • Variety of contracts with service providers as needed
- Currently:
 - • 6.0 Special Education Teachers
 - • Started year with 1.0 FTE Special Education Coordinator Resigned at end of Nov 2025
 - • 1.0 FTE Special Education Evaluation and Due Process Coordinator

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- • .5 FTE Special Education Office Coordinator
- • 24 FTE Paraprofessionals
- • 1.0 Occupational Therapist
- • 1.0 Counselor
- • .1 FTE (4 hr/wk) Special Education Director from INDIGO Ed
- • .3 FTE (12 hr/wk) Special Education Coordinator from INDIGO Ed Started Dec Nov 2025
- • Variety of contracts with service providers as needed
- Roles and responsibilities of Beacon Academy- Child Find, Assessment, IEP, LRE, Due Process
- 24 paraprofessionals
- 12 contracted providers
- Reorganizing special education caseload
 - ○ Addition of teachers to support caseload of students needing behavioral support throughout day
 - ○ Current caseload analysis indicates teacher loads are high
 - ■ 6 teachers = 12.50 FTE
 - ○ Shift para need to direct instruction from teachers
 - ○ Will need to revise onsite sp ed leadership
 - • Sp Ed Teachers need additional training support, novice teachers currently employed at Beacon for challenging students, need training budget
 - • Training initiatives for multi-tiered levels of support and increased
 - Response to Intervention momentum in general education to improve
 - Child Find process
 - Consideration of budget proposals for intervention process for general education students (tier 2 and tier 3)
 - • Consideration of budget proposals for special education reorganization
 - ○ Current minutes of special education minutes = 24370
 - ○ Current FTE = 12.50
 - • Consideration of budget proposal for increase sp ed training budget for both novice teachers and paraprofessionals
 - How many teachers do you think is more doable for SPED?- 9 teachers
 - Need to look at service minutes, not number of students

vii. Review/Approve Master Calendar 2026-2027

Motion: To approve master calendar B 2026-2027								
Made by: Stacey Ray			Seconded by: Melanie Spall					
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	X			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil		x	
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision: Motion passed								
Notes:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 calendars • Modeled after Robbinsdale's • Differences- • Calendar A- early start, Robbinsdale is making their grading days as asynchronous days, September 21-PD day, tri 1- 57 days, tri 2- 50 days, tri 3- 57 days, • Calendar B- pushed down and forward one week, more continuity with the trimesters, tri 1 57, tri 2 55, tri 3 52 • Students not showing up the week before Labor Day 								

- c. Dean of Students, Eldred Bach
 - i. Behavior Referral Report (informational)

Notes:

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- Moved to March board meeting

d. Employee Retention and Compensation Committee

i. COLA update (informational)

Notes:

- Tasked with looking at COLA
- 2.0% increase gives a debt service coverage ratio (DSCR) of 1.12 cost increase with benefits \$67,480 fund balance 31%
- 2.5% increase gives a DSCR of 1.10 (where the bond is required) cost increase with benefits \$84,349 fund balance 31%
- Multiple options coming with the FY27 budget
- 2.69% increase from the state next year
- Where are the pressure points?
- Goal is to take Beacon's pay scale and be able to hold it up to other area schools and charter schools is to change box one on the pay scale and cascade it down to the rest of the boxes
- Is this to be done to all categories?
- Will it be on a rotation of categories? Or doing it everyone at the same time?
- Work being done by ERCC and Bridget
- Having a elementary lead teacher and middle school lead teacher

e. Marketing Committee

Notes:

- Kindergarten applications 28% more than last year
- Acceptance rate is 67% kindergarten last year 54%
- Pushed specific marketing towards kindergarten- digital fruit
- Elizabeth Brobeck, Julie Wahl, and Mike Reeder

f. Curriculum Committee

Notes:

-

g. Governance Committee

Notes:

- Provide multiple policies every month

h. Executive Committee

i. Authorizer feedback on committee vs board work (informational)

Notes:

- Minutes from all board level committees need to be published
- Send minutes to Julie Wahl
- Date, time, and location on the minutes and agenda

ii. Board member resignation and appointment filing (informational)

Notes:

- Teacher seat opened
- Appointee will be selected in March
- Appointed for the remainder of the term 2028

iii. Principal Resignation

Notes:

- Michael Reeder has resigned

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iv. Review/Approve establishment of Search Committee

Motion:		To approve establishment of search committee						
Made by:		Matthew Goodman			Seconded by: Rasheda Jenkins			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:		Motion passed						
Notes:								
•								

v. Assign Search Committee members

Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Board will be the search committee and invited others • Keeping it to 6-8 members, no more than 10 members • Meeting every week on Tuesdays at 4:30 • Asking for a person of color • Executive board members, Matthew Goodman 	

vi. Review/Approve search firm proposal

Motion:		To approve MSBA for \$7,900 and \$1,975 for membership for MN school board association						
Made by:		Melanie Spall			Seconded by: Stacey Ray			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:		Motion passed						
Notes:								
•								

vii. Review/approve top leader position title

Motion:		To approve top leader position title as executive director						
Made by:		Matthew Goodman			Seconded by: Stacey Ray			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		

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	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						

Decision: Motion passed

Notes:

- Move back to executive director title
- Look for new leader to define what that looks like
- Work through job description
- Preference in a charter school setting
- Preference in experience in education and leadership
- Gives more flexibility in opening up the field- does not need to have a admin license

viii. School operations update (informational)

Notes:

- none

ix. Strategic Planning Session

Notes:

- Continue to do work
- April 23rd 4:30-6:30

i. Action items

Notes:

- Matheu meeting with 5th grade parents
- Mathew meeting with admin
- Move June meeting to June 18th

IX. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 9:18 pm forwarded by seconded by. Approved unanimously.
 Meeting adjourned

Motion:		To adjourn meeting						
Made by:		Melanie Spall		Seconded by: Stacey Ray				
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	abstain
	Rasheda Jenkins	x			Matthew Goodman	x		
	Patty Blake	x			Melanie Spall	x		
					Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision:		Motion passed						

Notes:

-

Next Regular Meeting: March 19, 2026 at 5:30 pm

Approved on March 19, 2026
Patty Blake, Secretary

Beacon Academy School Board