

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Board Meeting Minutes, March 19, 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 5:37 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	
Hope Reeves	Board Member	x	
Mike Reeder	Ex-Officio	X	
Myla Johnson	Ex-Officio	x	
Eldred Bach	Ex-Officio	x	
Bridget Peterson	Ex-Officio	X	
Kris Gapinski	Board Recorder	x	
Miscellaneous Attendees: Julie Wahl Bonnie- IQS via zoom			

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Choral Reading of Beacon Academy Vision Statement

IV. Approve the Agenda

Motion:	To approve the agenda with the addition of board member seating, removing 8a finance training							
Made by:	Rasheda Jenkins				Seconded by:	Matthew Goodman		
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:								
• N/A								

v. Approval of board member seating

Motion:	To approve the seating of Hope Reeves							
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							

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Notes:
• N/A

vi. Swearing in of new board member

vii. 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.*

Notes:
•

viii. 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

ix. 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 – 2026.2.26
- b. Policies
 - i. 534 Enrollment Policy
 - ii. 538 Concussion Management Policy
 - iii. 540 Homebound Instruction Policy
 - iv. 541 Weapons on School Grounds Policy
 - v. 543 Reporting of Dangerous Weapons Policy
 - vi. 544 Student Promotion and Retention Policy
 - vii. 903 Visitors to School District Building and Sites Policy
- c. Amendment to Contract Maximum of OHD, TBI
- d. ERG-DAPE Services, replacement for original provider on maternity leave
- e. WRT-DAPE Services, replacement for original provider on maternity leave
- f. Personnel Consent Agenda

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda with the removal of policy 903							
Made by:	Melanie Spall				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		
	Hope Reeves	x			Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						

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Decision:	Motion passed
Notes:	•

Policy 903 discussion

Notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustment of all minors on school premises • Alumni being allowed on premises • Children to be allowed on premises with adults • preventing staff from bringing children that are not enrolled at Beacon Academy can cause a liability that • Going back to governance

VIII. Board Reports

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

Notes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students moving is a big reason for going down • 155 application currently in • Same time last year 95 applications • Current enrollment 512 • Families said they come from Robbinsdale, particularly middle school • Word of mouth is still the most exposure about Beacon Academy • Decline rate of 16%, last year's decline rate was 54% • Scheduling additional tours, Tuesdays afternoon and Wednesdays at 5:30 • All 4 that came yesterday have registered • Offering 2 more spots than what we have, covering some drops • Trying to prevent the people that are school shopping from taking up a spot •

- ii. Review/Approve February Financial Report

Motion: To approve the January financial report								
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		
	Hope Reeves	x			Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision: Motion passed								
Notes:								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,595,358 Cash balance at end of the month ▪ • \$781,641 State Receivables which represents an initial estimate for the beginning of the accrual for the current school year hold back ▪ (\$97,670) • State Receivables which represents the remaining amount due to Beacon from the state 10% holdback of the prior school year ▪ • \$189,135 Salary and Benefits Payables estimated. This is for summer salaries as of month-end. • ▪ \$0 Accounts Payable balances as of the end of the month • Adopted Budget: 504 ADM • Revised Budget: 510 ADM • Actual ADM515 ▪ • 67% Percent of the fiscal year completed ▪ 								

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- 66% YTD revenue as a percent of budget based on the revised budget. ▪
- 56% YTD expenses as a percent of budget based on the revised budget. ▪
- \$2,568,179 Projected year end fund balance ▪
- 28% Projected ending fund balance as a % of expense budget
- Transportation and Utilities are a little bit behind due to not being billed
- Salaries are trending a little low- positions that were budgeted that have not been filled
- Timing lag happening
- 83 days projected, 60 days required
- Good report

iii. FY 27 Draft Budget Report (informational)

Notes:

Revenues:

• State

- 510 ADM, equals 540 pupil units
- 2.69% increase in state general education revenue, other per pupil funding based on current (FY26) amounts
- Compensatory is based on current state statute, which is direct certification students only, not paper applications (this is a decrease in revenue from FY26)
- English learner revenue increase per pupil from \$1228 to \$1775 (Beacon has about 60 EL students)
- Lease aid – no change \$1314 per pupil
- Special education reimbursement at 90%
- ADSIS reimbursement at 56%
- School library aid & unemployment aid eliminated

• Federal

- No increase

• Other

- No increase

Expenditures:

- Salary increase of 2%
- Benefits estimated increase of 1% (35%-36% of salary)
- Most contracted services 5% increase (transportation, service providers, insurance, utilities) others at 2%
 - All other lines 2% increase
- Board approval typically in May
- Revenue \$9,404,316
- Keeping conservative on the benefits side
- 35% to 36% on benefits
- Expenses \$9,186,663
- Projected \$200,000 increase to fund balance- 32%
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio 1.2
- Compared to some other charter schools Beacon is comparable to them- Beacon is a little bit below on regular instruction, a little bit more on SPED than other schools
- 5% reduction for SPED transportation, next year another 5% reduction for SPED transportation
- \$21,409/SPED student last year Beacon Academy
- \$21,198/SPED student last year in Robbinsdale
- \$26,000/SPED student last year in Partnership Academy

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- What areas are there that can be cut to allow for staff increases and still have a 32% fund balance
- Is there something that other schools that are spending less per student doing that we can do?
- When talking with employees/potential employees mentioned how much the benefits package is
- Admin is already doing this
- Some contracted services have saved Beacon Academy some money

iv. February 2026 Supplemental Report-Check Register (informational)

Notes:

- How are things being ordered- 7 items for lunch
- Teacher license fee- not a regular teacher- someone that is tier 1

v. Financial training- Charter School Bonds & Bond Holders (informational)

Notes:

- Cut from agenda

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

Notes:

- Mid-year meetings with IQS
- Update on website compliance
- Reminder that this is the renegotiation of contract year with IQS

ii. Staffing Report (informational)

Notes:

- STARS room-
- Concerns from SPED on how they were meeting the minutes that they have
- Drive for an additional position to help with STARS room and in some other areas
- Shifting of funds based on from people that are on leave
- Shifting from intervention, HR, and paraprofessional support- 24 weeks, 12 weeks, 12 weeks
- The position is for 12 weeks
- OT is moving from .9 to 1.0
- Sub agency-Kokua- gathered information- will be incorporating them in with Zen.
- They have a great fill rate
- Kokua is \$20 more than Zen
- Using Zen for paraprofessionals
- Kokua for teachers
- Agreement finalized with Kokua yesterday

iii. New Tour Schedule (informational)

Notes:

- Tuesdays at noon
- Wednesdays at 5:30

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

Notes:

- Middle school- 184 office referrals
- 64 students had 184 behavior referrals and 29 of those students had only 1 referral.
- Of our 226 MS students, 165 did NOT have more than one referral.
- Elementary 138 office referrals
- 43 students had 138 behavior referrals and 15 of those students had only 1 referral.
- Of our 290 Elementary students, 262 did NOT have more than 1 referral.
- 58 suspension letters written- last year 23 suspension letters written

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- d. Employee Retention and Compensation Committee
 - i. scale update (informational)

Notes:

- there is not a lot of wiggle room for scale updates

- e. Marketing Committee (informational)

Notes:

- Summer sponsor Crystal baseball
- Crystal Frolics
- Night to Unite
- Digital Fruit is the biggest
- 286 people submitted to learn about Beacon Academy
- Recommend to move marketing to a board level committee

- f. Curriculum Committee (informational)

Notes:

Intervention materials-

Reading-

Early Intervention in Reading (K-4) \$8,483.40 (including teacher subscription every 3 years)
Rewards (5-8)- \$1,382.00

Math-

Number Worlds- \$5,507.60

MS LA- \$6,000

Novel studies

MS Science online resources \$1,750 (2 years- \$3,500 planned in total below)

Still working on reaching out to see how long this is available before the restructuring of Lab-Aids

Social Studies- \$2,180.00

Purchasing 3rd edition of Northern Lights 6th grade books- 30 student books, along with teacher edition and digital
The online subscription that we currently have will roll over to the new edition. 3 years left on that.

Total is \$27,053.30

Budget \$35,000

Next meeting looking at-

yearly budget of items that need to be purchased yearly

Curriculum review cycle and MDE review cycle- currently a 10-year cycle, which mirrors MDE review cycle. Can it be changed to a 5-year or 6-year cycle. Most subscriptions for teacher/student online access is a 6-year cycle.

Request to purchase a Spanish language Northern Lights and 35 books.

- g. Governance Committee (informational)

Notes:

- Policy 903 change

- h. Executive Committee (informational)

Notes:

- Sign up sheet for interviews for the school board
- Q & A session coming up on March 24
- Virtual Q & A was yesterday

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- Survey is currently open

i. Action items

- Notes:**
- Send out calendar dates with schedule changes
 - Intervention steps
 - Marketing a board level committee

IX. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:02pm forwarded by seconded by. Approved unanimously.
 Meeting adjourned

Motion: To adjourn meeting								
Made by: Stacey Ray					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		
	Hope Reeves	x			Norah Antil	x		
	Stacey Ray	X						
	Matheu Weidenbach	x						
Decision: Motion passed								

- Notes:**
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Next Regular Meeting: April 16, 2026 at 5:30 pm
Next Special Meeting: April 15, 2026 at 4:30 pm

Approved on April 16, 2026
Patty Blake, Secretary
 Beacon Academy School Board