

KIPP ATLANTA SCHOOLS

KIPP Atlanta Schools Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2025

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Meeting Location: 1050 White Street Suite C, Atlanta, Georgia 30310

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/8196287613>

Board Members Present: Salim Bhatia, Zane Major, Frank Glover, Richard H. Deane Jr., Joseph Arnold, Frank Glover, JaKathryn Ross, Stephen Councill, Catherine Mealor, Dawn Griffin, David Jernigan, Joseph Arnold, and Hector Calzada (arrives late)

Honorary Board Members Present: Kathe Brown & Jim Bostic

Zoom Participants: Amber Stewart (KIPP Atlanta Schools Employee)

Staff Members Present: Authur Washington, Jamaul Thomas, Justin Anderson, Lakeesha Ramdhanie, Lawrence Harris, Ra'Chel Ford, Ben Cabeza, Kyla Byas-Smith, Troy Williams, Yolanda Gantz, Myesha Ward & Latrina Coxton

Other Attendees: Chris Adams (Attorney), Merian Yenuda (KIPP Vision Campus & KAC Parent) & Kofi Kinney (KIPP South Fulton Academy Parent & Alum)

The meeting was called to order at **2:10 by the Board Chair, Richard H. Deane Jr.**

- I. Welcome & Agenda**
 - a. A discussion was had regarding the agenda for the Board Meeting
- II. Mission Moment**
 - a. Highlighted class of 2025, including scholarships, graduation rate, total scholarships, and highlighted the Full Promise cohort.
 - b. A discussion was held regarding wrap-around services for seniors and persistence efforts for scholars who attend four-year colleges.
- III. Public Comment- 3 minutes per 7 speaking persons**
 - a. There are no public comment speakers
- IV. Board Chair Updates & Consent**
 - a. **Updates & Consent Items-**
 - i. Updates:**
 1. A discussion was had regarding the results of the APS Audit, which will be shared with Board Chair, Richard H. Deane Jr, Ra'Chel Ford, Joseph Arnold, KIPP Atlanta Schools' legal counsel & and the APS Superintendent
 - ii. Consent Item-Task Force:**
 1. A discussion was had regarding the CEO Search Task Force in alignment with our by-laws
 2. The COD chair provided an overview of the CEO Search Task Force process
 3. A discussion was had regarding engaging external stakeholders in the CEO search

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4. A discussion was had regarding how we will select the search firm
5. A discussion was had regarding the search process task Force
6. The Board is authorizing the Board Chair to appoint a task force that includes, includes Joseph Arnold, David Jernigan, JaKathryn Ross, Hector Calzada & Richard H. Deane Jr.

Board Chair

b. Additional Consent Items:

- i. A discussion was held regarding the consent items
- ii. A discussion was had regarding the policies
- iii. A discussion was had regarding the 2025-2026 SY calendar amendment

c. Vote

- i. A vote was conducted to approve, May 14, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes, 2025-2026 SY Calendar Amendment, Board Policies (Legislative Updates, & Charter Requirements: Attendance, Student Cell Phone, Student Discipline/Code of Conduct, Early Literacy Act, Protect Students First Act) & CEO Search Task Force Approval
- ii. Richard H. Deane Jr. made a motion to approve, which was made by Joseph Arnold, and JaKathryn Ross seconded the motion
- iii. The motion was approved unanimously, with no abstentions, and none opposed

V. CEO Updates | KIPP Happening & Gratitude

- a. The new Managing Director of Scholar Support was introduced.
- b. A discussion was had regarding KIPP happenings & gratitude items

VI. FY26 Budget & Public Comment | Policies

a. FY26 Budget Overview

- i. A discussion was had regarding the FY26 budget
 1. Timeline
 2. Priorities
 3. Highlights
- ii. A discussion was had regarding our targeted enrollment projections
- iii. A discussion was had regarding Fund Balance spend down
- iv. A discussion was had regarding the operating model
- v. A discussion was had regarding compensation updates
- vi. A discussion was had regarding total compensation and the step increase in average
- vii. A discussion was had regarding per-pupil revenue
- viii. A discussion was had regarding FY25B and FY26B Summary Comparison

b. FY26 Budget Public Comment

- i. Ms. Yenuda made Public Comment regarding the impact of cutting the athletic budget on families, whether schools receive equitable financial resources & the importance of maintaining the current operating model and retaining counselors to support scholars' mental and emotional needs.
 - ii. Public comment was made by Mrs. Kinney regarding district-level cuts, how to ensure teachers are developed outside of KIPP Atlanta Schools, and she made an inquiry into why meal budgets were cut.
- c. A discussion was had regarding efforts being made to keep the athletic programs intact
& professional development high quality

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- d. A discussion was had regarding how we can fundraise for regional athletics more
- e. A discussion was had regarding how we are going to connect families with community resources.

f. **FY26 Budget Vote**

- i. A vote was conducted to approve FY26 Budget
- ii. Hector Calzada made a motion to approve the FY26 Budget For the 2025-2026 school year, which was approved by Salim Bhatia and Dawn Griffin seconded the motion.
- iii. The motion was approved unanimously, with no abstentions, and none opposed

g. **Policies**

- i. A discussion was had regarding updated policies
- ii. A discussion was had regarding the updated whistleblower process
- iii. A discussion was had regarding the school advisory council shifting to the KIPP Parent Network. A discussion was had regarding engaging Board members with KIPP Parent Network

h. **Policies Vote**

- i. A vote was conducted to approve the Policies subject to counsel review
- ii. Richard H. Deane Jr. made a motion to approve the policies. This motion was approved by Catherine Mealar, and David Jernigan seconded the motion.
- iii. The motion was approved unanimously, with no abstentions, and none opposed

VII. Executive Session

- a. The Board Chair, Richard H. Deane Jr. shared that we will no longer need to have Executive Session

VIII. Adjourn

- a. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Richard H. Deane Jr. and David Jernigan, approved the motion, which was seconded by Frank Glover.
- b. The motion was approved unanimously, no abstentions and no one opposed
- c. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM
- d. Respectfully submitted by Kyla Byas-Smith