LAYC Career Academy PCS
Board of Trustees Meeting
MINUTES
February 11, 2026
6:15 PM

Trustees Participating: Kate Brannon, Emmanuel Caudillo, Dean D'Angelo, Noemí Enchautegui-de-Jesús, Ana Hageage, Stacy Kane, Lori Kaplan (chair), Benjamin Ruiz, Taylor Whitelaw, and April Elliott (approved as trustee in this meeting)

Absent: Linda Moore, Talib Robinson

Staff and Contractors Participating: Nicole Hanrahan (ED); Erin Tarpley; Ross Knorr (EdOps)

ITEM/SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION/PROPOSED ACTION
Motion to open the meeting	Board Chair Lori Kaplan called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. when it was determined that quorum was present with all but two Board Members in attendance.	A motion to open the meeting was made by Ana Hageage, seconded by Kate Brannon, and approved unanimously.
Leadership coaching for ED	Board Chair Lori Kaplan discussed how to recognize and support Nicole Hanrahan's leadership by funding her pursuit of leadership coaching training to enhance her mentoring of staff and students.	Kate Brannon made a motion to approve up to $15,000 for Nicole Hanrahan to enroll in an executive coaching program of her choice. Emmanuel Caudillo seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
New Board candidate	Lori Kaplan introduced April Elliott, a candidate for board membership. Ms. Elliott's experience as a lawyer was highlighted as an asset for the board.	Ana Hageage made a motion to elect April Elliott to the LAYCCA Board of Trustees. Kate Brannon seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
Approval of Meeting Minutes		Emmanuel Caudillo made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2025 meeting. Benjamin Ruiz seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.
Charter Goals/ASPIRE	Erin Tarpley (LAYCCA Data Manager) explained Charter Goals and ASPIRE framework. Two school-specific performance measures that are aligned with LAYCCA's mission are (1) GED	Ana Hageage made motions to accept two school-specific measures for ASPIRE (to be used for this and next year at least) and a motion to accept Aspire as Charter Goals (for \three years 24-,

	subject test achievement (95% passing rate) and (2) college and career readiness (81% placed in job or secondary education).	up to and including 26-27). April Elliott seconded the motions and they were approved unanimously.
Strategic plan update	Dean D'Angelo, Kate Brannon, and Nicole Hanrahan met previously to discuss the strategic plan and next steps. Committee responsibilities and membership were discussed. 1) Governance – Linda (Chair), Taylor, April and Talib 2) Finance & Audit – Kate, Manny, Dean, Talib 3) Marketing & Development – Ana (Acting Chair), Noemí, Lori and Kate 4) Program – Ana (Chair), Noemí, Manny, Benjamin 5) Executive – Lori (Chair), Noemí, Ana, Kate, Linda	Kate Brannon made a motion to create a marketing committee. Benjamin Ruiz seconded it. Approval was unanimous. Dean D'Angelo made a motion to combine audit and finance subcommittees. It was seconded by Benjamin Ruiz and approved unanimously. Committee chairs will ensure committee members review the strategic plan and convene to articulate priorities that will be shared in Executive Committee meeting.
Audit	Dean D'Angelo found no concerns with the audit; it was a strong year with a balanced sheet and cash flow.	Dean D'Angelo motioned for the board to accept the recommendation of the Audit committee. Emmanuel Caudillo seconded. It was approved unanimously.
Financial Report	Ross Knorr from EdOps presented the financial report. The Academy had 259 days of cash in hand.	A suggestion was made to have the Executive Committee discuss how to replace cash incentives (which will be lost starting in SY26-27 after Northstar disolved).
ED Report	The Executive Director, Nicole Hanrahan, presented school updates. **Facilities**. Full occupancy of the new facilities. Ribbon-cutting planned for May 2026. **Enrollment**. Reached the ceiling of 200 students this year (plus more on a waitlist), including 24 in ELL and 8 in Special Ed programs. Five students have	The Board will meet with the Middle States accreditation team on March 10 and should review in advance the talking points in the briefing paper that will be distributed. It was recommended that board members advocate for the school in the DC council and, relatedly, that that school members articulate policy questions for

	already graduated this academic year. **Attendance.** 74.5% **Middle States Accreditation:** A self-study was completed. New objectives were articulated based on the strategic plan. Role of the Board in the accreditation involves meeting with the accreditation group for dinner and discussing points included in a briefing paper that will be distributed. **Partnerships:** Seeking new partners for financial literacy and cash transfers or stipends. **Advocacy**: Monica Santos, school registrar, and students advocated for adult education funding and transportation subsidies with the DC Council. **Staffing:** The school welcome three new team members to work with data, SPED and the medical assistant program. (e.g., data, instruction). **Charter renewal:** The public charter school board will evaluate classes during the last week of February and the first week of March. The school's 15 year charter renewal is scheduled for SY26-27.	candidates running for positions in DC public offices.
Motion to close the meeting	The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2026.	Kate Bannon made a motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm. Emmanuel Caudillo and Ana Hageage seconded. It was approved unanimously.

The meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov