

**BEEKMAN CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 PM (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEETINGS)
CAFETERIA**

1. Call to Order. Keith Huntsman

The Beekman Charter School Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Keith Huntsman.

2. Roll Call.

Roll call was conducted. The results were as follows:

- Members present: Mario Bershell, Sarah Ellingburg, Keith Huntsman, Mike Stephens, Lori Wallace
- Members absent: Michael Edmonds, Tamika Farrell
- Others in attendance: Samantha Mann, John Merritt, Zemarcus Mays, Abigail Kilcrease, Abigail Atkins, Don McGehee

3. Pledge and Prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sarah Ellingburg. The prayer was led by Mario Bershell.

4. To receive and approve the FY'25 audit report from Mr. Don McGehee. –Abigail Kilcrease

Mr. Don McGehee reported that no non-compliance items were found in the FY'25 audit. He added that his team would work with Mrs. Kilcrease on updating policies in preparation for the next audit, but that Beekman Charter School was in good shape financially. Motion to approve the FY'25 audit report was made by Lori Wallace. Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda.

A. To approve the January 15, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

The minutes were approved with no revisions.

6. To receive February, 2026 Committee Meeting action item reports:

a. Building and Properties – Mike Stephens

- i. To discuss and approve auctioning items around Beekman Charter School.*

Mike Stephens reported that they approved of auctioning items around Beekman Charter School.

- ii. To discuss and approve the purchase of a bus that has been accounted for within the budget.*

No action was taken.

- iii. To use CMAR RFQ and Procurement procedure to bid and construct the Jr. High Building.*

Mike Stephens moved to approve the use of CMAR RFQ and Procurement procedure to bid and construct the Jr. High Building. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

b. Personnel and Student Affairs- Lori Wallace

i. *There are no items for this committee.*

c. Finance Committee- Tamika Farrell

i. *To receive and approve the January, 2026 Financial Report.*

Keith Huntsman moved to approve the January, 2026 Financial Report. Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

ii. *To get pre/approved for a loan up to \$3.5 million from Century Next Bank. (Using BCS collateral for the loan similar to what we did with the Tiger Athletic Facility.)*

Keith Huntsman moved to approve the loan of up to \$3.5 million from Century Next Bank. Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

d. Academic Excellence Committee- Sarah Ellingburg

i. *To discuss the evaluation rubric and receive a report from Mrs. Mann on pupil progress.*

This item was discussion only. No action was taken.

ii. *To discuss common sense wording of the evaluation rubric for the Executive Director's evaluation.*

This item was discussion only. No action was taken.

7. To approve the June 2025 Financial Reports. –Abigail Kilcrease

Motion to approve the June, 2025 Financial Reports was made by Lori Wallace. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

8. To discuss strategy for being included in the MPSB G.O. Bond tax proposal. –Keith Huntsman

Given the hurdles that we have encountered in being included in the Morehouse Parish School Board's G.O. Bond tax proposal, Mr. Huntsman called upon the Board to strategize our next plan of action. He urged the Board and administration to be united and unwavering in our stance. No action was taken.

9. To receive Administrative Reports from:

a. Zemarcus Mays, Operations Manager

Mr. Mays' report included updates on staffing, campus improvements, the addition of another bus, technology, insurance claims, and more. Mike Stephens made a motion to present an award of recognition to Taylor Freeland for his work. Seconded by Lori Wallace. Motion carried. Mrs. Mann assured the Board that he would receive recognition at next month's meeting along with the teacher of the year acknowledgements.

b. John Merritt, Principal

Mr. Merritt provided information in regard to academics, athletics, and campus activities such as observations, Math and Literacy Night, baseball, softball, and more. Keith Huntman assigned administrators, Mrs. Waller, Mrs. Allred, and Mrs.

Dantzler to present a mid-term report at the next meeting. He would like to see four pie charts that include positive details about BCS.

c. Samantha Mann, Executive Director

Mrs. Mann reported on mid-year literacy and math data, testing schedules, meetings, conferences, and preparation for the 2026-2027 school year.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.