

**BEEKMAN CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 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, and the results were as follows:

- Members present: Mario Bershell, Michael Edmonds, Sarah Ellingburg, Tamika Farrell, Keith Huntsman, Mike Stephens, Lori Wallace
- Members absent: none
- Others in attendance: Samantha Mann, John Merritt, Zemarcus Mays, Abigail Kilcrease, Abigail Atkins, Tony Cain, Kayce Waller, Jessica Allred, Amy Dantzler, Greg Hill

3. Pledge and Prayer.

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

4. To discuss the bond issue. –Samantha Mann

Tony Cain prepared a power-point presentation to help the Board make an informed decision about the bond. He cited LA R.S. 17:3982B(2)a and LA R.S. 17:3995 regarding proportionate share requirements. In addition, he explained the financial impact the bond would have on Beekman Charter School and provided options for next steps. No action was taken.

5. Consent Agenda.

A. To approve the December 11, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

The minutes were approved with no revisions.

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

a. *Building and Properties – Mike Stephens*

- i. To discuss the continuation or pause of the construction timeline process.*
Mike Stephens moved to continue with the timeline as planned until given further directive. Seconded by Lori Wallace. 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 December, 2025 Financial Report.*
Tamika Farrell moved to approve the December, 2025 Financial Report.
Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

d. *Academic Excellence Committee- Sarah Ellingburg*

i. To discuss the executive director's evaluation.

This item was for discussion only. No action was taken.

7. To receive approval for investing money received from Employee Retention Credit in the amount of \$1,311,600.21. –Abigail Kilcrease and Samantha Mann

Mrs. Kilcrease explained to the Board that we have been awarded \$1,457,333.56 for the Employee Retention Credit. The agreement required that we pay the company ten percent of that for their services in filing the claim. She did warn that the IRS has up to two years to audit the claim and possibly require us to pay that back with potential penalties and interest. Mrs. Kilcrease and Mrs. Mann recommended investing this money until the two year window has passed. Motion to approve investing the money received from the Employee Retention Credit in the amount of \$1,311,600.21 into a money market account at Century Next Bank was made by Tamika Farrell. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

8. To receive Administrative Reports from:

a. Zemarcus Mays, Operations Manager

Updates on operations departments staffing, technology, insurance, and more were included in Mr. Mays' report.

b. John Merritt, Principal

Mr. Merritt's report included information on observations, mid-year data, team talks, athletics, etc.

c. Samantha Mann, Executive Director

Mrs. Mann provided updates on the LAPCS Conference, Larma, Bond Commission, and the CSP Grant.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.