

**BEEKMAN CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025
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 by Abigail Atkins. The results were as follows:

- Members present: Mario Bershell, Michael Edmonds, Sarah Ellingburg, Tamika Farrell, Keith Huntsman, and Mike Stephens
- Members absent: Lori Wallace
- Others in attendance: Samantha Mann, John Merritt, Zemarcus Mays, Abigail Kilcrease, Abigail Atkins, Jessica Allred, Kayce Waller, Amy Dantzler
- Mike Stephens made a motion to amend the agenda to add the item, "To discuss the MPSB issue about the per pupil tax renewal disbursement," as item number five. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. A roll call vote was conducted. The results were as follows:
 - Mario Bershell: yes
 - Michael Edmonds: yes
 - Sarah Ellingburg: yes
 - Tamika Farrell: yes
 - Keith Huntsman: yes
 - Mike Stephens: yes
 - Lori Wallace: absentMotion carried.

3. Pledge and Prayer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sarah Ellingburg. The prayer was led by Michael Stephens.

4. Consent Agenda.

A. To approve the September 25, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

The minutes were approved with no revisions.

5. To discuss the MPSB issue about the per pupil tax renewal disbursement. –Keith Huntsman

Mr. Huntsman explained our position with Morehouse Parish at this time. Morehouse Parish School Board would like to renew a millage – a sales tax that can be used for capital improvements. According to charter funding law R.S. 17:3995(A)(1), charter schools are entitled to their per pupil amount of money from ad valorem taxes, etc. However, we have encountered some opposition from MPSB. Tamika Farrell suggested

that we draft a letter to try to get a meeting with the Morehouse Parish School Board of Directors. Samantha Mann stated that she would have our attorney draft the letter as soon as possible. No action was taken.

6. To receive November, 2025 Committee Meeting action item reports:

a. Building and Properties – Mike Stephens

- i. *To discuss the MPSB issue about the per pupil tax renewal disbursement.*

This item was moved to the Board of Directors meeting.

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 September, 2025 Financial Report.*

Tamika Farrell moved to approve the September, 2025 Financial Report.

Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

- ii. *To receive and approve the October, 2025 Financial Report.*

Tamika Farrell moved to approve the October, 2025 Financial Report.

Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

d. Academic Excellence Committee- Sarah Ellingburg

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

7. To approve the FY25 Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire. –Abigail Kilcrease

Mrs. Kilcrease provided the Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire. This questionnaire is a required part of the annual financial audit of Louisiana charter schools. Motion to approve the FY25 Legislative Auditor's Compliance Questionnaire was made by Tamika Farrell. Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

8. To approve the 25/26 budget revision as of November, 2025. –Abigail Kilcrease and Samantha Mann

Mrs. Kilcrease provided the 2025-2026 budget revision as of November, 2025. Some changes noted were: an overall student count increase from 970 students to 1,004 students, which increased MFP by \$401,114.20; payoff of the \$700,000 loan that totaled \$696,575.60; and, various projects that were not received by June 30, 2025 becoming expenses for the 2025/2026 school year. Motion to approve the 25/26 budget revision as of November, 2025 was made by Tamika Farrell. Seconded by Michael Edmonds. Motion carried.

9. To approve a BCS January 2026 Check for Certified (\$1,500) and Support (\$750) Staff to be paid on Friday, January 9, 2026. –Samantha Mann

Mrs. Mann advised the Board that this check has already been included in the budget revision. Mario Bershell recused himself from voting. Motion to approve a BCS January 2026 Check for Certified (\$1,500) and Support (\$750) Staff to be paid on Friday, January 9, 2026 was made by Tamika Farrell. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

10. To receive Administrative Reports from:

- a. Zemarcus Mays, Operations Manager

Mr. Mays' November report included updates on the completion of the Tiger Athletic Pavilion; staffing; technology issue resolutions; plans for the junior high building; and other updates. He also suggested that we name the Tiger Athletic Pavilion after former principal, Roy McCoy to honor him for all of his contributions to Beekman Charter School. Sarah Ellingburg made a motion to name the Tiger Athletic Pavilion after Roy McCoy. Seconded by Tamika Farrell. Motion carried.

b. John Merritt, Principal

Mr. Merritt's report included updates on academics such as the social studies fair, Team talks, observations, and other campus events. He also included updates on Athletics in reference to basketball and football.

c. Samantha Mann, Executive Director

Mrs. Mann's report included information on allotments from state and federal Funds, the CSP Grant, and other conferences.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.