BEEKMAN CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 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 results were as follows:
   - Members present: Mario Bershell, Sarah Ellingburg, Keith Huntsman, Tamika Jones, Mike Stephens, Lori Wallace
   - Members absent: Mike Edmonds
   - Others in attendance: Samantha Mann, Zemarcus Mays, John Merritt, Abigail Kilcrease, Kayce Waller, Carrie Evans, Jessica Allred, Abigail Atkins, Earl Crumley, Amanda Wilkinson

3. **Pledge and Prayer.**
   The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sarah Ellingburg. The prayer was led by Mario Bershell.

4. **Consent Agenda.**
   A. To approve the August 13, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.
   B. To approve the August 25, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.
   The minutes were approved with revisions to item 16 in the August 13, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes.

5. **To receive September 10, 2026 Committee Meeting action item reports:**
   a. Building and Properties – Mike Stephens
      i. There were no items on the agenda for this committee.
   b. Personnel and Student Affairs- Lori Wallace
      i. There were no items on the agenda for this committee.
   c. Finance Committee- Tamika Jones
      i. To receive and approve the August, 2026 Financial Report.
      Tamika Jones moved to approve the August, 2026 Financial Report. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.
   d. Academic Excellence Committee- Sarah Ellingburg
      i. There were no items on the agenda for this committee.

6. **To enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter. –Keith Huntsman**
   A motion to enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter was made by Tamika Jones. Seconded by Lori Wallace. A roll call vote was conducted. The results were as follows:
   - Mario Bershell: yes

- Mike Edmonds: absent
- Sarah Ellingburg: yes
- Keith Huntsman: yes
- Tamika Jones: yes
- Mike Stephens: yes
- Lori Wallace: yes

Motion carried.

A motion to exit executive session to discuss a legal matter was made by Sarah Ellingburg. Seconded by Tamika Jones. A roll call vote was conducted. The results were as follows:

- Mario Bershell: yes
- Mike Edmonds: absent
- Sarah Ellingburg: yes
- Keith Huntsman: yes
- Tamika Jones: yes
- Mike Stephens: yes
- Lori Wallace: yes

Motion carried.

No action was taken.

7. **To deliver building origin and financing information to BCS board. –Zemarcus Mays**

   Mr. Mays provided a building history map and explained that he is keeping this information updated in a binder and a spreadsheet. The yellow boxes on the map indicate that he has documentation on the building. Blue indicates that more information needs to be gathered from the parish. Mr. Huntsman asked that he send the spreadsheet to the board and resend it to them each time updates are made. No action was taken.

8. **To discuss assigning at least two BCS administrators to attend Morehouse Parish School Board's monthly open meetings. –Keith Huntsman**

   Mr. Huntsman explained that there had been a couple of instances in which we were excluded from funding or other things from the parish. This might have been avoided had we had someone present to make sure we are informed. The Board agreed with idea of having a rotating schedule in which at least one administrator could be present at parish meetings. Tamika Farrell made a motion to approve assigning one administrator to attend Morehouse Parish School Board's monthly open meetings. Seconded by Lori Wallace. Motion carried.

9. **To discuss using District 12 money in the amount up to $10,000 to add small bleachers by this weekend at the football field. –John Merrit**

   Mr. Merritt stated that this item could be tabled at this time. The operations team had moved other bleachers from smaller athletic grounds to get through this season. He empathized that we will need bleachers in the future, but the accommodations made would suffice for now. No action was taken.

10. **To discuss a future project of adding 500 seats to the home bleachers. –Keith Huntsman**

    This addition has proved to be necessary, and will be looked at prior to the start of school next year. Administration will see what we have available in the budget next year for this project and bring back quotes as well. No action was taken.

11. **To discuss the financial impact of the expiration of the S.O.S. tax, including Local Effort funding, MFP revenue, and related financial obligations. –Keith Huntsman**

    Keith Huntsman would like to see something in writing from LDOE's finance leader, Beth Scioneaux showing how the calculations are made at the next meeting. He would also like to see the administration's proposal of where $188,000.00 would come from within the budget. No action was taken.

12. **To approve the school-wide threat assessment policy and expulsion policy. – Samantha Mann**

    Mrs. Mann presented an expulsion policy that would implement minimum off campus requirements and a school-wide threat assessment policy that ensures any weapon related threats would be immediate referrals. Tamika Jones made a motion to approve both the school-wide threat assessment policy and expulsion policy. Seconded by Sarah Ellingburg. Motion carried.

13. **To approve the employee handbook and the student handbooks. –Samantha Mann**

    Lori Wallace made a motion to approve the employee handbook and the student handbooks. Seconded by Mike Stephens. Motion carried.

14. **To receive Administrative Reports from:**

    a. Zemarcus Mays, Operations Manager

    Mr. Mays gave details of work that has been ongoing in the multiple operations departments. He also provided information on insurance claims, building projects, and safety.

    b. John Merritt, Principal

    Mr. Merritt's report included information concerning academics and professional development, as well as campus activities, school spirit, athletics, and facilities.

    d. Samantha Mann, Executive Director

    Mrs. Mann highlighted enrollment, the charter renewal, the Optimist Club, the LDOE meeting, and LARMA.

15. **To tour the student bathroom facilities after the meeting. –Mike Stephens**

    At the Board's request, administration led the Board on a tour of the requested facilities after the meeting. No action was taken.

16. **Adjourn**

    The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.