

MINUTES (in Review)



METHOD SCHOOLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS- REGULAR MEETING

Name:	Method Schools Corporation
Date:	Tuesday, March 3, 2026
Time:	6:04 PM to 6:56 PM (PST)
Location:	Method HQ, 27232 Via Industria, Temecula, CA 92590
Board Members:	Carolyn Andrews, Gloria Vargas, Shannon Clark, Steven Dorsey, Tyler Roberts
Attendees:	Jessica Spallino, Jade Fernandez, Mark Holley, Pete Getz, Sarah Avanesian, Sarah Delawder, Tracy Robertson, Yvette Serratos, Eve Laurelin
Apologies:	Stefanie Bryant

Notes:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Method Schools (“School”) welcomes your participation at the School’s Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors is to conduct the affairs of the School in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. The following guidelines for have been established for consistency and legal compliance in regard to public comment:

- **Agenda Items:** Members of the public may address the Board on any agenda item before or during the Board’s consideration of that item (Gov. Code §54954.3). Requests to comment must be submitted using this [Public Comment Request](#) at least 48 hours prior to the Board meet at which you’d like to speak
- **Non-Agenda Items:** A general comment period is provided for matters within the Board’s jurisdiction **not listed** on the agenda. The Board cannot take action on non-agenda items except as allowed by law.
- **Time Limits:** Speaker time may be limited to 3 minutes per person, and the Board may set a reasonable overall time limit. All speakers will be given at least one opportunity to comment.
- **Language Access:** When translation is provided, public comment time will be translated and doubled in accordance with Gov. Code §54954.3(b).
- **Accommodations:** If you require a disability-related accommodation or auxiliary aid to participate, please contact Method Human Resources hr@methodschools.org at least 48 hours before the meeting.
- **Conduct:** The Board may not restrict comment based on viewpoint. However, speakers must follow rules of order and not disrupt the meeting.
- **Recording:** Members of the public may record or broadcast the meeting if it does not disrupt proceedings (Gov. Code §54953.5).

1. Call to Order

1.1 Roll Call

Start: 6:04 PM

Board Members:

Present: Tyler Roberts, Steven Dorsey, Shannon Clark, Gloria Vargas, Carolyn Andrews

Absent: None

Staff:

Jessica Spallino

Mark Holley

Jade Fernandez

Pete Getz

Sarah Delawder

Sarah Avanesian

Tracy Robertson

Yvette Serratos

Eve Laurelin

1.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Item(s)

- None

2. Closed Session: 6:04 PM

2.1 Potential Litigation

3. Open Session: 6:15 PM

3.1 Report Out from Closed Session (if any action taken)

- None

4. Management Reports

4.1 CEO Report

- Jessica Spallino:
 - OKRs:
 - CAASPP Dashboard: Goal met.
 - P1 ADA: Goal met.
 - P2 ADA: On track to be met.
 - NPS Score: Outcome not yet projected.

- New Staff:
 - MSA Student Success Manager: Brian Eldred
 - Pete Getz: Transitioned to Director of College & Career Readiness/High School Counseling
- Graduation Rate:
 - Projected growth for 2026.
 - Will continue efforts to further increase graduation rates.
- Leadership Development Program (LDP):
 - The enrollment team is now called Experience Specialists, a refinement inspired by *Unreasonable Hospitality*.
 - Ongoing efforts to strengthen teams across the Business dept., HR, Enrollment, etc.

4.2 CBO Report

- No updates

5. Major Decisions

5.1 2026-27 Staff Calendar

- Jade Fernandez: We have an MSA (Method Summit Academy) calendar that largely mirrors the Method Schools calendar. Currently, we have a 184-day calendar for MSA, and a 219-day calendar is also available as an option for use next year.



2026-27 Staff Calendar

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Shannon Clark
Seconder: Gloria Vargas
Outcome: Approved

5.2 Operations & Special Education MOU- Method Schools & Dehesa School District

- Jessica Spallino: We updated the document with Dehesa. There are no material changes—just general language adjustments, updates to reflect our agreement with Dehesa, and a SPED portion as well.



Operations & Special Education MOU- Method Schools & Dehesa School District

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Tyler Roberts
Seconder: Steven Dorsey
Outcome: Approved

5.3 Compensation: 2026-27

- Mark Holley: We're proposing a 6% increase for staff (≈3% COLA + 3% raise), keeping reserves strong. We're proposing an FSA contribution increase from \$500 to \$1,000—the first update in 13 years. OKR bonuses remain at 6% if all goals are met. Our goal is to maximize support for staff.



Compensation: 2026-27

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Steven Dorsey
Seconder: Shannon Clark
Outcome: Approved

5.4 Recurring New Charter Stipend

- Jessica Spallino: Bringing on a new LEA adds significant work for the Executive team, HR, Enrollment, and Business, but not instructional. Proposed stipends: \$5,000 annually for the executive team and \$2,500 for HR, Enrollment, and Business teams, per new LEA. Effective retroactively July 2025 (clarification added for context).



Recurring New Charter Stipend

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Gloria Vargas
Seconder: Steven Dorsey
Outcome: Approved

5.5 Infrastructure Quote- Additional hours to support SF to Canvas move

- Sarah Delawder: Request for additional funds. Originally estimated at 2,000 hours to migrate course content from SmartFox to Canvas, now projected at 3,500 hours. Note: item title should be "Instructure" rather than "Infrastructure."



Infrastructure Quote- Additional hours to support SF to Canvas move

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Gloria Vargas
Seconder: Steven Dorsey
Outcome: Approved

5.6 Board Policy 3080- Donations & Funds Solicitation

- Mark: MSA (Method Summit Academy) has interest from parents and others in making donations. This policy clarifies that we are not soliciting donations, either in-kind or cash.



Board Policy 3080- Donations & Funds Solicitation

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Gloria Vargas
Seconder: Steven Dorsey
Outcome: Approved

5.7 2nd Interim Financial Reports

- Eve Laurelin:
 - Reviewed 2025–26 projected ADA; Method Schools has the highest ADA and is receiving the largest funding allocation.
 - Overall organizational funding and cash flow remain healthy.
 - MSA has an estimated \$150K shortage; an intercharter loan will be used while awaiting funding to arrive.
 - Expenditure priorities for the year have been evaluated.



2nd Interim Financial Reports

2nd Interim Financial Reports

- Method Schools
- Method Schools, LA
- Method Summit Academy

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026

Mover: Shannon Clark
Seconded: Tyler Roberts
Outcome: Approved

5.8 4140 Leave Policy Revisions

- Tracy Robertson: Minor update to include leave provisions for foster care and adoption.



4140 Leave Policy Revisions

- Revised to include foster/adoption leave (pg. 3)

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Steven Dorsey
Seconded: Gloria Vargas
Outcome: Approved

6. Public Hearings

6.1 Presentation of LCAPs

- Jade Fernandez:
 - **Overview:** Method Schools, Method Schools LA, and Method Summit Academy share similar goals; updates focus on Method Schools LA and Method Summit Academy.
 - **Method Schools, LA 2025-26 Performance Highlights:**
 - Progress in academic achievement, graduation and college readiness, organizational strength, and student engagement.
 - Improvements in CAASPP performance, graduation rates, staff satisfaction, and attendance; chronic absenteeism declined.
 - Parent Advisory Committee membership increased.
 - **Method Schools, LA 2026–27 Strategic Priorities:**
 - Goals: Increase academic achievement, deepen stakeholder engagement, strengthen MTSS framework, expand access and sustainable growth.
 - Initiatives: Expand curriculum and interventions, launch counseling leadership, grow student leadership/extracurriculars, continue professional development, increase enrollment, expand The Academy, and enhance retention/college pathways.
 - **Method Summit Academy 2025–26 Performance Highlights:**
 - Gains in academic achievement, including increased English Learners reaching “Well Developed” status.
 - Established baseline for iReady diagnostics; 48.6% of students at/above benchmark in ELA and 43.7% in Math.

- Progress in graduation and college readiness, with focus on A–G completion, strengthened counseling, and individualized graduation planning.
- **Method Summit Academy 2026–27 Strategic Priorities:**
 - Goals: Increase academic achievement, deepen stakeholder engagement, strengthen MTSS & student supports, increase outreach and retention.
 - Initiatives: Strengthen core curriculum, expand intervention systems, improve academic monitoring, develop tiered reengagement plans.
 - Engagement: 4% of school population on Parent Advisory Committee; 89% staff achieving midyear evaluation scores; enrollment ~89 with retention/reengagement focus.
- Eve Laurelin:
 - About 10–12% of total general expenditures will be spent on LCAP funding: approximately \$1 million for Method Schools LA and Method Schools San Diego, and \$215K for Method Summit Academy.

6.2 Public Hearing: 2025–26 (LCAP)

- No public comments.

7. Consent Items

7.1 Confirm Minutes

Method Schools Board of Directors Regular Meeting Dec 9, 2025, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



7.1 Confirm Minutes

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Shannon Clark
Seconder: Gloria Vargas
Outcome: Approved

7.2 Checking and Amex Registers Check/ACH/Expense registers for 12/1/25-1/31/26



Checking and Amex Registers Check/ACH/Expense registers for 12/1/25-1/31/26

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Shannon Clark
Seconder: Gloria Vargas
Outcome: Approved

7.3 Quarterly Investment Results



Quarterly Investment Results

5 Supported: Carolyn Andrews , Gloria Vargas , Shannon Clark , Steven Dorsey , Tyler Roberts

0 Opposed:

0 Abstained:

Decision Date: Mar 3, 2026
Mover: Shannon Clark
Seconder: Gloria Vargas
Outcome: Approved

8. Discussion

9. Close Meeting

9.1 Close the meeting

Next meeting: Method Schools Board of Directors- Regular Meeting - Jun 3, 2026, 6:00 PM

Signature: _____

Date: _____