

Weber State University Charter Academy

Governing Board Meeting - Minutes

Tuesday, September 30, 2025 5:30pm -7:00pm

This meeting will be held in person at the WSU Charter Academy
1351 Edvalson Street 1301, Ogden, Utah 84408

Governing Board Members

DeeDee Mower, Professor, Teacher Education, Governing Board Chair - Present
Crystal Knippers, State of Utah Division of Licensing and Background Check, Board Treasurer
Present via Google meet
Hailey Gillen-Hoke, Associate Professor, Communications - Present via Google meet
Mosiah Gonzalez, Assistant Professor, Child and Family Studies - Present at 5:54pm
Samantha Hill, Nutrition Instructor, Exercise and Nutrition Sciences - Present
Angela Page, DNP, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing - Present
Marilyn Taft, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education - Present

Invited Participants

Debbie Vaughn, WSUCA Executive Director - Present
Melanie Feser, WSUCA Administrative Assistant - Present
Laura Banda, Consultant - Present via Google meet
Sheila Anderson, Early Childhood Education Faculty Program Chair - Present
Gina Cook, Early Childhood Education Faculty - Absent
Jeneille Larsen, Director of the MSL Children's School - Present
Stephanie Hollist, University Legal Counsel - Present
Tanner Boyd, University Legal Counsel - Present
Abel Mkina, WSU Accounting Services - Absent

Item	Action
Welcome and Check-In by DeeDee Mower at 5:38pm	No
Review of Minutes Governing Board Meeting Draft Minutes Draft Minutes August 11, 2025 presented by DeeDee Mower. Motion to Approve the Governing Board Meeting Minutes of Draft Minutes August 11, 2025 M / S: Angela Page / Hailey Gillen-Hoke Vote: Aye 5 / Nay 0 Motion: Pass (Marilyn joined after this item)	Yes
Public Comment (Limited total of 10 minutes, 2 minutes/speaker) There was No Public Comment	No
Review of School Budget Crystal reviewed the School Budget with the Governing Board. SY25 Budget Update (August 2025)	Yes

Governing Board Discussion included:

- Tanner Boyd outlined the difference between reviewing and updating only section 3.2 of the Bylaws, as compared to the entire section 3, as compared to the full Bylaws. There are substantive updates in other section 3 areas to consider, as well as non-substantive updates in section 2.
- Hailey Gillen-Hoke expressed the need for time to review and clarify on proposed updates, as they very recently received the document.
- Marilyn Taft suggested that the new / incoming Governing Board should be the body to review and make Bylaw updates. Should it be the existing Board making the updates for the incoming Board?
- Tanner confirmed that with the existing Bylaws Dean Rich's office has the power to remove or appoint Governing Board members.
- Sheila Anderson stated that it is her recommendation, based upon her experience, that there be a Board member who has extensive Early Childhood experience and expertise.
- The Board discussed their role as an independent Board versus inter-dependence. Several Board members expressed desire to ensure the Executive Director maintains autonomy to do their job.

Motion to Approve Governing Board proposal and restructure including Bylaws Section 3.

M / S: Mosiah Gonzalez / Marilyn Taft

Vote: Aye 0 / Nay 6

Motion: Motion Does Not Pass (Mosiah Gonzalez left meeting)

Governing Board discussion continued regarding Governing Board restructure.

Highlights include:

- Existing Bylaws allow the Board to move forward without a vote, as Dean Rich's office has the power to remove or appoint Governing Board members.
- Discussion of current Board requesting that Sam Hill remain on the Board as Parent Representative, Crystal Knippers remain on the Board as Community Member and Marilyn Taft remain on the Board as WSU Faculty representative.
- Suggestion for a motion of support of the three members to continue on the Board and the current Board review Bylaws during the upcoming week, and coming together at the next Board meeting to review and update.
- Angela Page noted it is important to consider the composition of the Board as whole, instead of a particular person. Checks and balances are important, especially in consideration that we are a unique lab school.
- Hailey Gillen-Hoke stated are we supportive of Bylaws right now to have Julie decide the Board Members, and take into account this evenings discussion for her as a Board to motion to be considered and recorded.
- Sam Hill stated she is not supportive of this proposed motion as she has spent over 60 hours collaborating with Stephanie, Tanner and Roy. What the Board received the proposed Bylaw updates was not what they agreed to. Questioning transparency and collaborative process. Can't move forward in good conscience

with an appointed chair - power imbalance. They also discussed whether the Bridge committee is necessary and it is included in the proposal. Current Board members would fill positions as applicable and that is also not included.

- DeeDee stated she has trust in Julie to move the school forward.
- Sam brought up the point that she asked that Tanner coordinate with the School Consultant and they had not.

Motion to Approve to support the Dean to make restructure of the Board with the proposal of 5 members on the Board: 1) Vice Provost, 2) Dean of Social Sciences/Education or designee, who has extensive experience with early childhood education, 3) Community Member, 4) WSUCA Parent member, 5) WSU Faculty member.

M / S: DeeDee Mower / Angela Page

Motion Amended: Add: Consider that one person on the Board to have expertise in early childhood education.

M / S: DeeDee Mower / Angela Page

Motion Withdrawn by DeeDee Mower

Governing Board discussion continued regarding Governing Board restructure.

Highlights include:

- Hailey Gillen-Hoke stated it is hard to move forward when you come to a meeting planning/preparing for one discussion and being informed of something else.
- DeeDee asked the Board do you want to meet in a week and come back for a vote regarding the Bylaws?
- Roy commented it appears there are three areas to clarify, 1) Chair appointment of members, 2) Bridge Committee misunderstanding, 3) Consultant involvement. He felt all of these areas can be navigated and easily resolved together.

Motion to Approve to convene a Governing Board Meeting next week to review Bylaws and come to consensus and vote on Bylaws.

M / S: Angela Page / DeeDee Mower

Motion Withdrawn by Angela Page

Governing Board discussion continued regarding Governing Board restructure.

Highlights include:

- Marilyn Taft returns to meeting
- The Governing Board discusses and reviews the options to move forward.

Motion to Move We Support Dean Rich in reorganization of the Governing Board under the current Bylaws, not including the proposed redlines.

M / S: Marilyn Taft / DeeDee Mower

Vote: Aye 4 / Nay 1

Motion Passes

Motion to Approve to support Dean Rich in careful consideration that Crystal

Knippers and Sam Hall continue as members of the Governing Board to ensure smooth transition and bridge from existing Board to new Board. M / S: Marilyn Taft / DeeDee Mower Vote: Aye 4 / Nay 0 / Abstain 1 Motion: Motion pass Governing Board Business discussion item: Forming Governing Board Hiring Committee, was not discussed during the meeting. Governing Board Business discussion item: Authorization to Post for Executive Director Position, was not discussed during the meeting.	
Consent Agenda (None at this time)	Yes
Closed Session (optional) - There was no closed session held • A motion to enter a closed session in accordance with Utah Code 52-4-205 for the purpose of discussion of litigation matters, acquisition of real property or authorized personnel issues. • Action, if any, from closed session	Yes Yes
Adjourn Meeting at 7:45pm Motion to Adjourn the Meeting M / S: Angela Page / Crystal Knippers Vote: Aye 5 / Nay 0 Motion: Pass	Yes