Scholar Academy
Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 03.26.2026
Location: 928 N 100 E Basecamp 1, Tooele, UT 84074
In Attendance: Dusty Griffith, Johanna Leonelli, Traelle Gailey, Collin Post
Excused: Neil Garner, Jacob Howarth
Others in Attendance: Jeff Hall, Sandy Shepard, Priscilla Stringfellow, Hannah Jones

Scholar Academy is committed to creating a learning environment that fosters in students the development of divergent thinking and problem-solving skills, providing opportunities which enable all students to develop a sense of civic responsibility and achieve their highest potential.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER Dusty Griffith called the meeting to order at 5:14 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

This was the second public comment period for the proposed 2026-2027 Fee Schedule. There were no public comments.

CLOSED SESSION - to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(I)(a).

At 6:02 PM Dusty Griffith made a motion to enter a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(I)(a) at Scholar Academy in Tooele, UT. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

At 6:34 PM Dusty Griffith made a motion to leave the closed session and enter the general meeting. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

BOARD TRAINING

Ongoing board training supports effective governance, informed decision-making, and compliance with statutory requirements. Board members participate in a minimum of three training sessions each year to strengthen their understanding of fiduciary responsibilities, policy oversight, and best practices in public education governance. These trainings ensure the board remains aligned with legal standards and well-equipped to serve the school community. Utah law (Utah Code § 52-4-104) requires all members of a public governing body to complete annual training on the Open and Public Meetings Act (OPMA). The Utah Open and Public Meetings Act (OPMA) (Utah Code § 52-4) requires state and local public bodies to conduct business openly, allowing public attendance at meetings where official action or deliberations occur. Priscilla Stringfellow facilitated the Open and Public Meetings Act Training. Board members reviewed the training materials provided. Sandy Shepard led a compact review of the school's charter. Dusty Griffith led a board auditing training.

REPORTS

- Director's Report

  Jeff Hall reported that Panorama is being implemented for the required early warning system. The Gifted and Talented application has been submitted with a focus on high-achieving students and exceptional students. The 2025-2026 Title IX report was shared with the board. The discrepancy in the report was that the school does not offer boys' volleyball currently. It is in the plan that if the school can offer boys volleyball at any point, then they will. The positive behaviors plan report was given, highlighting all the different areas and activities that support the positive behavior plans at the school. Minimal changes were needed in the plan and there will be continued implementation and refinement. The 2026-2027 School LAND Trust plan was proposed to the board. The School Land Trust plan is consistent with prior years and there is an increase in funding which will be allocated to the highest-impact academic areas with continued focus on student engagement and applied learning. As part of the school's ongoing strategic plan, there has been a focus on strengthening classroom management and instructional practices across the school. This year there has been extensive professional development to support teacher growth and improve student outcomes. The primary focus for teachers has been consistency in classroom management and increasing the clarity and effectiveness of instruction. 32 teachers participated in 8 professional development opportunities nationwide. All teachers participated in schoolwide literacy and math trainings. In total, staff completed over 148 days of professional development which equates to approximately 1,100 hours of training.
- Budget Report

  The board reviewed the budget report and summary that was provided in the board documents. As of February 28th, that is 67% of the way through the fiscal year. Operating cash is up year over year. The daily Zions operating accounts have $1,712,300 and the PTIF accounts have a balance of $3,861,388 giving a total operating cash balance of $5,573,688. Scholar Academy has an additional $1,345,43 in restricted cash. The school's cash position remains very strong. Supplies and materials are up by 8%. Equipment expenses are related to the new playground, and the capitalized furniture and fixtures expense is related to interior door locks which were paid for using School Safety Grant funds. Total revenue is at 66.5%. Total expenditures are at 59.1% of the budget.

CONSENT ITEMS

- January 29th Board Meeting Minutes
  Traelle Gailey made a motion to approve the January 29th board Meeting Minutes. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

VOTING & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Board Member Terms, Roles, and Elected Officers
  Sandy Shepard has completed her leave of absence and will resume her position as a board member. Neil Garner will be stepping down from his position on the board. The board expressed their appreciation to Neil for stepping in as a board member and for his time and effort.
  Traelle Gailey made a motion to reinstate Sandy Shepard as a board member with Neil Garner stepping down from his role as a board member. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- Technology Purchases
  Board members discussed the use of technology in the K-3 classrooms, and the direction administration is going for future use of technology in the classroom. I-pads and cases are being purchased to support the reallocation of technology throughout all grades.
  Dusty Griffith made a motion to approve the Technology Purchases as discussed not to exceed $60,000. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- 2026-2027 Fee Schedule
  There were no changes made to the 2026-2027 Fee Schedule. The Fee Schedule includes a description of all fees charged, the amount of the fees, and how the fees will be spent by the school. The fee schedule had two public comment opportunities prior to board approval.
  Traelle Gailey made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Fee Schedule. Sandy Shepard seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Jacob Howarth, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- 2026-2027 School LAND Trust Plan
  Jeff Hall presented the 2026-2027 School Land Trust Plan to the board. Each year the school receives funding through the Utah School LAND Trust Program which distributes state school land trust revenue to support improved student academic achievement.
  Dusty Griffith made a motion to approve 2026-2027 School LAND Trust Plan. Johanna Leonelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty

Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- Award RFP for Landscaping and Snow Removal
  The evaluation committee statement was reviewed by board members. The evaluation committee believes that Chad's Lawn Service proposal provides the best value to the school in connection with these services.
  Sandy Shepard made a motion to Award the RFP for Landscaping and Snow Removal to Chads Lawn Service. Collin Post seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- Administrative Salary Schedule
  Board Chair Dusty Griffith led a discussion proposing an administrative salary schedule as the administrative team may be undergoing some restructuring.
  Sandy Shepard made a motion to approve establishing an administrative salary schedule. Traelle Gailey seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

- Policies
  - Amended Fee Waiver Policy
  - Amended Administration of Medication Policy

  This item was tabled. The policies will be brought back to a future meeting.

CALENDARING

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 28th, 2026. The board will be in communication to determine the time and place of the meeting, and the location, date, and time will be updated accordingly on the Utah Public Notice Website.

ADJOURN

At 7:37 PM Traelle Gailey made a motion to adjourn. Collin Post seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Dusty Griffith, Aye; Johanna Leonelli, Aye; Jacob Howarth, Aye; Collin Post, Aye; Traelle Gailey, Aye.

Scholar Academy
Board of Directors Closed Session
Meeting Date: 03.26.2026
Location: 928 N 100 E Basecamp 1, Tooele, UT 84074

SCHOLAR ACADEMY
ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

CLOSED SESSION SWORN STATEMENT:

At a duly noticed public meeting held on the date listed above, the board of directors for __Scholar Academy____ entered into a closed session for the sole purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 52-4-2(1)(a).

I declare under criminal penalty under the law of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed on the 26th day of March, located in Tooele, UT.

Dusty Griffith, Board Chair