Mastery Schools

Mastery Charter High School
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Pickett Campus
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Clymer Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Gratz Campus
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams Academy
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Cleveland Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School Pastorius-Richardson Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Charter School John Wister Elementary
Board of Trustees Meeting

Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2026
6:00– 8:00 p.m.
Meeting Held Virtually Via Zoom

I. Roll Call & Video

MCHS

Present: Sulaiman Rahman, Jaime Serrano, Dee Dukes.
Absent: Bob Victor, Jordan Rambo
Quorum: 3/5

All Boards

Present: Maurice Jenkins, Gerry Emery, Renee Porter-Sanders, Ryan Stewart, Judy Tschirgi
Absent: Roy Wade Jr., Virgil Sheppard
Quorum: 5/7

Begin: 6:00

II. Action Resolution

R-260603-1a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to accept the minutes of the Board meeting of Mastery Charter High School from May 6, 2026, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-1a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-1b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to accept the minutes of the Board meetings of Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus, Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus, Mastery Charter School Pickett Campus, Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary, Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary, Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary, Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams Academy, Mastery Charter School Gratz Campus, Mastery Charter School Clymer Elementary, Mastery Charter School Cleveland Elementary, Mastery Charter School Pastorius-Richardson Elementary, Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School, Mastery Charter School John Wister Elementary, and Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School from May 6, 2026 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-1b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

III. Hiring, Separation, Transfer Approvals

R-260603-2a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to ratify staff hired between April 28, 2026, and May 26, 2026, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-2a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-2b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to ratify staff hired between April 28, 2026, and May 26, 2026, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-2b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-3a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to ratify staff separations between April 28, 2026, and May 26, 2026, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-3a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-3b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to ratify staff separations between April 28, 2026, and May 26, 2026, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-3b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

IV. Finance (Dan Bell)

R-260603-4a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve the proposed FY27 budget, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-4a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-4b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to approve the proposed FY27 budget, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-4b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-5a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve the reserve methodology and preliminary fund balance designations for FY26, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-5a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-5b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to approve the reserve methodology and preliminary fund balance designations for FY26, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-5b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-6a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve the management agreements, including Technology Subscription Services and Regional Special Education Programming, with Mastery Schools for FY27 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-6a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-6b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to approve the management agreements, including Technology Subscription Services and Regional Special Education Programming, with Mastery Charter High School for FY27, as presented. This includes:

- Management fees - 10% of School District of Philadelphia per pupil revenues
- Technology subscription fees as follows:

School	FY27 Tech Fee
Cleveland	$174,000
Clymer	$105,000
Douglass	$131,000
Gratz HS	$253,000
Hardy Williams	$295,000
Harrity	$189,000
Mann	$138,000
Pastorius	$163,000
Pickett	$220,000
Prep Elem	$146,000
Shoemaker	$181,000
Smedley	$184,000
Thomas HS & EL	$311,000
Wister	$125,000

- Regional Special Education Programming – Established percentage of School District of Philadelphia per pupil revenues for each student placed in the program

Motion to Approve **R-260603-6b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-7a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to ratify execution of FY26/FY27 contracts with vendors, as presented.
Motion to Approve **R-260603-7a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-7b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to ratify execution of FY26/FY27 contracts with vendors, as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-7b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-8 (Thomas, Shoemaker, Pickett, Hardy Williams, and Prep Elementary Boards, only)
Resolved, to approve the 2025-26 Pennsylvania Department of Education Applications for Charter School Lease Reimbursement Program for Mastery Charter Thomas Campus, Mastery Charter Shoemaker Campus, Mastery Charter Pickett Campus, Hardy Williams Academy Charter School and Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School. Motion to Approve **R-260603-8:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-9 (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve funding of the NST- Advocacy and Outreach team with philanthropy and accept a $500,000 grant from Mastery Charter Schools Foundation to cover FY26 costs, consistent with historical practice. Motion to Approve **R-260603-9:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-10a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve the updated Finance Policy and Procedures manual as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-10a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-10b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to approve the updated Finance Policy and Procedures manual as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-10b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Discussion:

- Bob Victor requested clarification on why the Commonwealth per pupil rates are so high?
- Dan Bell responded that we are seeing an increase in our State special education funding to support students with high needs, particularly students who are going out to approved private schools.
- Bob O'Donnell also added that because of the outstanding litigation still in front of the court, the legislature and the governor have agreed to try and keep ahead of that issue, and continue to maximize funding so that it does not lapse back to the court, and the court has to decide what the level of funding will be.
- Dr. Joel Boyd also elevated the important work that our finance team has done in order to build the financial infrastructure to support the educational plan, in both communities we serve, particularly in the city of Philadelphia, and we are being very thoughtful and disciplined to make sure that we're building up the reserves to support our students in a forward-thinking way, because we know the fiscal outlook is not positive at this time.

- Dr. Ryan Stewart requested clarity on the process of how the finance advisory board receives information about each contract and the approval process.
- Mr. Emery confirmed for the Board that the contracts up for approval, have gone through the conflict-of-interest process, and there are no conflicts of interest to discuss at the Board level.
- Mr. Bell affirmed that all contracts have gone through full vetting. They go through a significant process looked at by the finance team, by core parties, have a distinct conflict of interest overview process, and there are no conflicts.
- Mr. Bell informed the board that Mastery utilizes a system called Ironclad, which is a contract lifecycle management process, that allows Mastery's finance team to properly vet any potential conflicts of interest.
- Dr. Boyd agreed that as a next step we can review policies, particularly related to our financial stability, and come back with a report.

V. Compliance (Michael Patron)

Board Appointments

R-260603-11 (MCHS only)
Resolved, to reappoint Sulaiman Rahman as a member and Chair of Mastery Charter High School's Board of Trustees with a two-year term ending June 30, 2028. Motion to Approve **R-260603-11:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval. Mr. Rahman abstained.

R-260603-12 (MCHS only)
Resolved, to reappoint Dee Dukes as a member and Secretary of Mastery Charter High School's Board of Trustees with a two-year term ending June 30, 2028. Motion to Approve **R-260603-12:** Jaime Serrano; Second Sulaiman Rahman Motion passes with unanimous approval. Ms. Dukes abstained.

R-260603-13 (MCHS only)
Resolved, to reappoint Jaime Serrano as a member of Mastery Charter High School's Board of Trustees with a two-year term ending June 30, 2028. Motion to Approve **R-260603-13:** Dee Dukes; Second Sulaiman Rahman Motion passes with unanimous approval. Ms. Serrano abstained.

R-260603-14 (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to appoint Virgil Sheppard as Secretary of Mastery Schools' Board of Trustees. Motion to Approve **R-260603-14:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery Motion passes with unanimous approval. Mr. Sheppard abstained.

PA Board Meeting Calendar Adoption

R-260603-15a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to adopt the Board meeting calendar for SY 2026-27 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-15a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-15b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to adopt the Board meeting calendar for SY 2026-27 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-15b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Employee Handbook

R-260603-16a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to adopt the revised Employee Handbook for SY 2026-27. Motion to Approve **R-**

260603-16a: Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-16b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to adopt the revised Employee Handbook for SY 2026-27. Motion to Approve **R-260603-16b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Student-Family Handbook

R-260603-17a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to adopt the Student-Family Handbook for SY 2026-27 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-16a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-17b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to adopt the Student-Family Handbook for SY 2026-27 as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-17b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Discussion:
- Dee Dukes requested clarification about the cell phone policy and if this means that students will have no access to their cell phones.
- Rana Shariatdoust shared that our policy is very similar to other school districts and will provide options for students to store their devices. This supports student engagement in between bell schedules. Mastery also has provisions for emergencies in place for students to have access to their devices in the event they need to communicate with their families during school hours.
- Ms. Dukes also asked if the policy will be enforced during school year 2027.
- Ms. Shariatdoust replied that, in collaboration with the Communications team, Mastery is building a comprehensive toolkit to roll out policy and implementation instructions, The plan is to roll out those preliminary communications before the close of this school year.
- Judith Tschirgi requested clarity on how Mastery expects student engagement to increase if this policy is similar to how we handled cell phone use last year.
- Ms. Shariatdoust provided an example from our Pickett campus and that by banning cell phone use even during transition periods there was an obvious shift in school culture where students were engaging with each other in productive ways as opposed to the added distraction which insights more less productive interactions between students.
- Jaime Serrano added we should consider a crisis response in times where a parent is trying to get in touch with their child and no one answers. That detail should be clarified for all parents and caretakers of students to reduce panic.
- Ms. Shariatdoust added that the communication tool kits should be ready to roll out to families by mid-July, and the team will ensure that there is language surrounding an effective plan in response to situations of crisis.
- Renee Porter-Sanders elevated students' social-emotional learning and the importance of having full buy-in to all policy changes from the families. She then asked if a survey would go out for all campuses to see how this policy would land with our families.
- Ms. Shariatdoust responded that she will connect with our parent action team and culture leadership to generate a survey for families to take.

Title I Schoolwide Plans

R-260603-18a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to approve the SY 2026-27 Title I Schoolwide Plan as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-18a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-18b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to approve the SY 2026-27 Title I Schoolwide Plans as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-18b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Comprehensive Plans

R-260603-19 (Douglass, Hardy Williams, and Prep Elementary Boards only) Resolved, to approve the SY 2026-29 Comprehensive Plans for Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams, Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School, Mastery Charter School Prep Elementary as presented. Motion to Approve **R-260603-19:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Thomas HS Future Health Care Professionals CTE Program

R-260603-20 (Thomas Board only)
Resolved, to appoint the Occupational Advisory Committee for Thomas's new Future Health Care Professionals program. Motion to Approve **R-260603-20:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery, Motion passes with unanimous approval.

AI Policy

R-260603-21a (MCHS only)
Resolved, to adopt the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy as presented, to guide the responsible, ethical, and effective use of generative AI across the organization. Motion to Approve **R-260603-21a:** Jaime Serrano; Second Dee Dukes Motion passes with unanimous approval.

R-260603-21b (All Boards, No MCHS)
Resolved, to adopt the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy as presented, to guide the responsible, ethical, and effective use of generative AI across the organization. Motion to Approve **R-260603-21b:** Renee Porter-Sanders; Second Gerry Emery. Ryan Stewart voted no, and all others voted yes. Motion passes with 4/5 approval.

Discussion:
- Dr. Ryan Stewart shared his concerns regarding the academic dishonesty guidelines if and when a student uses AI as a research tool and later is accused of having "cheated".
- Dr. Boyd confirmed that his concerns are valid. However, Mastery will emphasize collaboration between students and teachers to leverage AI to support academic achievement without degrading the integrity of the students' learning experience. Teachers are also learning these tools in real time. We will be rolling out instructional guidance with approved resources like Microsoft Copilot designed by our Director of Digital Literacy.
- Dr. Boyd confirmed that our instructional guidance documents will address all of the concerns that the Board raised. However, he asked, the Board for the discretion to be able to include those concerns and those flags within the guidance documents we provide to staff and not try to include those within the policy. In mid-year we will come back and Dr. Varevice and Dr. Baldwin will share what this looks like in real time.

VI. Public Comments
- 3 minutes per public comment

VII. End
- Adjourn All Boards