



PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL – CENTRAL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL
August 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM
HELD AT PROVIDENT CHARTER SCHOOL – WEST AND VIA ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Curtis Kossman*	Dan Lynch	Maria Paluselli
David Baker		Dr. Rachel Owens*
Julie Shepard		Darlene Brown*
Terry Smith*		Alan Shuckrow
Sallie Richards		Vivi Besteman*
Dr. Jean Ferketish*		
Sheila Conway*		
Dan Sponseller*		

*Via Zoom

Curtis Kossman convened the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 9, 2026 regular meeting and the July 21, 2026 special meeting were reviewed by the Board.

ACTION: Upon motion by David Baker, seconded by Curtis Kossman, the June 9, 2026 regular meeting and the July 21, 2026 special meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Finance Report & Vendor Purchases

Finance Report

Darlene Brown presented the financial report for June and July 2026. Ms. Brown noted a balance in the cafeteria fund of \$56K in June and \$54K in July; a balance in the general fund of \$1.4M in

June and \$553K in July; a balance in the money market account of \$3.5M in June and \$2.1M in July (due to a \$1.5M transfer to the investment account); and a school district receivables balance of \$523K in June and \$431K in July. In addition, Ms. Brown noted that the investment account balance increased from \$5.1M in June to \$6.6M in July.

ACTION: Upon motion by Curtis Kossman, seconded by Julie Shepard, the financial report for June and July 2026 was unanimously approved.

Vendor Purchases

Darlene Brown presented the vendor purchases for June and July 2026, which were generally ordinary and routine.

ACTION: Upon motion by Curtis Kossman, seconded by David Baker, the vendor purchases for June and July 2026 were unanimously approved.

Operations/Facilities Updates

Curtis Kossman shared operations/facilities updates and reported that nearly a year after the agreement for air conditioning in the Annex was signed, work has finally commenced on that project. In addition, Mr. Kossman reported that the school is in the process of publicly bidding roof repair work for the Annex. Regarding the elevator project, Desmone recently met with the City of Pittsburgh to discuss permitting requirements and a variance related to the sprinkler system and other fire-safety measures that were previously identified as building requirements. The discussions were productive, and the project specifications will be revised accordingly. It was determined that the connecting wing is not considered part of the full building for purposes of the sprinkler requirement, so the entire building will not need to be sprinklered. However, the connecting wing will require additional fire separation measures, including fireproof windows. Permittable documents are expected within 30-45 days, after which the school anticipates being able to bid the connecting wing work to general contractors. The Board also discussed funding for the remaining project costs, including using available cash on hand if sufficient funds are available, which is subject to further review by the Finance Committee.

Enrollment & Hiring Reports

Enrollment Report

Maria Paluselli provided an update on projected enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year. Ms. Paluselli reported that as of the date of the meeting, 264 students have indicated an intent to return for the 2026-2027 school year, together with 3 who are in the process of enrolling and 53 who are enrolled. Projected enrollment for 2026-2027 is currently 320 students. Ms. Paluselli noted that the enrollment figures reflect a total of 50 new students, and contemplate the biggest Eighth Grade class the school has ever had (at 45 total students).

Hiring Report

Ms. Paluselli reviewed the hiring report. There were 10 salaried new hires to report, including several Third through Sixth Grade Teachers, a School Nurse, and a Resource Room Teacher. In addition, there was one hourly new hire, a Day-to-Day Substitute, and there were 15 promotions/role changes/transfers. There were three separations, including two Third Grade Teachers and a Fifth Grade Teacher.

ACTION: Upon motion by Curtis Kossman, seconded by David Baker, the Hiring Report was unanimously approved.

Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. to discuss a confidential legal matter. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:27 p.m.

Adjournment

Maria Paluselli shared that the next School Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at PCS Central. In addition, Ms. Paluselli shared that the Board is working to finalize a date for the fall Board retreat, which will likely occur at the end of September.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.