

Bridgewater Academy Charter School Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 18 September 2025

Location: Virtual & Bridgewater Academy

Time: Meeting convened at

Attendees:

- Sherry Pinto
- Ashleigh Wade
- Tara Mcneil
- Dary Rupnik
- K. Eaddy
- Bryce Alexander
- Cynthia Erickson
- Ms. Martinez
- Roxanne Craft
- Brandy Johnson
- Marissa Levisen
- Russel McDowell
- Nicholas Swan
- Ms. Toler

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 by Roxanne Craft.

Invocation, pledge of allegiance

2. Public Comments:

Moved to public comment at 5:36 by Roxanne Craft.

Alex Martinez states no public comment.

Ms. Toler states no public comment.

Mr. Alexander states no public comment.

Ms. Erickson states no public comment.

Mr. Rumpnik states no public comment.

Mr. Swan states no public comment.

Ms. McNeil states no public comment.

Ashleigh Wade stated that due to technical issues we do not have the transcripts or video recording from May or June. Due to that, complete minutes could not be created, however she compiled minutes with information available (principal's report, agenda) and created minutes that are in compliance with the law. She suggested we fix whatever is causing our recordings not to work before January law changes where we are required to upload video recordings of meetings.

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mr. McDowell, seconded by Ms. Levisen, to approve the minutes from May, June, and July.

5. Reports

- **Financial Report:**
 - Heather Kirby visited today. Due to that she won't be present at board meeting today. However, in October she will be present again.

Nicole McDowell joins the meeting.

Roxanne Craft asked if Mrs. McDowell has public comment.

Mrs. McDowell states no public comment.

6. Principal's Report:

- **Enrollment 160**
 - Dr. Pinto states we are doing better than day 135 and we don't wish to go below 160.
- **State Test Scores:** October 16th release date

- **Cafeteria Enrollment Update:** Continue to exceed last year's numbers for breakfast and lunch
 - Mr. Manny states averaging 100 lunches and 80 breakfasts. Meals are reimbursable.
- **Audits & Insurance Renewals**
- **Facilities Manage Updates**
 - Working well and he's handling the details around the school
 - HVAC working well
- **Upgrading Security System**
 - CPI the extra \$5,000 is because they'd need to remove the AVS and swap out with new components
 - Dr. Pinto states she is pleased with AVS so far
 - Waiting on ADT—have not been responsive. The commercial version is called Evergrow.
 - CPI and AVS are close in price.
 - Roxanne Craft states that this is a priority to improve our security due to events occurring in the world.
 - Brandy Johnson requests an alternative price quote
 - Brandy Johnsons asks the cost of every classroom having a swipe card
 - Ms. Toler states that when we got our new phone system, every teacher does have the ability to call out for 911
- **Playground Issue**
 - There is safety matting beneath swings on playground. Dr. Pinto requested for Mr. Meyers to see what it would cost to surface the Gaga pit due to mud. The people who came out to quote stated we needed safety resurfacing in all the places on the playground.
 - To do a full epoxy resurface it would be \$40,000 to get that done on our entire playground.
 - We are awaiting 2 other quotes
 - Roxanne Craft requests we look at other options such as rubber mulch.
 - Roxanne Craft states the priority is drainage
- **Crawl Space and Drainage**
 - Mr. Meyer has expressed concern about the crawl space and drainage. Moisture is being trapped beneath the building. The building was never meant to be a permanent structure.
 - \$83,000 would be the cost to repair this and add structure to keep it from being damaged again
 - We currently don't have additional quotes, but there is concern about the potential for future damage
 - Dr. Pinto states there is concern with investing into a building and land we don't own.
 - Mr. McDowell states concerns and considerations for the project especially in regards to us not owning this building.

- Roxanne Craft requests we get secondary quotes and look at the next tier down in skirting for pricing.
 - **Sheds**
 - Dr. Pinto requests the possibility to destroy and remove dilapidated sheds (\$900) and a new shed would be \$1,500—\$2,000.
 - Roxanne Craft requests get another quote and board members will vote via e-mail.
 - **October 10th-14th**
 - Plan to buff and wax the floor so it can dry without the footprints
 - Working with Phoenix on coming out to do deck repairs and stain
 - **Principal Goals**
 - 1 point away from being above average on elementary scores
 - Increase by 10% the number of elementary students exceeding expectations on SCReady
 - Creating an AI policy that mirrors Horry County Schools
 - Would love to get to 165 by day 135
 - Add one more non-academic club after school by January
-

7. Old Business

- **Board Election Plan**
- **Budget Committee Meeting**
- **Committee Discussion**

Rolling these topics into New Business

7. New Business

- **Facility Department Updates:** New facility manager is working out well. Making sure were being fiscally responsible.
- **Security Update** Covered in principal report.
- **Board Election Plan** Plan to reach out thank you to those who applied. Plan to run election in October.
- **Established Board Committees:** Committees within board to help support the chair and the principal and to help everyone have a voice. Discussing the possibility for different committees such as a facilities and ground committee, budget committee, community committee
 - Committees don't have to be board members
- **Ground Facility Manager:** Marissa Levisen states that she saw Mr. Meyer waving at people to cars and picking up trash and states that she loves seeing how friendly and engaged he was.
- **Family Fun Night:** Marissa Levisen suggests a second Family Fun Night and the possibility of having t-shirts or stickers to help spread the word.

- Dr. Pinto states that we've discussed having a school store for things like t-shirts and car magnets.

Dr. Pinto states that Bridgewater was asked to present on December 2nd at the School Fair

We were asked to take the same presentation to Hilton Head for the annual charter school conference.

Mr. McDowell discussed different options for embroidery on sweaters or t-shirts or merch.

8. Approval to Move to Executive Session

Topics of discussion: Personnel, contractual, legal matters.
Expected to last for 15 minutes.

Motion by Roxanne Craft, seconded by Ashleigh Wade, to move into executive session at 6:46 pm.

Roxanne Craft calls the regular meeting back to order at 7:01 pm

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Russel McDowell, seconded by Marissa Levisen.

- **Vote:** Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm

Minutes submitted by: Ashleigh Wade, Secretary

Date of submission: 18 September, 2025