



Innovation Charter High School
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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

6:00 PM

1. Roll call/sign in

Board Chair, Ms. Latoya Massey, called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Board members present: Latoya Massey, Callie Hull, Tavannie Perez, Yani Peña, Eric Reyes, and Julia Baly.

Innovation staff present: Kezina Brown, Portia Stanley, Daniel Martin, Tereena Somayya, Emily Bierwirth, Micaiah Logan, and Michelle.

The meeting was accessible in person at all of the locations listed on the notice of meeting, in accordance with Innovation's Procedures Governing Public and Member Participation at Board Meetings, and was also accessible via a Zoom video conference link. Quorum was met.

2. Filing of Notice of Meeting

A notice of the meeting was sent to the NY Times and posted publicly at the school and on its website.

3. North Star Data Team (Dean of Student Affairs)

Enrollment: 330 students currently enrolled. Transfer activity ongoing (approvals of transfers-in alongside discharges). Three students slated for removal by age/choice; supports provided for a postpartum student.

Summer School & Credit Review: Average 80% summer attendance. Of 177 initially flagged students, 112 required summer school, 56 enrolled, 49 remained active. 72 of 79 credits accrued. Strong partnership with Washington Irving continuing. Recommendation to expand Regents prep and consider full-time staffing.

Graduation Progress: Class of 2026 (85 students) – 13 on track for early graduation; 57 on track by credits. August Regents results (ELA 3 passed, U.S. History 7/9, Earth Science 1). Graduation rate remains 86.4%.

Attendance: Stronger than last year's opening weeks. Early interventions at 95%

attendance. Advisory competitions with catered lunch incentives; SWIPE text alerts piloted. Monthly “ABC” (Attendance, Behavior, Course pass rate) touchpoints instituted.

Restorative/SEL: Early trends include technology misuse and late returns from senior lunch. Sixteen students suspended from lunch for lateness; restorative conversations and parent outreach held. Classroom disruptions addressed through teacher supports; three mediations completed.

Staffing Update: Vacancies remain in STEM (6) and Humanities/Financial Literacy (2). Several hires in progress. Recruiting shifted from Indeed to LinkedIn and referrals.

Family Engagement & Calendar: PTO retreat held; PTO obtained EIN/501(c)(3). Increased social media engagement boosted applications. PTO met Sept 1 in new library; Back-to-School Night (Sept 10) drew 33 families. Efforts underway to increase family turnout and leverage student-led outreach. Student & Parent Handbook finalized pending minor edits. Incentives discussed, including covering prom cost for on-track seniors and community vendor partnerships.

4. Committee Reports (Committee Chairs)

Finance – Budget-to-actuals requested for current and prior year. Pension and year-end audits in progress; audit review anticipated at following board meeting. Additional funding requests to be discussed in Executive Session.

AEC – Kickoff scheduled for Friday, with intent to meet monthly.

PRC – No meetings or business conducted.

5. Other Business

- Charter renewal submitted; feedback pending.
- District-wide Safety Plan posted for 30 days; will be presented Oct 1 and then reposted in final form.
- College & Career Readiness: SAT prep provided by Union Settlement during lunch two days per week; seniors prioritized for November exam. Juniors receive prep in CCR 11; PSAT in CCR 10; CCR 9 focuses on foundational skills. Exploration of additional weekend and vendor partnerships underway.

6. Public Speaking

No public speakers.

7. Executive Session

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:05 pm to discuss finances. No formal votes were taken.

8. Adjournment

The public session was closed at 7:04 pm; the Board entered Executive Session at 7:05 pm.