

**MINUTES**

Commission Meeting (Part 1)

October 16, 2025

Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, TN

Video Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6r5jnah2h88>

**Note:** These minutes correspond to the video recording. Each item has a minute counter assigned to the subject location in the audio file.

**Welcome and Call-to-Order**

**00:00:00-00:13:25**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**

Action of the Commission

**Roll Call/Quorum**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Present
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Present
Terence Patterson	Present
Eddie Smith	Present
Lauren Smith	Present
Chris Richards	Present

**Outcome:** 6 of 9 present; quorum established

**Approval of Agenda**

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Meeting Agenda**

**Motion made by: Tom Griscom | Seconded by: Eddie Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; agenda approved

**Approval of Prior Minutes**

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Prior Minutes from August 27, 2025**

**Motion made by: Tom Griscom | Seconded by: Eddie Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent

Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; minutes approved

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**Business Operations Committee Report**

**00:13:25-00:16:38**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Lawrence Walker to present the FY26 Commission Budget to Actuals Update and FY27 Budget Request Update.

**School Performance and Accountability Committee Report**

**00:16:38-00:20:26**

Terence Patterson, Committee Chairman, recognized Maggie Lund to present the SY25-26 School Year Update and the TISA Accountability Report.

Action of the Commission

**Approval of the TISA Accountability Report**

**Motion made by: Terence Patterson | Seconded by: Tom Griscom**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes

Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

**Rules, Policy, and Governance Committee Report**

**00:20:26-00:26:50**

Lauren Smith, Committee Chairman, recognized Ashley Thomas to present the LEA Policy, Commission Policy, and Commission Rule Updates.

Action of the Commission

**Approval of LEA Policy 5104 on first and final reading**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Lauren Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Commission Policy 3.710 on first reading**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Lauren Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Commission Policy 3.010 on final reading**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Lauren Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes

Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Commission Rule 1185-01-01-.04 on final reading**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Terence Patterson**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

Action of the Commission

**Approval of Commission Rule 1185-01-04 on final reading**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Lauren Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

**Strategic Plan Update**

**00:26:50-00:31:25**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Pam Lehman to present the Strategic Plan Update.

**Executive Director Update**

**00:31:25-00:32:47**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Tess Stovall to present the Executive Director update.

**Legislative Update**

**00:32:47-00:37:44**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Hayden Pendergrass to present the Legislative Update.

**New Start Appeals Overview**

**00:37:44-00:39:49**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Tess Stovall and Ashley Thomas to present an overview of the appeal process.

**New Start Appeal – Jackson Museum School**

**00:39:49-01:17:45**



Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Hayden Pendergrass to present statements received and to introduce representatives.

- Presenter – Dr. Teresa McSweeney, Jackson-Madison County Schools
- Presenter – Dr. Jean Little, Jackson Museum School

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Tess Stovall to present the Jackson Museum School appeal.

Action of the Commission

**Approval to overturn the denial of Jackson Museum School**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Chris Richards**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

**Break**

**01:17:45-01:27:28**

**New Start Appeal – Rocketship TN#4**

**01:27:28-01:54:25**

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Hayden Pendergrass to present statements received and to introduce representatives.

- Written Statement – Rutherford County Schools

- Presenter – Eric Dailey, Rocketship TN #4

Action of the Commission

**Approval to overturn the denial of Rocketship TN #4**

**Motion made by: Eddie Smith | Seconded by: Terence Patterson**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

**Adjournment and recess**

**01:54:25-01:55:07**

Action of the Commission

**Motion to recess meeting until Friday, October 17, 2025**

**Motion made by: Terence Patterson | Seconded by: Lauren Smith**

<b>Committee Member Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
Michael Carter	Absent
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent

Alan Levine	Absent
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Yes
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

**Outcome:** 6 ayes; 0 noes; motion approved

Chris Richards recessed the meeting to be continued on October 17, 2025.