



MINUTES

Commission Meeting

April 17, 2026

Davy Crockett Building, Room 1A, Nashville, TN 37243

Video Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KguUFmep3jg>

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

00:00:00-00:03:16

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

Roll Call

Action of the Commission

Roll Call/Quorum

Commission Member Name	Attendance
Michael Carter	Present
Tom Griscom	Present
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Present
Tom Marino	Present
Terence Patterson	Present
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Present
Chris Richards	Present

Outcome: 7 of 9 present; quorum established

Approval of Agenda

Action of the Commission

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion made by: Michael Carter | Seconded by: Lauren Smith

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; agenda approved

Approval of Prior Minutes

Action of the Commission

Approval of Prior Minutes from January 23, 2026

Motion made by: Alan Levine | Seconded by: Terence Patterson

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes

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

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; minutes approved

Public Comment

00:03:16-00:05:47

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Hayden Pendergrass to present public comments.

Hayden Pendergrass read a public comment from Bob Nardo.

Business Operations Committee Report

00:05:47-00:07:47

Michael Carter, Committee Chairman, recognized Lawrence Walker to present the FY26 budget updates, and Tennessee Language Center and PowerSchool agreements.

Action of the Commission

Approval of Tennessee Language Center Interagency Agreement

Motion made by: Lauren Smith | Seconded by: Chris Richards

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes

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

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Action of the Commission

Approval of PowerSchool Agreement

Motion made by: Michael Carter | Seconded by: Lauren Smith

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

School Performance and Accountability Committee Report

00:07:47-00:09:45

Terence Patterson, Committee Chairman, recognized Beth Figueroa to present the Financial Update to the SY24-25 Annual Report, Nashville Collegiate Prep's interim Review, Commission School Interventions, and the SY25-26 Update.

Rules, Policy, and Governance Committee Report

00:09:45-00:13:32

Lauren Smith, Committee Chairman, recognized Ashley Thomas to present LEA Policy 6910, Commission Policy 3.400, and Commission Rule 1185-01-04.

Action of the Commission

Approval of LEA Policy 6910 on first reading

Motion made by: Terence Patterson | Seconded by: Tom Marino

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Action of the Commission

Approval of Commission Policy 3.400 on final reading

Motion made by: Tom Marino | Seconded by: Lauren Smith

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent

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

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Action of the Commission

Approval of Commission Rule 1185-01-04 on first reading

Motion made by: Tom Marino | Seconded by: Lauren Smith

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Replication Application

00:13:32-00:42:15

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Tess Stovall, Beth Figueroa, and Ashley Thomas to present the replication process.

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Tess Stovall to present the application for Libertas School of Memphis.

Action of the Commission

Approval of the application for Libertas School of Memphis

Motion made by: Tom Marino | Seconded by: Terence Patterson

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Charter Agreements

00:42:15-00:44:59

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Ashley Thomas to present Knowledge Academy at the Crossings and The Rock Academy Charter Agreements.

Action of the Commission

Approval of the Charter Agreement for Knowledge Academy at the Crossings

Motion made by: Michael Carter | Seconded by: Tom Grissom

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Approval of the addendum to The Rock Academy Charter Agreement

Motion made by: Lauren Smith | Seconded by: Tom Marino

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes

Chris Richards	Yes
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Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Vice Chairman Election

00:44:59-00:51:49

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, presented nomination and election requirements for the Commission Vice Chairman. Commissioner Lauren Smith was nominated for Vice Chairman.

Action of the Commission

Approval of Vice Chairman for the Charter School Commission

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

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Open Meetings, Open Records, and Conflicts of Interest

00:51:49-00:56:01

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, recognized Ashley Thomas to present Open Meetings, Open Records, and Conflicts of Interest Requirements.

Strategic Plan Update

00:56:01-00:59:29

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

Legislative Update

00:59:29-01:10:00

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

Executive Director Update

01:10:00-01:12:39

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

Adjournment

01:12:39-01:13:10

Action of the Commission

Approval to adjourn meeting

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

Commission Member Name	Vote
Michael Carter	Yes
Tom Griscom	Yes
Thomas Lehrman	Absent
Alan Levine	Yes
Tom Marino	Yes
Terence Patterson	Yes
Eddie Smith	Absent
Lauren Smith	Yes
Chris Richards	Yes

Outcome: 7 ayes; 0 noes; motion is approved

Chris Richards, Commission Chairman, adjourned the meeting