



Storefront Academy Charter School  
May 2026 Board Meeting  
Thursday, May 21, 2026, 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting Minutes

## ATTENDEES

**Trustees:** Atta Acheampong (vice chairman), Richard Bayles, Jasmine Reed, Jonathan Stearns (treasurer), Jewell Stewart  
**Staff:** Aniberca Abreu, Charisse Carter-Lewis, Taleema Chesney, Nyla Diaz, Nidia Evangelista, Julissa Fernandez, Yoselyn Fernandez, Amia Fisher, Esther Fokuo, Aria Glass, Damaris Hernandez, Milly Jimenez, Robert Keogh, Marie Lucas, Maryleidy Pimentel, Yubdeley Ricardo, Newton Richards, Carol Singletary, Desiree Soulet, Katie Spina, Matthew Tiwary, Katherine Vasquez  
**Other Attendees:** Alria Mom, Ashley B., Susana Saldivar, Diondra Young

## RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

- May 2026 board meeting agenda
- May 2026 financial dashboard

## MEETING MINUTES

### 1. Call to order and board approvals (0:00–2:30)

- Atta Acheampong called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. EST.
- Mr. Acheampong announced that he was voted vice chairman at the executive session following April's board meeting.
- Motion: Mr. Acheampong asked for a motion to approve him as vice chairman of the board. Jasmine Reed moved, and the motion was seconded and carried without dissent.
- Motion: Mr. Acheampong asked for a motion to approve him as vice chairman of the Academic Committee. Jasmine Reed moved, and the motion was seconded and carried without dissent.
- Motion: Mr. Acheampong asked for a motion to approve the April 2026 minutes. Jonathan Stearns moved, and the motion was seconded and carried without dissent.
- Motion: Mr. Acheampong asked for a motion to approve the 2026–2027 academic calendar. Jasmine Reed moved, and the motion was seconded and carried without dissent.

### 2. Financial report (2:31–13:45)

- Robert Keogh, vice president of 4th Sector Solutions, explained the month's budgetary changes.
  - "Current Ratio" (SACS: 0.97 vs. SUNY: >1.50), "Days of Cash" (SACS: 46 vs. SUNY: >30), "Quick Ratio (Acid Test)" (SACS: 0.97 vs. SUNY: >1.00), "Debt-to-Asset Ratio" (SACS: 1.06 vs. SUNY: <1.00).
- 380 budgeted enrollment; 321 actual (variance of -59), same as in April.
- SACS received \$1M in tax credit funding at the end of April. The year-to-date (YTD) deficit is ~\$135K after receiving ERTC. Assuming receipt of the final \$300K, a \$49K networkwide surplus is expected.
  - Mr. Keogh projects ~\$262K in savings from unfilled and vacant positions and natural staff attrition.
    - While net equity is -\$1.7M, Mr. Keogh noted that this is a much healthier number than in prior months, thanks to the \$1M tax credit payout.
      - Richard Bayles asked what SACS's liability to Children's Storefront is. Mr. Keogh responded that it is approximately \$800K.
    - A ~\$487K surplus is forecasted for the South Bronx. Currently, it has a surplus of \$349K.
    - A ~\$438K deficit is forecasted for Harlem. Currently, it has a deficit of ~\$484K.
  - Mr. Bayles spoke with leadership at Children's Storefront. He asked them to forgive the owed

money for walking away from the lease, citing that SACS does not have the financial resources to support payments. He believes there's a 50-50 chance that they forgive the debt, and he expects news on the subject before the end of the fiscal year.

- i. Mr. Bayles also cited statistics that show that the public school population of students has dropped from 2.5M to less than 900K since the 1970s, and it's projected to continue falling over the next five years.

### 3. Development report (13:46–17:08)

- a. Nidia Evangelista gave an overview of SACS's progress on grant funding.
  - i. (Submitted) \$15K from Primary Project to support K–2 programming at the Bronx campus. Following a successful pilot year, leadership is seeking continuation and expansion of social-emotional support services for early elementary students.
  - ii. (Submitted) Up to \$56K from Nonpublic School Security Guard Reimbursement Program (2026–2027) for reimbursement of security guard salary expenses. Program applies to qualifying enrollment thresholds and currently supports the Bronx campus.
  - iii. (Submitted LOI) \$20K from Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation for in general operating support for the Bronx campus.
  - iv. (Submitted) \$25K from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation for the Bronx Harmony Program.
  - v. (Advanced) \$300K/three years from the Van Ameringen Foundation for a mental health/SEL therapist in the South Bronx. SACS was moved to a full proposal.
  - vi. (In progress) \$50K from the Charles Hayden Foundation for Harmony at both campuses.
  - vii. (In progress) \$100K from the Pinkerton Foundation for chess funding at both campuses.
  - viii. (In progress) \$25K from the TD Bank Foundation for Harmony at both campuses.
  - ix. (In progress) \$25K from the Barker Welfare Foundation (LOI) for OST and student wellness for the Bronx campus; eligibility review currently underway.

### 4. Leadership report (17:09–49:34)

- a. (17:09–20:39) Enrollment
  - i. H: As of May 18, enrollment sits at 91, 24 students under budget. Zero students have enrolled since the last board meeting; zero are in the enrollment process.
  - ii. H: 60 active lottery applications; seven applications received after April 1; 32 accepted seats; 16 declined seats; 13 have completed registration.
  - iii. SB: As of May 18, enrollment sits at 236, 34 students under budget. One student has enrolled since the last board meeting; zero are in the enrollment process.
  - iv. SB: 89 active lottery applications; 16 applications received after April 1; 40 accepted seats; 20 declined seats; 28 have completed registration.
  - v. Working well: Enrollment plan and systems, digital strategy (with EnrollEd), mission-aligned partnerships, community engagement, outreach and follow-up.
    1. Jasmine Reed suggested posting ads at the City Council office and maximizing the community to promote SACS.
  - vi. Needs improvement: Heightened student attrition due to a lack of accommodations for IEP requirements.
- b. (20:40–21:26) Staff vacancies
  - i. One vacancy in Harlem: 5th-grade teacher.
  - ii. Two vacancies in the South Bronx: 4th- and 5th-grade teachers (ICT classroom).
  - iii. Hiring is on pause for the remainder of the school year. Efforts will resume to address the 2026–2027 school year.
  - iv. Working well: Volume of candidates, digital advertising.
  - v. Needs improvement: High percentage of unqualified candidates.

- c. **(21:27–36:09)** Academic and culture highlights: Experiential learning and projects
    - i. Harlem: Shared a video highlighting student participation in urban garden experiences, museum visits, civil rights and inclusion programming, Teacher Appreciation Week, Spirit Week and testing support activities, and community engagement events.
      - 1. Leadership emphasized Ms. Deb’s contributions to hands-on experiences, building scholar engagement, connecting learning to real-world application, and strengthening school-community relationships.
    - ii. South Bronx: Yoselyn Fernandez spoke about expanded experiential opportunities, including music and arts programming, chess instruction, science and STEAM projects, field trips, student reflection projects, and social-emotional learning initiatives.
      - 1. Attendance reached 228 of 236 students, the highest in recent months. Leadership noted a connection between student engagement and attendance.
      - 2. Community initiatives: Emotional Regulation Fair planned through community partnerships and continued family engagement and public events.
  - d. **(36:10–49:34)** Culture highlight: A day in the life of a Storefront Academy scholar
    - i. Harlem leadership presented a highlight reel featuring photos and videos about Deep Dive for the math state test (breakfast, small-group sessions, Wellness Day), Spirit Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, and Harlem Community Connections.
    - ii. South Bronx leadership presented about Teacher Appreciation Week, community partnerships, the end of the state testing season, and family engagement.
    - iii. Upcoming events: Spring NWEA MAP exams (SB + H), Memorial Day break (SB + H 5/25–5/27), Math Bee (SB 5/29), Mother’s Day event (SB), spring NWEA MAP administration (H 6/2 and 6/4), 5th grade senior trip (H 6/5), schoolwide Field Day (H 6/8), K–1 Super Author Publishing Party (H 6/9), Field Day (SB 6/10), senior trip (SB 6/11), Harmony After (H + SB 6/16), 5th grade graduation (H + SB 6/16).
5. **Public comment (49:35–1:07:52)**
- a. Mr. Acheampong opened the meeting to public comment.
  - b. Diondra Young, a Harlem parent, submitted a written question regarding whether grant funding opportunities would also support the Harlem campus. Leadership confirmed that grant opportunities are pursued for both campuses whenever eligibility permits. For example, the recent McKinney-Vento grant award exceeded \$250,000, supporting programming and services across both campuses.
  - c. Hearing nothing more, Mr. Acheampong closed the meeting to public comment.
6. **Board committee reports (51:57–52:48)**
- a. The Academic Committee did not report.
  - b. The Governance Committee reported a need to recruit additional board members, with priority given to identifying members who can contribute financial resources, strategic support, and opportunities for network development. Board members were encouraged to submit recommendations.
7. **Closing comments and motion to adjourn (52:49–54:23)**
- a. A motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and carried without dissent at 6:56 p.m. EST.