

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundations: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

Board Meeting: **December 3, 2025**

Schools and Principals:

Bonita Springs Charter School - Gerschick	Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy – Geary, HoS
Innovation Preparatory Academy of S. Ft. Myers - Laine	Manatee Charter School - Anda
Gateway Charter School – Jenson, HoS	Mid-Cape Global Academy – Lemos
Innovation Preparatory Academy of Naples – Thompson-Panto	

The minutes of Sunshine Law meetings need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
December 3, 2025	12:36PM EST	1:07PM EST	February 11, 2025	12:30PM	R. Weaver/ L. Peake

Meeting Location: At Each School Above

Attended by:

Board Members:

Ken Haiko, Chairman
 Tom Wheeler, Vice Chair and Secretary
 Paul Sallarulo, Treasurer
 Dennis Clark, Director
 Billie Miller, Director
 Pat Smith, Director
 Matt Ohlson, Member

Absent:

Pat Smith, Director

Other Attendees:

Principals and Parent Facilitators at above listed schools (or their designees)
 Richard Page, President, CSUSA
 Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Superintendent of Florida
 Jeff Spiro, Area 3 Deputy Director
 Nirvani Ramnath Area 4 Deputy Director
 Levi Williams, Board Attorney
 Rita Weaver, Sr. Director of Board Governance, CSUSA
 Leah Peake, Board Governance Manager

CALL TO ORDER

- Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:36 PM EST with a Call to Order by Chairman, Ken Haiko. Roll call was taken, and quorum established.
- Students from Renaissance Charter School at Wellington led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave a performance from the upcoming holiday show.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Board Chairman, Ken Haiko called for public comments.
2. Kathleen Wieber – Lakewood Ranch – gave public comment: States she was a past parent of LRPA and heard about the changes in administration. Her son would like to come back, and she wants to make sure that the same issues do not occur. Ensure transparency, what is the requirement for teachers, where in the scope of public education are teacher salaries compared to other schools. She would like to see more parent involvement and ways for parents to improve the school.

II. Administrative

1. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

- The board reviewed Matthew Ohlson's resume and board participation.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Tom Wheeler to approve board membership to Matthew Ohlson as a director on the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Board The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0, 1)

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. October 16, 2025, Meeting Minutes
2. General Knowledge Test Waiver – Bonita Springs Charter School
3. A+ School Recognition Funds
 - a. Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy
4. FY26 Q1 Financials

MOTION: Motion was made by Dennie Clark and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the Consent Agenda for Southwest Charter Foundation; Inc. as presented. The motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

V. CSUSA Reports

- Dr. Spiro provided the board on update on Steller-Star Award Winners, National Charter School Conference, All Star Volleyball, and Principal Collaboration.

Choice Campus Presentation

- Richard page gave a presentation on Choice Campus and the future of education. Flexible learning spaces, educational options, and parent/student choice is the key the education moving forward.
- Dr. Ruiz provided the board an update on what educational choice can look at Renaissance Schools.
- Mr. Page and Dr. Ruiz answered all the boards questions and concern. They will bring more specifics back to the board at the next board meeting.

Step-Up for Students Update

- Dr. Ruiz provided the board an update on the partnership with Step-Up for Students and programs being offered.

VI. Financials

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

Charter Expansion

- Innovation Preparatory Academy of South Ft. Myers
- Manatee Charter School

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Paul Sallarulo to approve the expansion of the above listed schools from a K-8 to a K-12 for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. as presented. The motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

- Ms. Miller questioned the uniform violations and wants to make sure consistency in the uniform policy is adhered to.

ADJOURNMENT

- Hearing no objections, Board Chair, Ken Haiko adjourned the December 3, 2025, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. Board Meeting at 1:07 PM EST



Ken Haiko, Board Chair

Date: 2.17.26