

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundations: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

Board Meeting: August 26, 2026

Schools and Principals:

Bonita Springs Charter School - Gerschick	Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy – McBane, HoS
Innovation Preparatory Academy of S. Ft. Myers - Laine	Manatee Charter School – Padron Kimbrel
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:
August 26, 2026	12:31PM EST	1:14PM EST	September 30, 2026	12:30PM	R. Weaver/ L. Peake
Meeting Location: Each School					
Attended by:					
Board Members: Ken Haiko, Chairman Thomas Wheeler, Vice Chair and Secretary Billie Miller, Director Patricia Smith, Director Dr. Matthew Ohlsen, Director Randy Walker, Auxiliary Board - Non-Voting Absent: Paul Sallarulo, Treasurer		Other Attendees: Principals and Parent Facilitators at above listed schools (or their designees) Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Superintendent of Florida Dr. Jeff Spiro, Area 3 Deputy Director Rita Weaver, Sr. Director of Board Governance, CSUSA Leah Peake, Board Governance Manager			

CALL TO ORDER

- Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:31 PM EST with a Call to Order by Chairman, Ken Haiko. Roll call was taken, and quorum established.
- Chairman Haiko had the following statement read into the record:

Good morning, everyone.

Before we begin today, I would like to take a moment to honor the life and service of our former vice chair secretary and treasurer Dennis Clark.

Dennis served on this board for 25 years and I had the privilege of serving alongside him for that entire time. Over those years he was not only a dedicated board member, but also a dear friend. His commitment to this board his belief in servant leadership and the care he showed to this school community left a lasting mark on all of us.

Dennis lived with a big heart and a deep sense of purpose he gave of himself generously and his presence will be deeply missed.

As we mourn this loss, we also celebrate Dennis's life and the many contributions he made. Our thoughts and prayers are with Betsy and his entire family during this difficult time.

At this time, I would like to ask for a moment of silence in memory of Dennis Clark.

- Pledge of Allegiance was led by a Keys Gate Charter High School Student
- The Keys Gate Charter High School group Latinos in Action provided the board a presentation on the group's activities, competitions, and the difference the group makes in their lives.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no public comments.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Board Chairman, Ken Haiko called for committee reports. - There were no public comments.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of June 18, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of July 22, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
3. FY27 Principal and Parent Facilitator Appointment
4. FY27 Youth Mental Health Allocation Plan
5. FY25-26 Teacher Salary Increase Allocation Final Payment
6. FY27 CSUSA Internet Policy
7. FY27 CSUSA Compensation Plan
8. General Knowledge Test Waiver – Mid Cape Global Academy

Billie Miller pulled item #7

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Matt Ohlson to approve the Consent Agenda except for items 7. The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0, 1 Absent)

- Item 7: FY26-27 CSUSA Compensation Plan
 - Billie Miller stated that the base pay, before referendum and bonuses, should be increased to retain quality teachers, staff, and administration
 - Ms. Miller requested a salary report from HR with pay rate comparison to the district to be presented at the September board meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the FY26-27 CSUSA Compensation Plan for Southwest Charter Foundation Inc., as presented. The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0, 1 Absent)

IV. FINANCIALS

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Pre-school at Bonita Springs Charter School

MOTION: Motion was made by Pat Smith and seconded by Billie Miller to approve a preschool at Bonita Springs Charter School. The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0, 1 Absent)

VI. NEW BUSINESS - There was no new business.

VII. CSUSA REPORTS

State Superintendent Update

Superintendent Update

- FY26 School Grade Report
 - FY27 School Goals
 - FY25-26 Spring Survey Results
- Dr. Ruiz presented the State Superintendent Update and discussed the start of the school year, school grade, and school goals.
- Dr. Ruiz presented the Spring Survey Results.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Tom Wheeler to approve the CSUSA State Superintendent report with School Goals as presented. The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0, 1 Absent)

ADJOURNMENT

- Hearing no objections, Board Chair, Ken Haiko adjourned the August 26, 2026, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. Board Meeting at 1:14 PM EST



Ken Haiko, Board Chair

Date: 9/30/26