

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Education Foundation Charter Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Date: January 27, 2026

School(s): Bellalago Charter Academy

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:
January 27, 2026	9:00am	9:52am	February 24, 2026	9:00 am	Savannah Bellovin
Meeting Location:					
Location: 2310 New Beginnings Road, Kissimmee, FL as well as via Zoom as publicized on the Public Notice.					
Attended by:					
Charter Board Members (in person): Catherine (Kay) White, Trustee Chad Jones, Trustee Jason Allen, Trustee Mike Steigerwald, Chair		Other Attendees: Kerry Avery, Executive Director, Education Foundation (in person) Savannah Bellovin, Project Manager, Education Foundation (in person) Maria Suriel, Finance Director, Education Foundation (virtually) Kathy Ejniuoi, Program Director, Education Foundation (virtually) Susan Zilinskas, Assistant Principal, Bellalago Charter Academy (virtually) Angela Barner, SDOC Director of Finance – Bellalago (virtually) Jennie Gil De Lamadrid, SDOC (virtually)			
Virtual:					
Absent: Melanie Cleveland, Bellalago Principal					

I. WELCOME

Call to Order

- Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 9:00am with a call to order by Mr. Steigerwald. Roll call was taken, and quorum was established.

Meeting Minutes

- The Board reviewed, discussed, and approved the meeting minutes from the October 28, 2025 Charter Board of Trustees meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Chad Jones and seconded by Jason Allen to approve the October 28, 2025 Charter Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (3-0,1)

II. BOARD UPDATES – CHAIR MIKE STEIGERWALD AND KERRY AVERY, EDUCATION FOUNDATION

- **Meeting Schedule Adjustment – In Progress** - Ms. Avery explained we are reviewing the schedule and requirements to see if it would be possible to move to a more quarterly meeting schedule now that the board governs only Bellalago.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Bellalago Charter Academy

- **Monthly School Report** – Principal Cleveland was unable to attend so Assistant Principal Susan Zilinskas presented in her place. Assistant Principal Zilinskas shared highlights regarding the Mid-Year State of the School Data, as well as any communications and maintenance updates. The trustees, Ms. Barner, and AP Zilinskas discussed the reduction in enrollment. They have found the shortage is district wide due to various reasons. The housing market, less families with school age children moving into the community, a K-12 charter school down the street, and parents switching to homeschool are all some of the reasons for the enrollment decline.
 - **Out of Field Report** – The Out of Field Report was presented to the trustees for their review and discussion.
- **Bellalago Financial Report**
 - **October 2025 Monthly Financial Report** – Ms. Barner presented the October 2025 Financial Report for Bellalago Charter Academy. Ms. Barner reviewed the balance sheet and the statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balance. She highlighted updates to the general fund, including changes in revenue, expenditures, and the ending fund balance.
 - **October 2025 Budget Report by Project** – Ms. Barner explained this is a report to provide the monthly financial information in a more understandable layout. This item does not require trustee approval.
 - **October 2025 Grants Summary** – Ms. Barner presented the grants summary for October 2025 to the trustees for their review and discussion.
 - **December 2025 Monthly Financial Report** – Ms. Barner presented the December 2025 Financial Report for Bellalago Charter Academy. Ms. Barner reviewed the balance sheet and the statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balance. She highlighted updates to the general fund, including changes in revenue, expenditures, and the ending fund balance.
 - **October 2025 Budget Report by Project** – Ms. Barner explained this is a report to provide the monthly financial information in a more understandable layout. This item does not require trustee approval.
 - **October 2025 Grants Summary** – Ms. Barner presented the grants summary for December 2025 to the trustees for their review and discussion.
- **Bellalago Presents to the Board**
 - **Mid-Year State of the School** – This item was discussed along with the monthly report and was presented to the trustees for their review.

MOTION: Motion was made by Jason Allen and seconded by Chad Jones to approve the October 2025 and December 2025 Financial Reports, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (4-0,1)

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Jones inquired about potential candidates for the fifth charter board member. Ms. Avery responded that the position is still vacant. While there has been some interest, the onboarding process has not progressed far enough to move forward at this time. She did note that if any of the board members had a suggestion that might be a good fit to let her know.
- Mr. Steigerwald asked if there were any pending items related to the PM Wells closure. Ms. Avery explained that there are at least 3 companies now who have sent passed due invoices, some from 2023, 2024, and 2025. We are working with the attorney to make sure the issues are resolved.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- There were no items to discuss.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

- There were no public comments.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- A motion for adjournment was made by Jason Allen and seconded by Kay White. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am.


Mike Steigerwald, Chair

Date: 3/24/26