

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Education Foundation Charter Board of Trustees

Board Meeting Date: April 28, 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:
April 28, 2026	9:00am	10:01am	July 28, 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): Mike Steigerwald, Chair Catherine (Kay) White, Trustee Jason Allen, Trustee			Other Attendees: Kerry Avery, Executive Director, Education Foundation (in person) Savannah Bellovin, Project Manager, Education Foundation (in person) Kathy Ejnui, Program Director, Education Foundation (virtually) Melanie Cleveland, Bellalago Principal (virtually) Angela Barner, SDOC (in person) Jennie Gil De Lamadrid, SDOC (virtually) Dr. Michelle Henninger, SDOC (in person) Brenda Rivera Osorio, SDOC Director of Finance – Bellalago (in person)		
Virtual: Chad Jones, Trustee					
Absent:					

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 March 24, 2026 Charter Board of Trustees meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Kay White and seconded by Jason Allen to approve the March 24, 2026 Charter Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (4-0,0)

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

- **Welcome Brenda Rivera** – Ms. Avery made introductions of all board members and attendees for Ms. Rivera. She explained Ms. Rivera would be taking Angela's place as the Director of Finance for Bellalago as Ms. Barner has been promoted. She also introduced Dr. Michelle Henninger and thanked her for joining us.

SCHOOL REPORTS

Bellalago Charter Academy

- **Monthly School Report** – Principal Cleveland highlighted updates regarding the sports and extra-curriculars, teacher placements and vacancies, and funding shortfalls for the next school year. She noted that extra safety precautions have been taken through the safety and security grant that has been instrumental in eliminating elopement problems and improved camera visibility throughout the campus.
 - **Out of Field Report** – The Out of Field Report was presented to the trustees for their review and discussion.
- **Bellalago Financial Reports**
 - **March 2026 Monthly Financial Report** – Ms. Barner presented the March 2026 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.
 - **March 2026 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.
 - **March 2026 Grants Summary** – Ms. Barner presented the grants summary as of March 2026 to the trustees for their review and discussion.
- **Bellalago Presents to the Board**
 - **2026-27 Preliminary Budget** – Ms. Barner shared the reminder that these are very preliminary numbers that are based on projections. She noted that this budget is based on projected enrollment of 1003. She stated they would be using \$462,000 of the fund balance and \$210,000 of roll forward funds to balance the budget. Ms. Barner noted that while the budget is balanced this year, looking to the future, they will not be able to continue taking money from the fund balance. She noted that additional students are necessary to prevent them from having to take money from the fund balance and that an additional 300 students would be needed to do so.
 - **2026-27 Budget Projections Summary** – Ms. Barner presented the 2026-27 Budget Projections Summary for the trustee's review and discussion.

MOTION: Motion was made by Kay White and seconded by Chad Jones to approve the March 2026 Financial Reports, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (4-0,0)

MOTION: Motion was made by Jason Allen and seconded by Kay White to approve the 2026-27 Preliminary Budget, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (4-0,0)

III. OLD BUSINESS

- **Meeting Schedule Adjustments** – Ms. Avery wanted to clarify that we must have the meeting on July 28th to approve the year end budget by August 15th. She also noted that we need at least 3 trustees in person to maintain a quorum.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- Trustee Allen asked what are some things that can be done to help increase the enrollment at Bellalago to hopefully prevent the funding shortfalls moving forward. Dr. Henninger explained that K-8s are the desirable model and they do not have declining enrollment at any of the district's other K-8s. She did note that these models have a bigger challenge with elective options due to having less students than a normal middle school would. However, unfortunately the majority of their population loss is due to the homeschool voucher option now available to parents. Also, there is competition directly across the street from the school. Dr. Henninger noted Community Relations has a new program called Uplift. The program involves an evaluation of the school's current communications through ParentSquare, social media, and direct communication to the community. Together, they would then come up with an action plan of how to improve and proceed. While this is not the only option and solution to help improve enrollment, but it is going to be a great place to start. Dr. Henninger noted that Bellalago is at the top of the list to begin the Uplift program and would provide updates as the process evolves.

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 10:01am.



Mike Steigerward, Chair
Date: 8/4/26