

Connections Public Charter School

Governing Board Minutes

March 25, 2026

Kress Building 3:15 pm

Call to Order: Ms. Wilbourn called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm

Members Present: Damon Murphy, Christina Wilbourn, Nalu Tufui, Pam Thatcher, Heather McDaniel, , Clint Kolyer

Members Absent: Joanna Highstein, Romeo Garcia, Sherri Kolman

Guests: Cheryl Gravela, John Woolverton, Stephanie Olson-Moore

Recorder: Minutes for today's meeting are recorded by Mrs. McDaniel.

Public Comment: Ms. Olson-Moore expressed interest in learning about how the Board establishes and maintains Policies. Members discussed some history, and addressed the attendance policy in particular. There will be more discussion.

Approval of Agenda: Members reviewed the agenda for the March 25, 2026 meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Tufui to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thatcher and was approved with consensus.

Approval of Minutes for February 18, 2026 meeting: Members reviewed the minutes from the meeting on February 18, 2026.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thatcher to approve the February 18, 2026 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tufui and was approved with consensus.

Correspondence & Communication:

Mr. Murphy reported that there are still two pending arbitrations with HSTA.

UPW has not yet called on Mr. Murhpy to testify.

Commission School Lead Report: none

Old Business: none

New Business:

Approval of New Substitute Teachers: none

Review of Governing Board Policies: Mr. Woolverton provided a draft policy regarding tsunami evacuation protocols. Members reviewed and discussed the policy. There will be further discussion before approving the policy.

Ms. Wilbourn brought three proposed changes to the YONDR student cell phone control system.

A motion was made by Mrs. McDaniel to approve the proposed changes to the YONDR Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kolyer and was approved with consensus in attendance. Mr. Murphy was not present for the vote.

Ms. Wilbourn brought a concern on behalf of a staff member regarding rules for prom attendance. Members discussed that this is not a Board Policy matter, and that guidelines should be developed/revised, and suggested any exceptions should go to a panel to include Mr. Murphy, to be considered for approval on a case by case basis.

Operations Report:

Financial Officer's Report: Ms. Gravela asked that the report be tabled until next month, due to a family emergency today.

Administrator's Report:

Current enrollment: 332

Federal Programs Report: Mr. Murphy attended a Title IV informational meeting, mostly pertaining to those who are new to the program.

Mrs. Thatcher reported that the current Title I plan can be resubmitted for next year .

Student Achievement Report: Mrs. Thatcher reported that STAR testing is complete. Reports for Winter have not yet been pulled.

Performance, Growth and Accreditation Initiatives Report: Mr. Murphy reported that he and Mrs. Thatcher are working on the report.

Administrators' Evaluations Report: Mr. Murphy reported that Mr. Thatcher is developing the evaluation tools, and training will be scheduled for administrators regarding other staff evaluations.

Other Items:

Mr. Murphy reported on Network Management concerns and recent hacks. Bids were solicited from five vendors, and three were submitted. Scores were presented. Members discussed the options and scoring, and management's decision to award the contract to the highest scoring bidder for the remainder of this fiscal year. The contract will be reviewed at that time, and if the recommendation is made to retain the same vendor for next year, the one-year contract will be brought for the Board's consideration and approval.

Mr. Murphy reported on the need for a new ATV for the farm. The current vehicle is over seven years old. A new Kawasaki Mule was priced at \$18,608. The current vehicle will be maintained for student employee use, and the new one would be dedicated for adult use and visitor tours.

A motion was made by Mrs. McDaniel to approve the purchase of an additional Kawasaki Mule for farm use. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tufui and was approved with consensus.

Mr. Murphy reported that student projects and work have been shut down temporarily in order to do some work to mitigate issues with vandalism and pig incursion.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2026 at 3:15 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Romeo Garcia

Connections Governing Board Chair