

Inspire Academy Board of Directors
March 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Ms. Yvonne Thompson, Chair
Dr. Justin Whitt, Vice-Chair
Mr. Nate Howard, Secretary
Mr. Jake Brandau
Ms. Melanie Turner
Dr. Joel Olufowote (virtually)
Ms. Lesley Spencer (virtually; 6:27pm)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ms. Leslie Draper

Non-Staff Present: Ms. Emily Gaskill

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Director Thompson at 6:04pm.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Motion: To approve the March 2026 agenda.

- Made by: Director Brandau
- Second: Director Whitt
- Motion carried.

Motion: To approve the February 2026 meeting minutes.

- Made by: Director Whitt
- Second: Director Brandau
- Motion carried.

Trine Board Presentation

Ms. Gaskill presented the Trine performance update to the Board in person.

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Principal's Report

Due to illness, Principal Hair was unable to attend the meeting. Key updates from the Principal's written report were shared with the Board.

Monthly Primary Strategy Focuses

Academic Performance: Discussion facilitated by Director Whitt.

- The Academic Committee Charter was presented to the Board.
- Additional instructional tools and strategies were discussed.

- Motion: To approve the Academic Committee Charter as presented.
 - Made by: Director Whitt
 - Second: Director Turner
 - Motion carried.

- Motion: To approve a resolution to direct the School Leader (or Principal) to track PD sessions by topic, attendance for each teacher, and coaching sessions for each teacher going forward.
 - Made by: Director Whitt
 - Second: Director Brandau
 - Motion carried.

Board Development: Discussion facilitated by Ms. Gaskill and Chair Thompson.

- A new Board Self-Assessment Tool was presented.
- The Board discussed a proposed annual timeline for officer appointments, including immediate needs related to the Treasurer transition and Board Chair role.

- Motion: To appoint Director Brandau to assume the role of Board Treasurer, following Director Roark's resignation from the Board of Directors.
 - Made by: Director Whitt
 - Second: Director Turner
 - Motion carried.

- Motion: To extend Director Thompson's tenure as Board Chair through June 2026.
 - Made by: Director Whitt
 - Second: Director Brandau
 - Motion carried.

Monthly Brief Strategy Updates

Advocacy & Fund Development: Director Howard provided a brief update and facilitated discussion regarding ongoing planning efforts and the upcoming Spring Gala.

Student Enrollment & Recruitment: Director Turner provided an update and facilitated general discussion regarding ongoing enrollment and recruitment efforts.

Financial Performance & Facilities Development: Director Brandau provided an update and led discussion regarding financial considerations, including the potential return to a single-person leadership structure as a strategy to address enrollment shortfalls and current economic challenges.

Motion: To return to a single-person leadership structure

- Made by: Director Brandau
- Second: Director Olufowote
- Motion carried.

Motion: To create a search committee for new leadership position

- Made by: Director Brandau
- Second: Director Turner
- Motion carried.
- Director Thompson (Chair) delegated committee appointment powers to Director Whitt (Vice-Chair)

Other Business

Motion: To approve January 2025 AP Voucher.

- Made by: Director Brandau
- Seconded by: Director Whitt
- Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 by Chair Thompson with approval of the board.