

MEETING NOTICE

School	Date	Time	Location
B.E.S.T. Academy at The Thomas W. Dortch Jr. Institute	1/20/26	5:00	Virtual Facebook Live Click Here To Visit Our Facebook Page

Notice Prepared By: Robert Williams

Date Posted: 1/20/26



Meeting Agenda

(agenda may be amended)
This meeting **will** allow for Public Comment.



Go TEAM MEETING AGENDA

Date 1/20/26 || Time 5:00 PM | Location Via Zoom

Participants and Role Assignments:

Robert Williams, Principal	P	Sonya Heard, Instructional Staff	P
Jason Brooks, Parent	A	La'Toya Henry, Instructional Staff	P
Hope Dixon, Parent	A	Ray Singer, Community Member	P
Akilah Light, Parent	P	Mr. Conway, Community Member	A
Ruquanda Epps-Primas, Instructional Staff	P	Erica Pereira, Swing Seat	P
High School Student, Marcel Copeland	P	Middle School Student, Peyton Ramos	A

Timekeeper: *Mr. M. Copeland*

Note Taker: *Ms. S. Heard*

[CLICK HERE FOR ACCESS TO THE POWERPOINT AND AGENDA USED DURING THE MTG.](#)

Time	Item	Owner
5:00 PM	Call to Order	Mr. Copeland
5:02 PM	Roll Call & Establish Quorum Ms. Heard called roll	Mr. Copeland
5:05 PM	Action Items- a. SEL Activity-Members were asked to share their connection to MKL, Jr. b. Mr. Williams-shared experience of going to King's Chapel. c. Ms. Heard-shared hearing MLK, Sr. in church in Atl. d. Mrs. Epps-Primas-mother took her family to the MLK recreation center in their town and she had the opportunity to imagine historical experiences. e. Mr. Singer-100 Black men offices are held within the new Ebenezer Baptist church and it is inspirational to see the photos of the historical figures of Atlanta f. Mrs. Pereira-her children played there when they were small, felt is was amazing to see the global impact MLK, Jr. has as she travels the globe g. Mr. Copeland-focusing on the service and dedication to civil rights	Mr. Williams Mrs. Epps-Primas-SEL activity

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	<i>h. Mrs Light- attended the MLK daycare, her great uncle Johnny lived on Sunset down the street from the King family, attended Spelman and recalled seeing the historical images.</i> i. Approval of Previous Agenda-motion was approved by Ms. Heard and seconded by Mrs. Epps-Primas j. Approval of Previous Minutes-motion was approved by Ms. Heard and seconded by Mrs. Light k. Ranking of the 2026 Strategic Plan Objectives- note after careful consideration the plan objectives were ranked and motion was presented by Heard and seconded by Ms. Periera. Note... the term “create” was added to the vision, the term “innovative” was added to the mission after the discussion from the former meeting.	
5:20 PM	Discussion Items-Note the new strategic plan objectives-created after lively discussion. The objectives are as follows: 1. <i>Our Responsibility is shared</i> 2. <i>We Are Strengthening Our Instructional Core</i> 3. <i>Our Strength is Our Team</i> 4. <i>We are Caring For Every Child</i> 5. <i>We are Strengthening Our Instructional Core</i> 6. <i>We Are Sparking Student Curiosity</i> 7. <i>Our School Is Efficient and Effective</i> a. The Strategic Plan Objectives were passed. Motion by Ms. Heard and seconded by Mrs. Periera. b. Regarding two-way communication a suggestion was made to consider Group Me, Band, Remind, etc. c. Reminder that the next meeting will primarily focus on the new budget.	Mr. Williams
5:35 PM	Principal's Report a. Discussion of the CCRPI-Improvement was seen in middle school and high school. The improvement was appreciated. b. Concerns were expressed over the removal of funds for smaller schools. Several members wanted to see comparisons of data from other schools and believe that it is unfair to remove funds. Information regarding the data will be researched and shared. c. Reminder to attend the district's budget meeting at the appointed times.	Mr. Williams
5:40 PM	Announcements a. Jan. 28, 2026- Ribbon Cutting in the VILS lab by VERIZON b. Marcel Copeland will be representing students on the APS Board c. The 7th grade Boys Brunch and Book Discussion will occur on Jan. 24, 2026 d. Basketball VIP's e. This meeting was open to public comments and upon	Mr. Copeland



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	checking there were no public comments.	
5:50 PM	Adjournment-conducted by Mr. Williams, motion by Singer and seconded by Heard	Mr. Williams