McAuliffe
Christa McAuliffe Charter School

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Attendance: Rick Felty(RF); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Arnold Zar-Kessler(AZK); Danielle Barney(DB); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE)

<table>
<tr><th>Item</th><th>Presenter</th><th>Links to Materials</th><th>Start Time</th></tr>
<tr><td>Call to Order</td><td>R. Felty</td><td>BF made a motion to start the meeting; 2nd by AZK; Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes</td><td>6:34</td></tr>
<tr><td>Minutes of the previous meeting</td><td>R. Felty</td><td>AZK moved to approve May minutes. 2nd by BF. Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Public Comment</td><td>R. Felty</td><td>No members of the public present</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>Board business

ED Report

Finance

Facility</td><td>R. Felty

Noel Green

N. Reilly/J. Ermilio

J. Ermilio</td><td><h3>Graduation Announcement</h3>
The Board was reminded that the CMCS graduation ceremony will take place tomorrow afternoon (June 23, 2026) at 5:00 PM at Framingham High School. Board members are encouraged to attend.
<h3>Upcoming July Meeting & Document Approvals</h3>
The Board discussed scheduling a special meeting in July to vote on and approve two key state compliance documents: the Annual Report and the Charter Renewal Application.
Decision: The meeting was officially scheduled for Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 6:30 PM. Executive Director Noel Green assured the board that documents would be shared ahead of time to facilitate a quick review and vote.
<h3>Election of Board Officers (SY 2026–2027)</h3> The Board conducted its annual election of officers for the upcoming school year: Treasurer: RF nominated NR to continue as Treasurer. 2nd-AZK. Roll call vote: RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes (NR-abstained).</td><td></td></tr>
</table>

- **Board Chair:** AZK moved to keep Rick Felty in the role of Board Chair. 2nd-BF. Roll call vote: NR-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes (RF abstained).
- **Vice Chair (New Position):** RF nominated BF to serve in the role of Vice Chair to help streamline leadership duties and build succession planning. 2nd- AZK. Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes; AZK-yes (BF abstained).

**DB left the meeting at this point

- RF nominated BF to the role of **Secretary**. AZK made the motion. 2nd-NR; Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; AZK-yes (BF abstained).

Summer Board Retreat

- The Board tentatively scheduled its one-day summer retreat for **Monday, August 24, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**.
- The retreat location is still being finalized. Nichole Reilly offered her company's office space in Westborough as a free option, and the YMCA is also under consideration as a free venue.

Executive Director's Report (NG)

Memorial & Tribute

- Executive Director Noel Green shared the sad news that Sarah Beth Guptill, a beloved long-time staff member and the "first stop" receptionist at CMCS, passed away on Saturday after a courageous battle with cancer.
- An announcement was sent to staff and families today.
- To honor her legacy, the school has created a new award in her memory embodying her values of engagement and inclusion, which will be presented to deserving students at graduation tomorrow.

Advocacy & Funding

- NG reported on his recent trip to Washington, D.C., working with the Massachusetts Charter School Association and the National Alliance of Charter Schools.
- The advocacy group met with legislative aids and legal experts to advocate for charter school funding through three bills currently in Congress.

Academic Highlights & Passage Presentations

- **Seventh-Grade Science Projects:** Parents recently attended highly successful science project presentations.
- **Passage Presentations:** Board members shared positive reflections on witnessing the recent student Passage Presentations. Trustees commended the students' poise, confidence, and reflection skills, as well as the outstanding parent turnout despite daytime scheduling.

State Compliance & Charter Renewal

- CMCS is undergoing "double duty" compliance requirements this season, preparing both the standard **Annual Report** and the comprehensive **Charter Renewal Application**.
- Individual directors are currently compiling their respective data sections, which will be compiled and ready for Board vote on July 28.

Staffing & Personnel

- **Current Metrics:** The school employs 61 total staff members (59 FTE / full-time, 2 three-quarter time). The current turnover rate sits at a healthy and stable 13% (8 staff members not returning).
- **Hiring Status:** All instructional aid and special education roles are filled. A receptionist offer letter is outstanding. Active searches continue for a Spanish teacher and a STEAM teacher.
- **Staff Recognition:** Eighth-grade counselor Marcy Arena was celebrated as a "Habits of Character" staff winner. She has done incredible work organizing graduation while managing her own health battle, but will unfortunately be one of the eight staff members leaving this summer to focus on her health.

Enrollment & Transportation Logistics

- **Enrollment:** The school currently sits at 307 students, with a budgeted target of 330 for next year. The enrollment team is optimistic and expects a final roster of 355 to 365 students. Official student counts will be confirmed on Day 1 (August 26) and finalized for DESE on October 1.
- **Transportation Planning:** Reflecting on the severe busing issues from the beginning of last year (which required administrators, including Noel and John, to drive kids to school), CMCS took a proactive approach this year. The school held troubleshooting coordination meetings with the Framingham Transportation Department in January and February to prevent student attrition caused by unreliable transit.

Financial Committee Report (NR)

- **Balance Sheet Cleanup:** May financials are tracking well. The "due to/froms" on the balance sheet are currently being cleaned up for year-end. Deferred tuition revenue is expected to clear out shortly.
- **Accrued Payroll:** Accrued payroll for teachers (representing summer contract payments physically paid out over summer break) will be finalized as of June 30th and accounted toward Fiscal Year 2026.
- **Cash Flow & Net Assets:** Change in cash from April to May was minor (approximately $10,000). Year-to-date net assets (profit) stand at **$812,000**, which is significantly ahead of the budgeted expectations.
- **Debt Service & Rent:** The debt service coverage ratio remains strong and is projected to be above 2.0 next month. Additionally, because rent decreased this year following the building sale and refinancing, the school has been paying a debt service about $6,000 higher than baseline rent. The foundation remains on track to reimburse the school for these accumulated overpayments.
- **National Charter School Conference:** NR shared that she is traveling to the National Charter School Conference this week. She highlighted that Massachusetts' charter school regulations are highly structured and advanced compared to other states that rely heavily on for-profit setups.

Middlesex Bank & Foundation Updates (JE)

- JE has an upcoming meeting scheduled on **July 7th** with Middlesex Bank's VP of Asset Management and a new Asset Manager.
- This meeting will mark their first time visiting the school. JE will present the June financials and initiate discussions regarding how and when the foundation will receive their initial payment from the restricted $2 million being held by the bank.

Facilities & Safety Updates (JE)

- **Facilities Survey:** JE thanked the board members who completed and returned the facilities survey. The final report is expected to be delivered by mid-July.
- **Adventure Center Sprinkler Incident:** A student kicked a soccer ball into a high-ceiling sprinkler head, resulting in water running for 7 to 10 minutes. *Blue Sky Restoration* dried out the area over the weekend. Repairs and restoration are estimated to cost around **$5,000**. Since this is below the insurance deductible, no claim will be filed. The sprinkler system and alarms have been fully restored and reset.

		• **Modular Door Repairs:** Repairs were completed on the exterior modular doors and seven remaining classroom doors in the modular wing to resolve safety hazards. The final cost was just under **$10,000**. John noted that despite plans to eventually move away from the modular building in a year or so, the safety risk made the immediate expense necessary.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	BF made motion to adjourn. 2nd by AZK. Roll call vote-NR-yes; BF-yes; RF-yes; AZK-yes	7:45

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees
Meeting Agenda
June 22, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of May 2026 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance** **Facility**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio J. Ermilio	• Board Officers for School Year 26/27 • Graduation reminder - Tomorrow afternoon, June 23rd FHS • July Meeting - Week of 7/27 - vote to approve Annual Report and the Charter Renewal documents • Summer one-day retreat - Looking at Monday August 24th • Thanks for completion of the ED Evaluation Survey ED Report Enrollment Update May 2026 Financials Middlesex Bank meeting SMMA / Adv. Center / Modular doors	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Present: Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK), Rick Felty(RF); Bob Foley(BF); Danielle Barney(DB); Jennica Cesar(JC); John Ermilio(JE); Nichole Reilly(NR); Noel Green(NG)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	DB motion to call meeting to order; 2nd by BF; Roll call Vote- AZK-yes; JC-yes; DB-yes; RF-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	6:32
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	BF motion to approve April 2026 meeting minutes; 2nd by AZK. Roll call Vote- AZK-yes; JC-yes; DB-yes; RF-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	**Governance & Housekeeping Updates** • **Board Survey:** A comprehensive Google Form survey will be distributed to the board and select leadership team members this week. The response deadline has been extended to **Friday, June 12th**. Data will be compiled into a report for review during the first meetings of the upcoming school year. • **Graduation Reminder:** Graduation is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 23rd** at Framingham High School. All board members are invited to attend. **Facilities Planning and Meeting Schedule** • **Facilities Plan Analysis:** A virtual feedback session with the firm handling the facilities plan analysis will take place on **June 16th**. A survey has already been sent to gather feedback on building use; all members are requested to complete it whether or not they can attend the meeting. • **Community Session:** The analysis firm will host an evening session on June 16th from 6:00 PM onwards to gather the same feedback from parents and staff members. • **June Board Meeting:** Due to the graduation conflict, the next formal board meeting has been moved to **June 22nd**. The primary agenda item will be a formal vote on next year's board officers. • **July Board Meeting:** This meeting will likely occur on the last Tuesday of July to formally vote on and approve the annual report and charter renewal documents. Achieving a quorum will be vital to ensure paperwork is submitted on time. **Board Retreat and Recruitment** • **Summer Retreat:** The board is planning a multi-hour, in-person retreat for late August or early September to allow for a comprehensive brainstorming session. A scheduling survey will be distributed soon.	

		• **Location Option:** NR offered her office space in Westboro as a potential backup location if school rooms are restricted due to classroom prep for the new year.
		• **Board Recruitment:** RF reminded members to keep an active eye out for qualified candidates to add to the board for the upcoming school year.
		
		<u>Executive Director's Report</u> NG introduced a new 4-3-2-1 evaluation rubric template to measure annual progress across key organizational goals. **Strengthening Financial Sustainability and Organizational Capacity**
		
		• **Financial Turnaround:** The school achieved an end-of-year asset surplus for the first time since 2021. This turnaround was driven by a successful building sale to a capable partner and a notable increase in enrollment.
		• **Staff Stipend:** Thanks to the positive budget variance, the board and foundation successfully distributed a holiday stipend to faculty and staff.
		• **Self-Assessment Rating: Significant Progress**.
		• **Strategic Threats Identified (SWAT Discussion):**
		    ○ *Enrollment Demographics:* A projected statewide decline in the student population over the next 2–3 years poses a significant threat to tuition-reliant revenue streams.
		    ○ *Facility Conditions:* Capital challenges include the condition of the roof, modular buildings, and the adventure center.
		• **Faculty Retention:** Retention remains solid, with staff feeling well-supported. Exit interviews reveal that the rare departures are primarily due to financial/compensation limits or relocation. Developing a long-term fundraising strategy is a top priority to improve salary competitiveness with surrounding districts.
		
		Academic Performance and Student Achievement
		
		• **Performance Metrics:** Progress is assessed using MCAS standards, NWEA progress monitoring, attendance records, suspension data, and community surveys.
		• **Current Status:** Post-COVID math scores continue to present a challenge both locally and nationally. Many incoming students arrive multiple years below grade level in numeracy and literacy.
		• **Progress Update:** The school demonstrated strong academic growth indicators over the past year. A full presentation evaluating MCAS performance and future targets will be presented by Nelly in the fall.
		• **Self-Assessment Rating: Moderate Progress** (meaningful progress has been achieved, though additional work is required).	

Adjourn	R. Felty	BF motion to adjourn; 2nd by AZK. Roll call Vote- AZK-yes; JC-yes; DB-yes; RF-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	7:41

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

May 26, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of April 2026 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	

Board business
 	
ED Report
 	
Finance
	R. Felty
	
	Noel Green
	
	N. Reilly/J. Ermilio
		• ED Survey - Google form survey will be distributed this week, due back Friday, June 12
		• Graduation reminder - Tuesday, June 23rd FHS
		• Remainder of the year meeting schedule
		    ○ June 16 - virtual meeting with SMMA & Fnd
		    ○ June 22nd - vote on officers for next year
		    ○ July TBD - vote to approve Annual Report and the Charter Renewal
		• Summer one-day retreat - End of August.
		• Board member recruitment reminder
		
		ED Report
		Enrollment Update
		
		April 2026 Financials and FY27 budget	

Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Present: Rick Felty(RF), Danielle Barney(DB), John Ermilio(JE), Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK), Nichole Reilly(NR), Bob Foley(BF), Noel Green (NG)

Absent: Jennica Cesar

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	A motion to call the meeting to order by BF; seconded by AZK. Roll call vote - unanimously in favor - RF; AZK; BF; DB; NR	6:32
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	AZK moved to accept the March meeting minutes; seconded by NR. Roll call vote - unanimously in favor - RF; AZK; BF; DB; NR	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report** **Enrollment Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green from G. Alpert N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	**Summer Retreat:** Plans are underway for an upcoming late-August summer retreat. A survey will be distributed to members shortly to narrow down a timeline window. RF is awaiting pricing from a potential meeting facilitator. **Board Code of Conduct:** RF noted that a dedicated "Board Code of Conduct" will be drafted to establish written expectations regarding attendance and general interaction protocols. Because it will be internally established ("by us for us"), it will not require external bureaucratic approval. **Executive Director Review Cadence:** Following a discussion with Robert Carpenter from MA Charter Association, the Board's current review schedule was deemed fine and aligned with standard school practices. To implement ongoing tracking, the RF aims to have an informal check-in at a fall meeting with NG to see how he's evaluating his own progress prior to the final formal document. **Board Recruitment:** RF reminded the Board to continue to look for new members. Have interested individuals connect with RF. **June Meeting Date Adjustment:** Due to a scheduling conflict with graduation on June 23rd, the June board meeting has been moved to **Monday, June 22nd**. JE will distribute updated calendar invitations NG presented his monthly update: • **School Activities:** The school has returned from spring break. Upcoming events include a school dance, a multicultural potluck, and Teacher Appreciation Week. Eighth graders recently completed a highly successful fieldwork trip to the Edward Kennedy Institute for debate and legislative role-play. Sixth-grade science students also successfully hosted an "Eyes on the Sky" space project showcase. • **Staffing Updates:** Hiring is active for the next school year. Strong candidates have been identified for an open ELA position. Openings remain for Math/Science, Spanish, STEAM, and Social Studies. A search is also underway for a new school counselor to replace a departing staff	

		member, with interviews occurring over the next two weeks. ● **Enrollment Tracking:** Projections for next year look strong, tracking between 355 and 365 students, representing a major two-year gain. Daily family tours are ongoing, and the next lottery is scheduled for May 6th. Geographic trends indicate the applicant pool is now heavily concentrated—at least 90%—from Framingham. Intensive recruitment strategies are being evaluated to help broaden the spread in surrounding districts where lack of transportation and baseline school awareness remain primary hurdles. Gary Alpert will be invited to the June meeting to provide an update before the summer months. ● **MCAS Testing Observations:** Testing has begun. NG noted a slight increase in parents requesting test exemptions due to student anxiety. While the school's overall participation numbers are safe from state scrutiny, NG emphasized that testing resilience is an important life skill and expressed frustration that some high-performing students missing the test negatively impacts school data. ● **Professional Development:** CMCS has invested in an intensive training cohort program starting late this year to enhance the school's co-teaching model for ELA and math teachers. **NR presented March financials and FY27 Budget Projections** ● **Enrollment Baseline:** NR noted that while real-time enrollment interest and trends track strongly toward 350+ students for the upcoming academic year, the proposed operating budget has been modeled conservatively around a 330 headcount. ● **Year-over-Year Context:** A 330-student budget represents an increase of 15 students over the current baseline budget model, which was built around 310 students (though actual student enrollment tracking reached 315 mid-session). ● **Staff Compensation:** The draft budget factors in the previously approved 4% across-the-board cost-of-living/salary increase for staff to ensure competitive retention. JE and Ron Pierre-Louis were recognized for their work in structural line-by-line budgeting. 2. Financial Metrics & Surplus Analysis ● **Net Operating Position:** Under the conservative 330-student baseline projection, total operational revenue is forecast to outpace expenses, tracking a net positive operational balance of roughly **$330,000**. ● **Cash Flow & Capital Allocations:** Depreciation metrics are embedded cleanly into current cash views. Per strategic objectives, operational budget surpluses will flow directly into the school's dedicated capital expenditure reserve to maintain liquidity for the Facilities Master Plan. ● **Debt Service Coverage:** Debt service ratios continue to display a high-performing financial safety margin, tracking well clear of bank compliance thresholds. ● **Finance Committee recommends to the Board to accept the FY'27 budget.** Motion to approve the FY'27 budget-BF; 2nd-DB;	

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

April 28, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of March 2026 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Enrollment Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green from G. Alpert N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	Summer Retreat - Board Code of Conduct (Norms) ED Review Cadence - Follow-up Board Recruitment Reminder June Meeting Date Change from 23rd to 22nd ED Report enrollment March 2026 Financials and FY27 budget	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

March 24, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Rick Felty (RF) (Chair), Nichole Reilly (NR) (Treasurer), Robert Foley (BF), Arnold Zar-Kessler (AZK), Jennica Cesar (JC), Noel Green (NG) (Executive Director)
Absent: Danielle Barney(DB); John Ermilio(JE)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion (by BF) to open the meeting was made and seconded (by AZK); approved unanimously, via roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; JC-yes; NG-yes	6:32
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve Feb minutes (by AZK) and seconded (by NR). approved unanimously, via roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; JC-yes; NG-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	**Chair Report & Follow-Up Items** - **Charter Renewal Process Follow-up:** - Following a question from the previous meeting, (RF) consulted with the Charter School Association regarding the Board's role at this stage of the Charter Renewal process. He reported that previous interviews and follow-up meetings with DESE fulfill the board's principal involvement other than final submission. - - **Executive Director Review Process:** - (RF) reported that the Governance committee met to finalize survey questions and made progress toward establishing a regular ED review cadence. - **Proposed timeline:** - May 15: (NG) submits self-assessment on goals. - May meeting: Presentation of that to the board. - May 25: Survey sent to board. - June 5: Survey responses due. - August Board meeting: Final report and discussion. - What followed was a discussion on this cadence and timing with (AZK) asking if it might be prudent to have the review before the end of the year considering contracts and performance evaluation cycles. (BF) agreed that we could consider a mid-year review cadence. (RF) felt that getting one done in this proposed cadence was important but offered to consult Robert Carpenter at the Charter School Association for best practices on future timing. - **Board Recruitment:** - (RF) reminded members that an ongoing search for new board members was important. Members were encouraged to identify potential candidates and forward them for initial conversations. - **Summer Retreat:** - (RF) Suggested that planning for a late August one-day retreat similar to last year would begin. He will again consult with the Association. **Executive Director's Report (NG)** ● **Student Achievement & Engagement:** ● Seventh-grade culminating event: Students created and presented world religion podcasts. ● Event included family attendance and board member participation; podcasts are available online. (RF) reported that the event was exciting to be at and	

		offered to forward links to the scholars' work for members who were not there. ● This event highlighted significant student growth and strong community support. ● **Family Engagement:** ● Hosted an event about unlocking the connecting between vision and learning; SEPAC (Special Education Parent Committee) support noted. ● There is an upcoming fundraising even at BJ's Restaurant. ● **Facilities:** ● Asbestos inspection returned clear results. ● Roof leaks have occurred; facility aging and space planning is under review. ● The school is working to engage with a facilities planning vendor for long-term strategy. ● **Staffing:** ● The school is currently fully staffed; one social studies teacher going on maternity leave, long-term sub has been identified. ● Anticipate hiring 5 new teachers for next year due to enrollment. ● Renewal letters to be sent to staff by Friday; some non-renewals, but no position cuts. ● **Program Development:** ● Exploring a STEAM program for grades 6–8 as an alternative to world language. ● Parent survey responses were positive. ● A frequent school donor would be consulted regarding support for equipment. ● **Enrollment:** ● Current enrollment: 312 students. ● Lottery applications for next year: 205 applicants, 158 acceptances, 145 completed registrations. ● Projected continued growth toward charter cap of 396 students. **Financial Report (NR)** ● **Monthly Financials:** ● February cash flow stable; revenue and expenses aligned. ● Debt service metrics remain above 1.0, bank is satisfied. ● Surplus expected due to unspent placement and student services funds (~$150k). ● **FY27 Budget Planning:** ● Draft budget based on 330 students with 5 additional staff and 4% salary increases. ● Conservative forecast; actual enrollment may reach 360, creating additional surplus. ● Finance Committee approved the 4% salary increase for next year. ● **Discussion:** ● Enrollment projections and funding timelines reviewed. ● Potential mid-year staff additions would likely focus on special education or instructional support.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn (by BF) and seconded by (NR) approved unanimously, via roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; JC-yes; NG-yes	7:31

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

March 24, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/iwy-ppng-ghd
Or dial: (US) +1 321-586-1056 PIN: 415 963 372#

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of February 2026 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	Follow-up items - Board Role at this stage of Charter renewal process - Governance Committee update (ED review timeline) - Board recruitment reminder - Summer retreat ED Report February 2026 Financials and Draft FY27 budget	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting MINUTES

February 24, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Arnold Zar-Kessler (AZK), Rick Felty (RF), Danielle Barney (DB), John Ermilio (JE), Nichole Reilly (NR), Noel Green (NG), Robert Foley (BF)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	**Call to Order:** RF called the meeting to order. BF moved to call the meeting; AZK seconded. **Approved** via unanimous roll call.	6:33
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	**January Minutes:** BF moved to approve the January minutes as written; NR seconded. **Approved** via unanimous roll call.	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	Executive Director's Goals & Evaluation ● **Goal Setting:** NG presented updated medium- and long-term parameters for his professional goals. ● **Next Steps:** The Board will review these updates for discussion in March. The Governance Committee will use these goals to develop survey questions for NG's year-end evaluation report. Executive Director's Report ● **Community & Culture:** NG highlighted a successful middle school talent show and a parent coffee focused on student internet safety. ● **Charter Renewal:** The six-month state charter renewal process has begun. The Board must vote to approve the application by July 31st, following a prepared submission by the administrative team. ● **Staffing:** The school remains fully staffed. Hiring is underway for a temporary paternity leave placement starting in April. ● **Enrollment:** Current enrollment is 313. Lottery applications are trending upward (200 vs. 150 last year), with the largest first lottery in over six years. ● **Facilities:** JE has requested quotes for a Facilities Master Plan to evaluate current space (approx. 35,000 sq. ft.) and plan for future growth and potential expansion. Financial Report	

		● **Budget Updates:** NR reported a $60,000 adjustment in state tuition/grants. Snow removal is expected to exceed the budget, while student services remain under budget. ● **Cash Flow:** Despite a shift in net cash from operations due to corrected state payments, the school maintains a healthy cash buffer of approximately $783,000. New Business & Announcements ● **25th Anniversary:** A committee is planning three events for the 2026–27 school year, culminating in a signature gala in Spring 2027. ● **Development:** AZK suggested aligning the facilities study results with the 25th-anniversary milestone to launch a potential fundraising campaign.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	AZK moved to adjourn; DB seconded. **Approved** via unanimous roll call.	7:33

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

February 24, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/ftg-accg-rrh
Or dial: (US) +1 575-518-3236 PIN: 224 604 337#

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of January 2026 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	ED Goals Update. Next step, Governance Committee prep for year-end survey. ED Goals For Board Supervision 2025/2026-Draft ED Report January 2026 Financials	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

January 27, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK); Danielle Barney(DB); Jennica Cesar(JC)-arrived at 7:05; Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE)
Guest: Gary Alpert(GA)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call the meeting to order-AZK; 2nd-DB; Roll call vote-NR-yes;RF-yes;BF-yes;DB-yes;AZK-yes	6:31
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve December 2025 meeting minutes-BF; 2nd-NR; Roll call vote-NR-yes;RF-yes;BF-yes;DB-yes;AZK-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **Finance**	R. Felty Gary Alpert / N. Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	RF encouraged Board members to participate in Mass Charter Schools Fair Funding Week. "You should have received emails from MA Charter and McAuliffe. Please participate in the calls to action." GA confirmed that the focus is on facility funding increases for FY27. Enrollment Report: GA began by thanking the Board for having him. Three students left McAuliffe just after the December break; three new students enrolled within two weeks, two in 6th grade. Enrollment, therefore, is steady at 314. GA reviewed the enrollment plan. January 28 is going to be the last 'in-person' Open House for FY26. He will conduct individual and small group family tours as requested. A FY27 waitlist may be needed for 6th grade and 7th grade. There will be space in 8th grade. RF thanked GA for the detailed plans and decisions. "These are exciting times for the school. Congratulations." DB shared two examples of students who love McAuliffe. She asked, "Why wouldn't you accept even more if you know some won't come anyway?" GA said, "We need to be prepared if everyone were to accept, AND, show up on the first day of school." AZK-" Congrats on the remarkable success. This is a significant turnaround." "What has been the most significant lever for this success?" GA-" the culture of the school. It has to start there. We're an EL school, which isn't for everyone. But the support for students, and their excitement around the progra,m gets shared in the community." RF-" we're looking forward to seeing how this plays out." NR presented the December 2025 Financials. "It's business as usual as far as the balance sheet," NR explained that the drop in December's tuition reimbursement is a result of the October SIMS enrollment submission. The budget had planned for this in January. But it's ok, as the cash flow was in place to absorb the decrease one month early. The student services line amount will adjust down as the budget year progresses. McAuliffe does not pay for student out-placement services. Those costs are paid by the 'home district.'	

		NR briefly mentioned that the Foundation is researching facility enhancements and possible mortgage refi. There is no solid data to present yet. Very early in the process. ED Goals & Board Review of ED - NG shared his goals for the remainder of FY26. He said, "These will likely not change much going into next year." Enrollment, community outreach(partnerships), school culture, academic performance, and fundraising remain the priority areas. RF reviewed the ED review process from the Governance Committee. Board members will be asked for feedback on the ED this spring. The review will occur by the end of the fiscal year. In FY27, the process will begin earlier in the school year. NG's goals are rooted in the Board-approved Strategic Plan. They also incorporate DESE feedback from their 2025 site visit. NG noted, "The enrollment plan is vital as students are the most important revenue source." He also pointed out that FY'27 is McAuliffe's 25th Anniversary. Board participation and marketing will be important throughout the year-long celebration. Lastly, NG mentioned that developing a fundraising plan will be a longer-term, but necessary, goal. RF pointed out that "this list of goals is good to have on record as a roadmap." NG mentioned that "we need to be strategic as to how we approach each of them." AZK thanked NG for taking the time to put this together. "Your goal of 80%-85% of staff retention is laudable. Where are we now? NG and JE did not have exact data, but both believe that McAuliffe is not far off from that range. DB asked what the timeline for these goals is. RF and NG said that it will depend on the specific goal and the progress toward that goal. NR suggested categorizing each goal and using the "SMART Goal" approach. Everyone agreed that this is a good method. JE pointed out that enrollment trends throughout McAuliffe's history seem to increase or decrease in approximately 5-year increments. NG said, "If we are in the first couple of years of an enrollment increase, it's important to make strategic decisions during this time of 'strength.' Academic metrics/goals are tied to MCAS results. This data may become less reliable now that the MCAS is not a graduation requirement. Students, and possibly teachers, may take it less seriously. AZK noted, "Regardless of standardized tests, excellent teachers and instruction are key to academic success." NG agreed. NG noted that FY27 is our Charter Renewal year. There will be Board participation in this process. He stated that DESE wants to see that students/staff are safe, learning is happening, and students who need support are receiving it. McAuliffe will be renewed if all that exists. AZK asked about an 'audacious' goal. "What is a big dream?" NG agreed that he and the Board should think that way. He'd like the Board to be part of that process. NR asked that NG edit his goals and submit them to the Gov Cmt. DB asked for Board access to calendars/newsletters so they can know what is going on. Right now, only the Board Chair has that access. JE will ensure the Board receives the weekly family newsletter and the weekly staff memo.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-BF; 2nd-DB. Roll call vote-NR-yes;RF-yes;BF-yes;DB-yes;AZK-yes; JC-yes	7:45

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

January 27, 2026 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/gzt-zmzm-ikn
Or dial: (US) +1 218-301-1527 PIN: 695 408 392#

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of December 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business	R. Felty	Mass Charter Schools Fair Funding Week ED Goals and Evaluation Process. Discussion of ED goals.	
	Gary Alpert / N. Green	Enrollment Report: G. Alpert to present with a Q&A.	
Finance	N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	December 2025 Financials	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting MINUTES

December 22, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Bob Foley(BF); Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK); Noel Green(NG); John

Ermilio(JE) Absent: Jennica Cesar; Danielle Barney

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call meeting to order-BF; 2nd-NR; Roll Call Vote-NR-yes;AZK-yes;BR-yes;RF-yes	6:34
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve November 2025 minutes –BF; 2nd-AZK;Roll Call Vote-NR-yes;AZK-yes;BR-yes;RF-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report**	R. Felty Noel Green	RF reached out to someone regarding Board membership. BF also did the same. RF reminded the Board that if you know of, or can think of, someone who may be a good fit for the Board, please reach out to them or put him in touch with them. Executive Director's Report NG noted in his ED Report the following: ● Very pleased with student intention around 'community'. During the 7th & 8th grade units on World Religions, students have interacted with local Faith leaders. This has provided a positive real-life application of their learning. ● Family Engagement – PTG has been great. A recent meeting was held at school with a virtual option. They have actively supported teacher appreciation activities. Most PTG leaders are 8th-grade parents; there is active recruitment going on for 6th and 7th-grade parent involvement. ● State Management & Compliance ○ Charter renewal is next school year - 2026-27. DESE rep will reach out in February. This is an opportunity to celebrate & highlight our successes ○ RF asked about the schedule of work for the renewal. NG-most of the work will be done from March through August 2026 ○ AZK asked what the metrics are for the renewal assessment. NG-yes, about our success on our mission, but also on what we self-report based on questions provided by DESE. ○ BFasked if there will be an ad-hoc committe established. NG-yes. ○ NG- This is my first time through a MA Charter renewal. If it's similar to the site visit, then we will rely on many different stakeholders. NG will send the site visit report to the Board. ● 8th Grade Civics – NG visited Mr. Heinlein's class to watch students engaged in a 'free speech' argument based on on Tinker v DesMoines case	

		• Climate & Culture - 2026-27 is the 25th Anniversary of McAuliffe Charter School. Admin team held a brainstorming meeting. Anniversary committee is being created. The Board will have input. BF asked if any Foundation members were involved with the opening of the school. JE - yes, R. Voos. Also, G. Alpert has contact info for members of the 1st graduating class. • Enrollment – 111 applications for February lottery. 84 at this time in 2025. Student Culture Team has visited FPS elementary schools. Currently there is no plan to place a cap on lottery acceptances. NR believes there may be an individual grade cap. NG will ask G. Alpert to confirm. We are being cautious with our planning. With only one year of an increase we don't know if this is a trend or an anomaly. FPS enrollment is down approximately 600 students. Not sure at what levels and where those students are going. AZK asked if that fact could cause FPS to reduce support for McAuliffe. NG doesn't believe so due to the strength of the MOU and his communication/relationship with FPS Superintendent. JE cited census data showing fewer school-age children in Framingham.	
Finance	N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	November 2025 Financials – NR reviewed finances. No major changes for this month. The B v A stipend change will be $45k adjustment. Cash flow is in a good position for the month, as forecast. No borrowing from the Foundation. There was a $5k donation from the Mass Cultural Council. 25 student chairs purchase will be capitalized. The $7,500 STEM donation that came in today will be in the December report. Debt service ratio continues to track above MSB requirement. JE is contacting architects and structural engineers to have the modular building inspected. It is 20-25 years old. Better to be proactive to address repair/replacement as enrollment growth continues. AZK asked at what point would we consider a replacement, etc. JE-more information is needed about the condition of the building. NR asked if the Foundation should be involved. JE-yes, as they are the property owner. BF sent JE and RF suggestions and contact information for architects. JE has reached out.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-AZK; 2nd-NR; Roll Call Vote-NR-yes;AZK-yes;BR-yes;RF-yes	7:26

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

<u>Meeting Agenda</u>

December 22, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/yoy-mkjt-adu
Or dial: (US) +1 406-578-3880 PIN: 111 917 147#

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of November 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	 Executive Director's Report November 2025 Financials	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

November 25, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK); Jennica Cesar(JC); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Danielle Barney(DB); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call meeting to order-BF; 2nd-JC; Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF;AZK;DB;JC;NR;BF	6:31
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve October 2025 minutes – BF; 2nd-JC; Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF;AZK;DB;JC;NR;BF	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No member of the public is present	

Board business	R. Felty	JE provided context to DESE's request for the updated Expulsion Policy. The school updated the policy several years ago, but did not notify DESE. They were working from the 2015 version. DESE requests that the School follow the procedure to amend, approve, and submit the policy. AZK asked how often the policy been enforced. JE said zero times during his time at McAuliffe. NG also said zero times during his tenure. NG explained that families usually withdraw their students before they are expelled. Motion to approve the updated expulsion policy-NR; 2nd-BF; Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF;AZK;DB;JC;NR;BF	
ED Report	Noel Green	NG highlighted portions of his ED report; see the report linked below. • Family Engagement – McAuliffe staff and Board member J. Cesar attended the Charter School Association gathering at the Statehouse. CMCS leaders met with Rep. Souza. The discussion centered on pending legislation on lowering the charter school cap. Overall positive feedback. JC enjoyed the gathering and promoted that Rep. Souza is a "great advocate for McAuliffe Charter." • Academic Progress - Upcoming "Executive Functioning" webinar hosted by McAuliffe and led by Sara Ward. Open to the entire McAuliffe community and the FPS community. Supports our MOU with FPS. NG said he would like McAuliffe to make these types of opportunities a regular occurrence. • School Culture - the 7th grade is our most challenging. Two students have chosen to withdraw. "It is probably best for them to have a new environment." 6th and 8th grades are doing very well. AZK asked how the morale is among the 7th-grade teachers. NG said, "It's day to day, but we have support mechanisms in place for them." DB concurred that the 7th grade is a challenge. "They were a challenge in FPS as elementary students. They are slowly learning that they can be 'seen' without being 'confrontational.' DB mentioned that she heard two 5th-grade students, whether CMCS or Fuller Middle School, had 'fewer fights.' NG, "overall discipline numbers are positive. Both incidents of fighting and suspensions are down compared to the same time in FY25. Enrollment Numbers as of Monday, November 24, 2025 6th graders: 129 7th graders: 95 8th graders: 90 Total: 314 **Enrollment Update – 2025–26 School Year** Enrollment continues to stabilize for the 2025–26 school year. Two students have unenrolled — one relocated to Brazil and the other returned to traditional public school, though their sibling remains enrolled at Christa McAuliffe. During that same timeframe, two new 7th-grade students joined us: one transferred from Newton Public Schools, and the other has been homeschooled for the past five years. Last month, two students were considering transferring. Both have now withdrawn — one due to residency in Marlborough and transportation challenges, and the other chose to remain at their current school but may reconsider McAuliffe for the fall. **Outreach & Recruitment Efforts**	

		On November 6, 2025, Christa McAuliffe was invited to present to families at Summit Montessori School. The event had excellent attendance, and I spoke with many families. Several tours have already been scheduled throughout November and December. To date, we have visited **Stapleton, Harmony Grove, and Dunning**, and will continue through December until all schools have been reached. Met with the Head of School at MetroWest Jewish Day School, who shared that the school will be closing. He expressed a desire to help ensure smooth placement for their students next year. Provided information about McAuliffe. Since then, we have received inquiries, tour requests, and applications. --- **November 18 Open House Update** • **50 families pre-registered**, • **38 attended**, • **10 who did not attend are now registered for the December session**, The next Open House will take place on Saturday, December 13. **Lottery Update** The **2**026–27 enrollment lottery opened in November. As of Monday, November 24, we have **64 applications**, compared to **40 at this time last year**. The first lottery will take place on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. RF commented that the social media posts look positive and powerful. NG mentioned the Strategic Plan presentation to the staff on November 25th. JE, Nellie Zupancic, and Tony Fratantonio each presented a ‘pillar.’ “Positive and well-received presentation.” AZK commended NG for his growth in his presence and confidence in leading CMCS. JC agreed and offered her time to help advocate for the school.	
Finance **Governance**	N. Reilly/J. Ermilio R. Felty/B. Foley	NR reviewed the October financials. Budget changes reflect the increase in students from 310 to 315. Net change also includes the salary adjustments. Net gain for FY26 continues to project positively. Cash position for October is strong. No borrowing from the Foundation is necessary. Overall, there are no ‘surprises’ in the budget. Tuition reimbursements will decrease in December or January, depending on the DESE Finance Dept., to reflect the decrease in the 345 student Pre-Enrollment projection to the 315 student SIMS report. Debt service compliance continues to be above a 1:1 ratio. Federal funding is committed for FY26. FY27 budget may be impacted by uncertainty at the Federal level. NR, NG, and JE explained the Holiday stipend for the staff discussed and promoted by the Finance Committee. AZK, “it’s a ‘no-brainer’ with the current budget surplus we are projecting. It’s the right thing to do.” Motion to approve a $200 holiday stipend for staff with McAuliffe paying the taxes, whether or not the McAuliffe Foundation votes to pay 50% of the cost - BF; 2nd-AZK; Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF; AZK; DB; JC; NR; BF	

		JE reviewed the updated lease agreement between the Foundation and the School. It was recommended by the school's legal counsel and the auditors that the agreement be updated. Original dates to 2017. NR questioned the renewal date, suggesting that it align with the Charter renewal, 2027. Motion to approve the lease agreement in its substantial form, with NR's edit. Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF;AZK;DB;JC;NR;BF JE will bring the agreement to the Foundation Board for their approval. RF reviewed Governance Committee agenda, Board file retention. The committee will work with NG on ED's goals for FY26 and align them with the Strategic Plan. The ED evaluation process will then be established. Will work with MA Charter on the process. Board members are tasked with the goal of finding one prospective person to present as a possible new Board member.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-DB; 2nd-JC; Roll Call Vote - all yes - RF;AZK;DB;JC;NR;BF	7:45

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

November 25, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/ovu-ybqv-imr
Or dial: (US) +1 631-438-1118 PIN: 809 794 965#
More phone numbers: https://tel.meet/ovu-ybqv-imr?pin=4683014837390

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of October 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance** **Governance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio R. Felty/B. Foley	Expulsion policy. Policy Amendment letter & request Updated Lease agreement with the Foundation Executive Director's Report October Financials • Holiday stipend? Board Monthly Agenda Schedule McAuliffe Board Monthly Meeting Agenda Schedule	

		Board File Retention McAuliffe Board File Retention Layout Board Member Recruitment Mass Charter Public School Assoc. Support Seminars for 2026	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Danielle Barney(DB); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE); Guest presenter– Nellie Zupancic(NZ)
Absent: Arnold Zar-Kessler(AZK); Jennica Cesar(JC)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call the meeting to order: BF; 2n-NR; Roll call vote– RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	6:35 p.m.
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to accept September 2025 meeting minutes - NR; 2nd-BF; RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report**	R. Felty Noel Green	Governance Committee Report - BF provided a summary of the 1st meeting ● The committee will meet approximately every 4-6 weeks ● Initial focus is on: ○ Review process for ED evaluation ○ Clarify and 'clean up' files in the Board Google Drive ○ Create an annual calendar for Board meeting agenda items Executive Director's Report. NG reviewed highlights. See full report linked in agenda below. ● Annual Report edits were accepted by DESE ● Thanked the Board for their work on the strategic plan ● PTG and school are alternating months for staff appreciation. PTG provided drinks and snacks for PD session last week. The school will provide lunch for November's PD ● NG asked JE to provide an overview of the Condominium Trust. JE explained the purpose of the Trust, established to oversee common areas of the property, and the relationship between the Trust, the Foundation, and the School. ● NG said that Gary Alpert has scheduled appointments at FPS elementary schools for student recruitment. He will be joined by members of our Student Culture Team and Tony Fratantonio. "We are working toward ensuring that our current 6th-grade class is not an 'outlier.'	

Finance	N. Reilly/J. Ermilio	NR stated that the audit firm Daniel Dannis presented the FY25 Audit to the Finance Committee on Friday, October 24th. The audit is clean with no findings. The school and Foundation are in significantly more positive financial situations than in recent years due to the sale of 135 Newbury Street. DB was the only Board member in attendance who was not part of the Finance Committee. She did not have any questions regarding the FY25 Audit. Per the recommendation of the Finance Committee, a motion was made to approve the FY25 Audit - BF; 2nd-DB; RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes. NR affirmed that the September financial picture is consistent with what is in the budget projection. October is when school operations will begin to influence the budget in greater amounts. November looks to have some personnel adjustments due to a resignation and a PFML. New staff has been hired. There was no need for the school to borrow from the Foundation in September. Projecting that also to be the case for October. The school and Foundation continue to be on track to meet the debt service covenant. RF acknowledged the importance of budget planning, enrollment increase, and the sale of 135 Newbury as key factors for the school's solid financial position at this time. NG asked a clarifying question about enrollment's link to the June budget surplus projection. JE/NR explained the impact of DESE's 'true-up' in June, which determines the actual tuition reimbursement amount that McAuliffe will have received for FY26. This is a key factor in the final budget surplus/deficit amount.	
MCAS / NWEA	N. Zupancic	NZ thanked RF for coming to school to speak with students about their Children's Book writing project. RF, "It was so much fun. Great to be in the room with different students/learners. The school looks good, and the feeling was really good." NZ presented the results of FY25 MCAS testing. See the link to the slide presentation in the agenda below for more details. Highlights include: ● ELA and Math tests for all grades; Civics and Science, grade 8 only ● MCAS is an accountability measure. Lower scores lead to increased DESE oversight and less autonomy in curriculum. ○ Parents use the data to guide school choices ○ McAuliffe internally uses the data to support students and guide curriculum decisions ○ EL Education uses the data in its credentialing decision ● The big picture view is that there is some good news and some concerning news. The concerning news, however, is not surprising. ○ BF asked for clarity on what "growth" means in relation to MCAS scoring. NZ explained that it is a comparison data point to the student's previous performance on the same test. Ie, a 7th-grade ELA score is compared to the students' 6th-grade ELA scores. Civics is only taken in the 8th grade; therefore, there is no 'growth' measurement data. ● There has been significant teacher turnover in recent years in 6th-grade math. In addition, students are coming in with lower skill levels. NZ acknowledged that FPS is likely to have the same student skill level challenges. ● Science is more difficult to compare as it's only 8th grade. ● Growth is very important to us as a school. "Meeting & Exceeding" aligns with our mission as we believe that all our students can achieve at high levels. ● BF asked if, in general do Civics results track with ELA results. NZ agrees that it is a reasonable comparison. It is not surprising that they are similar. ● DB asked if McAulife adopted a new math curriculum recently. NZ confirmed this to be true. ● At last week's schoolwide community meeting, NZ publicly acknowledged those students who are meeting and exceeding on their MCAS scores. "It's important for students to receive recognition from their peers and teachers. ● McAuliffe will continue to use MCAS data to strategically coach teachers, especially those new teachers to our community. School leadership will use data to strategically plan for recruiting and retaining strong math teachers. ● The Goals block is an academic intervention source with more students in a Math Goals block.	

		• DB asked if McAuliffe of interventions to help MLL students with reading & comprehension in Math.
		    ○ NZ stated that one of the school's professional learning goals for this year is to 'lift up' our MLL students and instruction. Our ELL Coordinator is developing model MLL lessons in specific content areas.
		    ○ DB also asked if the school partners with FPS in areas of weakness/growth for elementary students, because they are dealing with the same challenges. NG and NZ highlighted that the MOU with FPS identifies this type of communication and collaboration. McAuliffe will work with FPS in this area. BF mentioned that learning what FPS is doing to address their skills gap and CMCS sharing best practices will benefit both sides.
		• NZ is hopeful for 6th-grade Math this year with new faculty, a strong curriculum, and the add-on of Math Goals Block.
		• NZ highlighted 1st set of NWEA Math scores.
		    ○ 7th grade improved over last year
		    ○ 6th grade is 'less weak' than last year
		    ○ The goal is for all students to meet/exceed
		• NWEA Reading - 8th-grade is strongest. That speaks to their 3 years in our strong curriculum. 6th and 7th grade are doing ok with room to grow..
		• BF thanked NZ for the data review and discussion
		• NZ asked the Trustees to attend the culminating event next month if their schedule allows.
		• NZ left the meeting at 7:23 p.m.
		RF mentioned how good it is for the Trustees to have that level of discussion around academics. NG pointed out that MCAS & NWEA results are just singular data points. He regularly hears from alumni and alumni-parents about how well prepared they are for high school.	

Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn - BF; 2nd-DB; RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes.	7:45 p.m.

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

<u>Meeting Agenda</u>

October 28, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Item	**Presenter**	**Links to Materials**	**Start Time**
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of September 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	

Board business **ED Report** **Finance** **MCAS**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly/J. Ermilio N. Zupancic	Governance Committee Report - Bob Foley Executive Director's Report September Financials FY'25 Audit 135-139 Newbury Street Condominium Trust presentation	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting MINUTES

September 24, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Danielle Barney(DB); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE)
Absent: Jennica Cesar(JC); Arnold Zar-Kessler(AZK)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call the meeting to order-DB; 2nd-BF; Roll call vote: RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes	6:35 pm
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve August 25 minutes-BF; 2nd-NR; Roll call vote: RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly	**Follow-up, Board positions** – RF stated that at this time, no one has expressed further interest. He would like to table this topic until new members of the Board are added. **Retreat follow-up, Creation of a Board Governance Committee** MccAuliffe Board Governance Committee Proposal RF said that information for this proposal was adapted from other schools and the MA Charter School Association. BF suggested adding to section #6 supporting material so that the Executive Committee can act on immediate actions in place of a full Board vote until the next meeting. RF agrees this makes sense and is a worthwhile addition. NR mentioned the need to follow OM Law; however, on an emergency matter, it may not be needed. RF also believes that due to the current size of our Board, we may not need an Executive Committee. DB is concerned about OM Law challenges. BF suggested a word change in the "Responsibilities" section. From 'ensure' an effective process of ED evaluation, to 'implement' an effective process. All agreed. NR suggested a section on "on-boarding" new Trustees should be added. RF agreed and will place it in the "Responsibilities" section. NR also suggested adding in "regular coordination wth the Foundation." RF thought it could wait until the Governance Committee is up and running.	

		Motion to approve Governance Committee as a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees pending edits - NR; 2nd-BF; Roll call vote: RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes BF and DB volunteered to be members of the Governance Committee alon with RF. **Executive Director's Report** - NG highlighted the following: – The start of school has been strong. All programming is in full swing – Rocket launch - crews create paper rockets and launch them in the parking lot as a competition. A really fun interdisciplinary project – Family Engagement - made Board aware of bus scheduling challenges that impact approximately 25 students. NG met with FPS Superintendent. Was assured that all students will get a bus assignment within the next two weeks. – MOU with FPS - no substantive changes from the FY24 MOU. Important for the Board to be familiar with its provisions. The McAuliffe ED and Framingham Superintendent meet each year to review and implement an MOU between the schools. – Safety & Facilities - NG inquired about ALICE training for the students. He will only move forward with Board approval. RF asked NG to check what other middle schools are doing. DB suggested reaching out to FPS Safety Director. The elementary schools practice protocols for lockdowns. McAuliffe does that also. NG would like this on the agenda for the next meeting. – Staffing - fully staffed at this time. A list of per-diem guest teachers is being created. –NWEA testing starts this week for all grade levels – First Community Meeting was a success, with the 6th-grade students greeted by the 7th & 8th-grade students. – Enrollment Numbers as of Monday, September 22, 2025 6th graders: 132; 7th graders: 94; 8th graders: 91; Total: 317 **August Financials** – NR/BF/JE provided a review of the August financials. Cash flow is as expected with July and August being 'quiet' because school activities are not in full swing. June school lunch reimbursement was delayed. Arrived in August. The school drew $100k from the Foundation account as a LOC for the month. Rent being paid is $32k with $6k held aside by the Foundation to apply toward the year-end interest charge on the bond. Cash position for August is $539K. RPL highlighted that the budget projection looks very good now but things will begin to change as school activities ramp up in October and beyond. $67K in deferred revenue is from the DESE tuition reimbursement overpayment. This number will decrease beginning in December as the DESE reimbursement is likely to fall below the 345 student amount. BF asked about the amount of cash sitting in the bank account. RPL explained it is based on the timing of the report and DESE's tuition payment. JE updated that the Audit is progressing smoothly with Daniel Dennis on track to present at the October Finance Committee meeting.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-BF; 2nd-NR; Roll call vote: RF-yes; DB-yes; BF-yes; NR-yes	7:21

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

September 24, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/dya-pzqk-hfu
Or dial: (US) +1 417-501-4195 PIN: 490 511 076#
More phone numbers: https://tel.meet/dya-pzqk-hfu?pin=4943299121005

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of August 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	
Board business **ED Report** **Finance**	R. Felty Noel Green N. Reilly	Follow-up, Board positions Retreat follow-up, Creation of a Board Governance Committee MccAuliffe Board Governance Committee Proposal Executive Director's Report August Financials	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.
Present: Rick Felty(FR); Bob Foley(BF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Danielle Barney(DB); Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK); Jennica Cesar(JC); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE)

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	JC made a motion to call the meeting to order. 2nd-BF; Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; AZK-yes; DB-yes; JC-yes; BF-yes	6:33 p.m.

Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	NR made a motion to approve the June 2025 minutes. 2nd-BF. Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; AZK-yes; DB-yes; JC-yes; BF-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present. Per JE	
Board business **Strategic Plan**	R. Felty R. Felty/N. Green AZK left the meeting at 7:10 p.m. JC left the meeting at 7:26 p.m.	– RF opened the meeting with DESE recommendations from the Accountability Report. 1) There are 4 Board Officer positions, but only 2 are filled. Chair and Treasurer. A Secretary and Vice-Chair are needed. RF described each role. They are one-year appointments. He asked members to consider the roles, and he would circle back, and then a vote would be taken at a future meeting. – RF followed up on the Board Retreat in August. RF has feedback on the Governance Committee and is working on a draft of the committee's definition, role, and responsibilities. Will share for the September meeting. – RF asked NG about the Strategic Plan being a draft plan for discussion tonight and then a final draft for a vote at the September meeting. NG and JE confirmed that a vote tonight can occur with caveats for edits. –NG reviewed the DRAFT Strategic Plan. He commended A. Lyons, Office Manager, for her editing and formatting work. He explained that the 3-year window and 3 pillars are purposeful because of the ever-evolving educational landscape and current environment. NG reminded the Board that the previous ED started this process, and she and B.o.T. decided to pause to allow the new ED and Board to finalize the vision. –NG highlighted some edits in the plan. 1) The sale of 135 Newbury Street has already occurred, and therefore, statements about it will be removed from the Strategic Plan. 2) Fundraising will be a focus of this plan, and enrollment is a major driver of this effort. It will also include grants, community partnerships, and benefactors. B.o.T. will have this as a key piece to their functions. NG recommends being smart in this area and not taking on more than the B.o.T. can handle. RF commented that the Director of Advancement role 'jumps out' and acknowledged that the Governance Committee can assist in this area. NG stated that this is a long-term goal. He asked JE for his perspective. JE agreed with NG that a DoA role should remain in the plan as an aspirational goal. NR supported the idea/plan to work carefully in this process and to include the McAuliffe Foundation. AZK noted that 6 bullet points in this pillar relate to fundraising. "That's a lot." Suggested reducing/combining to 2-3, and creating a case statement for support. NG agreed and restated his belief that the strategic plan should be brief and streamlined. AZK agreed and commended NG for creating the foundation for this pillar. RF suggested an edit stating that any surplus money will be invested by the Foundation rather than the School. – Pillar #2 – NG reinforced that improving standardized test scores is crucial. Speaks directly to our current and prospective parents. "This is data they know." It is quite possible that state law changes regarding MCAS will impact our scores in the future. Nevertheless, DESE will continue to monitor schools in relation to the scores. NR and DB agreed that MCAS will remain important for both our parents and the state. DB noted that DESE is unlikely to change how they evaluate schools when it comes to MCAS. JC noted that she has heard students say "it doesn't matter." DB has heard similar. DB will share edits with NG for Pillar 2. –Pillar 3 – NG noted the pillars are not in any particular order. Building climate and culture is vital to the strength and longevity of the school. NG highlighted the new "Habits of Character," replacing HOWLS as a collaborative effort of the school community in	

	AZK rejoined the meeting at 7:28 p.m.	developing areas for cultural growth. RF asked if 'service learning' is something new. NG confirmed that it is a continuation of what we are already doing. –Motion to approve the Strategic Plan, made by AZK, pursuant to the edits suggested.. 2nd by DB. Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; AZK-yes; DB-yes; JC-yes; BF-yes	
Finance	N. Reilly	NR reviewed the July financials. FY25 accrued payroll is a summer liability for FY26 until the August 15th pay. The balance sheet looks different now that the sale of 135 Newbury Street is complete. There is no significant 'due to/from' line item from the Foundation. The changes to the equipment line item are because the Finance Committee decided to purchase new Chromebooks for the 2025-26 school year at the end of FY25. The 'line of credit' is now through the Foundation's operating checking account. Action on the LOC will be reflected in the cashflow worksheet. The rent amount will be adjusted to $28k/month as the Foundation decided to cover the interest charges on the loan, approximately $6k/month, using funds from the sale of the building. Finally, as of right now, the budget looks good, and we are still projecting a surplus for FY26.	
ED Report	Noel Green- used this time to review the Strategic Plan		
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-RF; 2nd-AZK. Roll call vote: RF-yes; NR-yes; AZK-yes; DB-yes; JC-yes; BF-yes	7:40 p.m.

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

August 26, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.
Online via Google Meet

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/bfk-unfp-piw
Or dial: (US) +1 240-544-6324 PIN: 819 663 235#
More phone numbers: https://tel.meet/bfk-unfp-piw?pin=8331151852520

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of June 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	

Board business **Strategic Plan** **Finance** **ED Report**	R. Felty R. Felty/N. Green N. Reilly Noel Green	- Board officer positions open - Vice-Chair and Secretary - Follow-up on Board Retreat - Governance Committee Presentation, discussion and tweaks to the Draft Strategic Plan June and July Financials Executive Director's Report	
Adjourn	R. Felty		

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting MINUTES

June 24, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Present: Rick Felty(RF); Nichole Reilly(NR); Danielle Barney(DB); Bob Foley(BF); Arnie Zar-Kessler(AZK); Noel Green(NG); John Ermilio(JE) Absent: Jennica Cesar

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty	Motion to call meeting to order-NR; 2nd-DB; Roll call vote-RF-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes	6:36 p.m.
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Motion to approve May minutes-AZK; 2nd-BF; Roll call vote-RF-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes	
Public Comment	R. Felty	No members of the public present	
Board business **Finance** **ED Report**	R. Felty N. Reilly Noel Green	SY 25-26 meeting schedule - RF asked everyone to review the meeting schedule for the next fiscal year and alert him of any conflicts. RF and NG are working with a leadership coach to schedule a Board retreat for August, prior to the first Board meeting of the new year. Review of the Strategic Plan will be part of the retreat agenda. Target to vote on the Strategic Plan at the first Board meeting of FY26. Discussion around possible retreat dates and times ensued. RF will send out an email with suggested dates and times after consulting with the availability of the leadership coach. May Financials - NR noted the cash flow change is from the closing of the sale of 135 Newbury Street. The 'due to/from' line item was paid back at the closing by the Foundation, paying off the Middlesex Bank line of credit. The 'due to/from' will no longer be listed as an asset/liability going forward. From a cash flow perspective, the ending cash balance for May is sufficient, and there are no challenges expected through the end of the fiscal year. Overall, the school is on target to meet the budget projections. The Chromebook purchase will be booked to FY2025. Executive Director's Report - NG is happy that he's now seen a full year of McAuliffe programming and operations. Graduation was a great success. Enjoyable for everyone, especially the 'six-word' tradition for each graduate.	

At the final Community Meeting, NG encouraged 7th graders to step up next year as the new student leaders. He cited their exemplary work in the Podcast project as representative of their leadership capacity. NG also implored the 6th to focus on their personal growth, especially in the area of reading over the summer.

The 8th-grade pool party was a great success, even with a little challenge from the weather. Parents were very generous in their donations of food and volunteer time. Thanks to the YMCA for the use of their facility in Hopkinton.

Staffing for FY26 - hired a Director of Student Services. Our current Director is moving on to a new position closer to her home. There were three strong candidates and with groups of parents, staff, and students meeting with all three and unanimously choosing the new hire. She has strong experience in technical expertise in Special Education and is a very positive people person. She should be a great culture fit. Have also hired humanities and math teachers. As of this meeting, the school is still in need of math/science, English, Spanish, and Special Education teachers.

8th-grade concluded the year with a successful trip to the Statehouse to culminate their Civics Action Project

Discipline/supervision data for May 2025 is good for a school of our size. The data is a little higher than 2024 but not alarming. AZK asked for analysis, not just year over year, but also type of offense, grade level, and gender. Are there patterns? How do they relate to your style as a leader?" NG noted that DESE requires this level of detail in the Annual Report, particularly in areas of Special Education and race, and he will provide it at a future meeting. AZK noted that the sq ft/student, for our small-sized school, is less constrictive than other districts and therefore a likely contributing factor to the low incidence of 'fighting.' It is a positive indicator of leadership efforts." Discussion ensued around staff conversations with students concerning appropriate language use. NG, DB, and AZK each noted that the discussion is also important for staff to have with one another. AZK commended NG for leading in these important discussions with students and staff on how language is used and tolerated in school.

Enrollment - Our final enrollment numbers for FY25, as Friday **June 20, 2025**
6th graders: 88
7th graders: 94
8th graders: 95
Total: 277
We had two families leave with one week left of school. One was due to the family wanting to give their child an extra week of vacation. This family had commuted all year long from Brockton and had hoped to move to the metrowest area, this did not occur, hence needed to withdraw for next year.
The second family that left, the father had been apprehended by ICE and the mother decided it was not safe for her and the child to remain in the United States and have since left the country to return to Brazil.
We have between 1 and 2 applications submitted a week which we continue to process and accept. This increase in enrollment will afford us some breathing room for the typical summer melt.

Currently we have **164 (up 10 from the last report)** completed registration forms:

6th grade

Registration completed: 143 (Up 5 from the last report)

		Registrations started: 1 Registrations not started yet: 6 **7th grade** **Registration completed: 18 (Up 1 from the last report)** Registrations started: 1 Registrations not started yet: 4 **8th grade** **Registration completed: 3 (Up 1 from the last report)** Registrations started: 1 Registrations not started yet: 0 Based on today's numbers (*only including numbers of completed registrations and students returning)* if we were to start school today we would have: **139** 6th graders **97** 7th graders **96** 8th graders **332** Total We have begun to feel the effect of summer melt and have heard from current families and families that applied for the fall who have withdrawn. The 332 include those who have withdrawn. We will continue to advertise and accept applications. RF congratulated NG on a solid first year and noted the especially positive vibe among staff and the projected enrollment increase. NG noted that he would like the Board to continue its focus for FY26 on fundraising, enrollment/marketing, and expanding board membership to allow for formal committees.	
Adjourn	R. Felty	Motion to adjourn-BF; 2nd-NR; Roll call vote-RF-yes; BF-yes; AZK-yes; NR-yes; DB-yes	7:33 p.m.

Christa McAuliffe Charter School Board of Trustees

Meeting Agenda

June 24, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/zeb-thnr-jhg

Or dial: (US) +1 234-719-3501 PIN: 989 133 819#

Item	Presenter	Links to Materials	Start Time
Call to Order	R. Felty		
Minutes of the previous meeting	R. Felty	Approval of May 2025 minutes – see below	
Public Comment	R. Felty	2 minutes per member of the public	

Board business **Finance** **ED Report**	R. Felty N. Reilly Noel Green	SY 25-26 meeting schedule May Financials Executive Director’s Report	
Adjourn	R. Felty		