

# Foster Elementary Charter School

## Charter Board Meeting Minutes



**Date:** 04.08.25

**Time:** 06:00 PM

**Location:** Foster LMC & Online

<u>Mission</u> Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School creates partnerships among students, staff, parents and community members to serve a diverse population of learners comprised of neighborhood and open enrolled students in grades 4K-5.	<u>Vision</u> Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School develops independent learners who: honor diversity; show respect for themselves, others and the environment; and seek to use their unique strengths to lead efforts to improve the world around them.
---	---

To join the meeting via Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/pyr-vtfj-jhr>

To request free childcare during an in person Board meeting, email [FosCharter@gmail.com](mailto:FosCharter@gmail.com) at least one day in advance.

### Linked Documents & Media –

[March Charter Board Minutes](#)

[2024-2025 Board Member Contact Information](#)

[2024-2025 Charter Board Meeting Dates](#)

[Authorizer Expectations](#)

TOPIC		FACILITATOR
<b>Attendance</b>		
<b>Present</b> Susie Buche Cortney Dvorachek Jennifer Kary Brandi Andrews Aaron Shoemaker Kali Jenneman Jamie Johnston	<b>Absent</b> Kraig Knorr (Excused) Sarah Wylie (Excused)	Cortney
<b>Announcements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Please consider joining a team to represent Foster at the WI Charter Schools Summit. (See email message below for additional info.) Contact a Charter Board officer to join.</li></ul>		Susie

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Hello Governance Board Members! <b>Join Us for the Wisconsin Charter Schools Summit!</b> We invite you and your entire governance board to attend the <b>Wisconsin Charter Schools Summit</b> in Oshkosh on <b>June 16-17</b>. While governance board presidents often attend events like these, this summit is designed for <b>your whole board</b>—an opportunity to grow together and redefine <b>Best Practices for charter boards</b>. Meaningful change takes a team!</li> <li>o The <b>DPI is covering your registration and meal costs</b>, and the hotel attached to the convention center is offering a <b>state rate of \$90/night</b>. Your board will only need to cover the cost of one dinner.</li> <li>o <a href="#">Follow this link</a> for more information, registration and details on the schedule. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Susie, Cortney, Jennifer, and Brandi are currently reviewing their schedules. Please contact either Cortney or Susie to proceed with registering our group.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Call to Order</b>  <b>Approval of Minutes (see Linked Documents &amp; Media)</b>  <b>Changes/Additions? No</b>  <b>Motion to approve by: Brandi Wilson    Seconded by: Jamie Johnston</b>  <b>Result of Vote: Carried</b></p>	Susie
<p><b>Administrator Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Celebrations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One teacher successfully supported all of her students on their PRP in meeting their goals, and they are now eligible for dismissal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>General</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Health Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Katie Boegh will remain out through the end of the school year.</li> <li>▪ Shelly Aures is currently undergoing chemotherapy and experiencing significant side effects.</li> <li>▪ Nicole LaBarge is recovering from surgery and hopes to return to school soon.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Hiring Updates - currently all hired. advocating for additional special education staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A new second grade teacher, Corey Mangold, has been hired. Corey is currently teaching at Horizons.</li> <li>▪ Dan Forness will be joining us as our new special education teacher. He comes to us from the SEBD program at McKinley.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o <a href="#">Budget Update</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ +\$19,587.10</li> <li>▪ Huge thanks to all staff for being so creative, FFN, Charter Board, AEF, Secura, and outside donors</li> <li>▪ Keep in mind that many stipends will be paid out at the end of the year, however, we are on track to meet or exceed our pay back goal to get out of debt.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Future Planning</b></li> </ul>	Kelsi

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <a href="#">Charter Renewal Agenda</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The team will continue to meet to work on the action steps that came from the original committee.</li> <li>▪ Anyone is welcome to join these meetings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Kindergarten Orientation - May 13th 6pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members are welcome to join to meet with new kindergarten families.</li> <li>▪ Brandi and Jennifer will sit at a table for the orientation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Charter Apps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 31 accepted seats at this time</li> <li>▪ 23-24 School Year ~13 accepted seats total</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b><a href="#">Programs &amp; Services Committee</a></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No new reports</li> </ul>	Cortney
<p><b>Business Services Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamie Johnston will be added as the secondary on the charter account at the credit union.</li> <li>• The new treasurer, succeeding Kraig Knorr, will be designated as the primary account holder.</li> </ul>	Kraig/Jamie
<p><b>Policy Review Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voting for elected positions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o There are currently three open positions available on the charter board.</li> <li>o Executive team roles—including president, treasurer, and secretary—will have openings in June.</li> <li>o Aaron Shoemaker, the dean at Foster, has expressed interest in joining the board and was unanimously approved as a new member.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to approve by:</b> Jamie Johnston    <b>Seconded by:</b> Kali Jenneman  <b>Result of Vote:</b> Carried</p>	Kraig
<p><b>Old Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59% of our student body are neighborhood students</li> <li>• Adding class size caps for charter applicants to <del>bylaws</del> governance board handbook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o examples: <a href="#">Highlands</a> and <a href="#">Fulton</a></li> <li>o WI Resource Center for Charter Schools (scroll to end of Board Policy section for local charter school examples) <a href="https://www.wrccs.org/governance/legal.cfm">https://www.wrccs.org/governance/legal.cfm</a></li> <li>o review the Authorizer Expectations document for other requirements Foster may still need to complete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Foster Charter Board will need to start a handbook draft. Kelsi will start a draft for the board to review for the May or June meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Yard Signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Jamie and Lynsi will be making yard signs to use for events to promote Foster</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Susie, Jamie

<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Future Outside funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As a district and school, time will tell about the state and federal budget.</li> <li>○ Kelsi would like to see the charter board to establish an event that could be an annual fundraiser. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Fancy Gala</li> <li>■ Speed Puzzling- Brandi and Cortney will investigate</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Staff Recognition from Charter Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Charter board is exploring a potential partnership with FFN and Community Benefit Tree to support staff members facing health challenges through fundraising efforts.</li> <li>○ Additionally, the board will provide bagels, coffee, or juice as a small gesture of appreciation for staff during this challenging year, with a spending limit of \$250</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to approve by:</b> Susie Buche    <b>Seconded by:</b> Jennifer Kary  <b>Result of Vote:</b> Carried</p>	<p>Jamie, Susie</p>
<p><b>Adjournment</b>  <b>Motion to adjourn by:</b> Jamie Johnston    <b>Seconded by:</b> Kali Jenneman  <b>Result of Vote:</b> Carried</p>	<p><b>Minutes submitted by:</b>  Cortney Dvorachek</p>
<p><b>Topics for Future Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Title I Spring Update</li> <li>● Summer Meeting Dates/2025-2026 Meeting Dates</li> <li>● End of the Year Bash</li> <li>● Committee Members (Aaron and update website)</li> </ul>	

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 06:00, Foster LMC & Virtual

The Foster Charter Board generally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except July, unless there are conflicts with the school calendar or activities, or when the Board's work requires additional meeting time. An Important Dates document is published at the beginning of each school year; any deviations from this schedule are recorded in Board Agendas & Minutes. (Emergency schedule changes are communicated by the most efficient method available at the time.)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Once editing for publication is completed by the Foster Charter Board Secretary & President, a .pdf version of this document must be 1) saved to the FosCharter Google account, 2) emailed to Foster Staff & all others requesting it, 3) published on the Foster School district website, & 4) emailed to Deb Barraza at AASD to be included in district records. 6/24