

ATLANTIC COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Minutes for Tuesday, August 26, 2025
ATL Media Center

1. **Meeting Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chair at 5:06 pm. (Early meeting time due to 6 pm Open House.)
2. **Roll Call/Determination of a Quorum:** Quorum is present.
3. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2025 meeting made by Kathy Burstein; second Pamelina Baglio. Minutes approved.
4. **Adoption of Agenda:** Motion to move item 8 (discussion of open SAC positions) to after New Business, to insure that New Business is completed prior to adjournment. Motion by Kathy Burstein; second Anitra Grant-Straghn. Motion approved. Motion to remove item 9(A), regarding SIP, from the agenda. Motion by Anitra Grant-Straghn; second Kathy Burstein. Motion approved. Motion to change September 23rd SAC meeting to September 16th due to school holiday by Sandra Edwards; second, Kathy Burstein. Motion approved.

Motion to approve amended Agenda made by Randy Kurtz; second Pamelina Baglio. August 26, 2025 Agenda is approved.

5. Leadership Report

A. Principal's Report: Tight agenda because today is Open House. 4 vacancies--2 hired and getting cleared; interviewing for culinary and reading. Student enrollment is 1620 (projected 1808) so expecting to lose staff. Smaller classrooms now, though staff cuts will change some class sizes. Similar reductions are happening throughout district. First time for staff reductions for Atlantic during Mrs. Edwards' tenure. (Yesterday was 11 day count). Atlantic High is ranked 12 out of 52 in district, and 1st for Title 1 schools. New parking lot; new desks coming in (teacher/student desks). We are a B-rated school--only 4 points from an A (and up from last year's low B). December 10th ACT retakes for seniors; December 18th for CLT retake. Example of lower enrollment: 12 new ESOL students, compared to 100 last year.

B. PTSA: Last term for current PTSA President (Kathy Burstein). First meeting tomorrow 6 pm in media center. Already doing well with banner sales/partnerships. Approving budget tomorrow. Goal is to have 100 members this year. Back-to-school raffle ends 5 pm Friday. First Eagles Eat Out: September 9th. Milestone College Prep Seminar September 17th. Please join PTSA!

C. SGA: No report

D. Department Instructional Leads Updates. In World Languages, classes currently being leveled. Largest AP classes in years. Juniors/Seniors preparing for ACT and CLT. 17-18 students in most classes. Data checks for 11th graders have been higher; PM3 should show improvements. Science department working together on common assessments/lessons. Biology classes are on the larger side. Looking into programs to help boost biology scores. ESOL finishing last few schedule changes; tomorrow is the last day for that. Arts Classes include performing arts, band, photo, visual arts, ceramics. Slow in the beginning as classes get started, but will be producing art soon. For IB Careers Program, have already met with all the seniors. Will be meeting with juniors next and going over the handbook with them.

E. Budget: \$19,011.12

6. New Business:

a. Funding Request. Mr. Jean-Baptiste, Algebra II teacher, presented a request for \$1,656.25 to purchase IXL licenses to support mathematics students. IXL has been successfully used in the classrooms but funding has been discontinued. Many students cannot afford to pay for a license. Mr. Jean-Baptiste was able to negotiate a deal with IXL to reduce the price. This software is used by teachers to monitor progress, identify skill deficiencies, and adjust instruction accordingly.

A motion, to approve the expenditure of \$1,656.25 in SAC funds to purchase IXL licenses, was made by Kathy Burstein and seconded by John Costanzo. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Old Business: SAC has open student positions. These should be filled by SGA.

8. Next Meeting: Next SAC meeting is September 16, 2025.

9. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm following an approved motion by Pamelina Baglio; second Kathy Burstein.

Attendees (Voting)

Parents: Kathy Burstein

Staff: John Costanzo; Sandra Edwards; Anitra Grant-Straghn

Business/Community: Randy Kurtz, Pamelina Baglio

Attendees (Non-Voting): DeAnna Allen; Lynn Constant; Natalie DeFeliz; Waterloo Jean-Baptiste; Aisha Hill; Liliana Jimenez; Kristen Karvonen; Keturah Kendrick; Sara Konash; Trisha Langston; Leslie Lawton; Sharla Maraj; Jill Meadow; Marquite Smith; Chelsea Williams