

William M. Finch ES
Date: January 29, 2026
Time: 3:30PM
Location: ZOOM

- I. Call to order: [3:43PM]
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Dr. Tara Spencer	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Edwina Lawrence	Present
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Jasmine King	Absent
Parent/Guardian	Ms. Kashon Caldwell	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tesia Germain	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Erin Gore	Present
Instructional Staff	Ms. Tatyana Mcknight	Present
Community Member	Dr. Terence Lester	Present
Community Member	Pastor Eric Thomas	Present
Swing Seat	Ms. Rekina LeCount	Present
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: [Yes or No]

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: **Dr. Terence Lester** Seconded by: **Ms. Erin Gore**
Members Approving: Ms. Edwina Lawrence, Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Pastor Eric Thomas and Ms. Rekina LeCount
Members Opposing: 0
Members Abstaining: 0
Motion [Passes/Fails]
- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:**
 Motion made by: **Ms. Kashon Caldwell**; Seconded by: **Dr. Terence Lester**
Members Approving: Ms. Edwina Lawrence, Ms. Erin Gore Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Pastor Eric Thomas and Ms. Rekina LeCount
Members Opposing: 0
Members Abstaining: 0
Motion [Passes/Fails]

c. **Action Item: Approval of 2025–2030 Strategic Plan**

Motion made by: [Ms Tatyana McKnight](#); Seconded by: [Pastor Eric Thomas](#)

Members Approving: Ms. Edwina Lawrence, Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Tesia Germain, Dr. Terence Lester, Ms. Erin Gore and Ms. Rekina LeCount

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion [[Passes](#)/Fails]

IV. Discussion Items

- a. **Discussion Item 1:** Strategic Plan 2025–2030 Strategic Plan- Dr. Tara Spencer presented the finalized 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, reviewing the long-term academic and operational goals previously developed by the GO Team. The plan includes the following targets:

- Increase the percentage of Grades 3–5 students scoring Proficient or Above in Reading to 35% by May 2030
- Increase the percentage of Grades 3–5 students scoring Proficient or Above in Math to 35% by May 2030
- Increase the student attendance rate to 76.86% by May 2030

Strategies were aligned to the APS Strategic Plan’s six domains, including strengthening the instructional core, caring for every child, sparking student curiosity, maintaining team strength, ensuring shared responsibility, and improving school efficiency.

GO Team members asked clarifying questions regarding learning target implementation, college exposure opportunities at the elementary level, and family engagement efforts. Dr. Spencer emphasized that while the plan spans five years, it will be reviewed and adjusted annually based on effectiveness and school priorities.

- b. **Discussion Item 2:** Budget Outlook for the 2026–2027 School Year -Dr. Spencer provided an overview of the projected \$350,000 budget deficit anticipated for the 2026–2027 school year. Contributing factors include:

- Reduction of Turnaround Funds as school performance improves
- Phase-out of the Small School Supplement
- Decreases in Title I funding
- Loss of security grant funding

Dr. Spencer clarified that classroom teacher positions will not be impacted by proposed budget reductions. Cuts will focus on non-classroom positions, with responsibilities distributed among remaining staff as needed.

GO Team members asked questions regarding:

- The number and types of positions potentially affected
- How reductions may impact students
- Whether retirements could help offset staffing reductions
- The process used to determine position abolishment

Dr. Spencer explained that the abolishment process considers performance, seniority, and singleton positions. A draft budget will be presented for review and voting at the February 12, 2026, GO Team meeting.

V. Information Items

a. **Principal's Report** Dr. Spencer highlighted recent school events and accomplishments, including:

- A school supplies donation from a foreign exchange student
- Sylvan Middle School Royal Court reading to K–2 students
- Upcoming basketball game
- 100th Day of School celebrations
- Reading Bowl participation
- Donation of melanated dolls to Pre-K through 3rd grade students

VI. Announcements

- Next GO Team Meeting: February 12, 2026
- Winter Break:
 - Staff: February 18–20
 - Students: February 16–20
- Black History Month celebrations
- School Counselors Week: February 2–6
- Random Acts of Kindness Week: February 9–13
- GO Team members were reminded to complete required budget training prior to the next meeting.
- Final budget approval must occur before March 13, 2026

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: : Ms. Tatyana Mcknight; Seconded by: Ms. Rekina LeCount

Members Approving: Ms. Edwina Lawrence, Ms. Kashon Caldwell, Ms. Tesia Germain, Dr. Terence Lester, Pastor Eric Thomas and Ms. Erin Gore

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion [Passes/Fails]

ADJOURNED AT 4:23 PM

Minutes Taken By: [Rekina LeCount](#)

Position: [GO Team Swing Seat- Secretary](#)

Date Approved: [2/12/2026](#)