

**William M Finch ES**  
**Date: March 12, 2026**  
**Time: 3:30 PM**  
**Location: ZOOM**

- I. Call to order: 3:37PM
- 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

**III. Action Items**

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

- c. **Action Item 1: Motion: FY27 Budget Finalization**  
Motion made by: [Ms. Kashon Caldwell](#) Seconded by: [Ms. Edwina Lawrence](#)  
**Members Approving:** [Ms. Erin Gore](#), [Ms. Kashon Caldwell](#), [Ms. Tesia Germain](#), [Ms. Tatyana McKnight](#), [Dr. Terence Lester](#), [Pastor Eric Thomas](#), and [Ms. Rekina LeCount](#)  
**Members Opposing:** 0  
**Members Abstaining:** 0  
**Motion Passes**

#### IV. Discussion Items

- a. **Discussion Item 1: FY27 Budget Finalization**  
[Dr. Tara Spencer](#) presented the final budget with specific staffing reductions to address the deficit. [Dr. Spencer](#) explained the budget process from the strategic plan development through final approval, noting no changes since February feedback meeting. It was explained that a balancing budget deficit of \$318,000 required difficult staffing reductions including instructional positions. Detailed staffing reductions including 1.0 Instructional Coach, 1.0 Intervention Specialist, 1.0 Signature Paraprofessional, and clerk days reduced from 231 to 211. [Dr. Spencer](#) also presented budget allocation showing over 80% focus on instruction and student services. FY27 budget was approved unanimously by GO Team.

#### V. Information Items

- a. **Principal's Report**  
**School Activities and Updates**  
[Dr. Spencer](#) shared recent school events and accomplishments. [Finch](#) highlighted Read Across America Week with special guest [Ms. Floyd](#), great-great-granddaughter of [William M. Finch](#). [Dr. Spencer](#) also reported 200 students with perfect attendance earned a field trip to the College Hall of Fame. The basketball team has been doing great, losing by one point to the undefeated team on senior night! [Dr. Spencer](#) also described College and Career Day with representatives from Morehouse and Spelman and acknowledged community partnerships including Cathedral of Faith.
- b. **Information Item: Math Textbook Adoption**  
The school selected HMH (Into Math) over Eureka Math for the upcoming school year. The district presented two options - Eureka Math (Common Core aligned) and HMH Into Math (Georgia standards aligned). HMH offers built-in differentiation, personalized learning, and a familiar digital platform already used for ELA. Teachers reviewed materials at different sites and received

preview from the instructional coach. HMH (Into Math) was selected for better alignment with Georgia Milestones and teacher familiarity with platform

**c. Information Item: E-SPLOST 2027 Information**

Dr. Spencer provided detailed information about the upcoming E-SPLOST vote and its implications for the school. Dr. Spencer explained E-SPLOST and noted E-SPLOST funds would support the Finch-Perkerson merger into the Sylvan building. The timeline includes community engagement February-May 2026, Board proposal March-April 2026, Board adoption June 2026, and referendum vote November 3, 2026. The GO Team is encouraged to attend CAP meetings and Accelerate APS series to provide input. If passed, collections begin July 1, 2027.

**VI. Public Comment (No visitors attended this meeting)**

**VII. Announcements**

- PTA meeting date changed from March 12, new date to be communicated
- GO Team candidacy declarations due March 13th
- Early release day Monday, March 16th at 11:15am
- MAP Assessment for K-2 begins March 16th
- APTT and Parent-Teacher Conferences March 18th at 4pm with free dinner
- Amira testing for K-3 foundational literacy opens March 23rd
- Teacher of the Year and Support Person of the Year celebration April 3rd
- Spring Break April 6-10
- Georgia Milestones Assessment Night April 21st
- Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8
- Milestones testing begins April 28, 2026, with 26 instructional days remaining
- Next GO Team meeting May 14, 2026 at 3:30pm

**C. Adjournment**

Motion made by: **Ms. Erin Gore**; Seconded by: **Ms. Kashon Caldwell**

**Members Approving:** Ms. Edwina Lawrence, Pastor Eric Thomas, Ms. Tesia Germain, Ms. Tatyana McKnight, Dr. Terence Lester, and Ms. Rekina LeCount

**Members Opposing:** 0

**Members Abstaining:** 0

**Motion Passes**

**ADJOURNED AT 4:02 PM**

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**Minutes Taken By:** **Rekina C. LeCount**

**Position:** **Secretary, GO Team Member**

**Date Approved:**