



**Clark Creek STEM Academy
School Council Meeting Notes**

2025-2026 | Virtual - Teams | 8:00-9:00 | May 7, 2026

Board members: Principal: Mrs. Joey Moss | Chair: | Chair: | Secretary: Kirsten Hargadon

Attendance

Board Member	Present/Not Present
Joey Moss	Present
Kirsten Hargadon	Present
Myron McCullough	
Deb Wisniewski	Present
Sara Fox	Present
Dr. Keith Ingram	
Kendra Mull	
Paula Guerra	Present
Jackie Pelfrey	
Leah Johnson	
Rebecca Coleman	

Meeting Opening

- Participants were welcomed to the final school council meeting of the year. The group was thanked for joining despite busy end-of-year schedules and competing commitments.

Leadership & Staffing Updates

- Mrs. Moss reflected on her 10 years as principal at Clark Creek and 30 years in education as she prepares for retirement. The school was described as well-positioned for continued success.
- Clark Creek has had notable leadership stability, with only two principals across 14 years.
- Staffing for next year is nearly complete. Certified teaching positions are filled, and classified staff placements are close to finalized.
- The cafeteria assistant manager has been promoted to manager at Little River Elementary. The team noted that Clark Creek serves a higher meal volume than similar schools.
- Clark Creek received additional staffing allotments while many elementary schools lost positions. The school will absorb three transferred staff members.
- A possible part-time kindergarten paraprofessional opening may become available pending hiring status review.
- Ashley Polito, currently principal at Holly Springs Elementary, will join Clark Creek as assistant principal. Mrs. Rocker will transition to an assistant principal role at another school.

Teaching & Learning / Georgia Milestones (GMAS)

- Preliminary third-grade testing data showed growth compared with last year. Full standardized testing results are still pending review.



- The team discussed the complexity of year-over-year test score comparisons because cohorts and assessment conditions can differ.
- ICT writing assessments use a comprehensive rubric for 5-paragraph essays, including purpose, organization, elaboration, evidence, and conventions.
- Human scorers are being used for writing assessments because they can better evaluate nuance, organization, and flow than AI scoring alone.
- Cherokee County ranked 8th in student growth improvement.
- Clark Creek earned the highest CCRPI improvement among the district's 23 schools under Mrs. Moss's leadership.
- The school completed 172 non-evaluative instructional rounds this year, which was 10 more than last year. Teachers received rubric-based feedback within 48 hours of classroom visits.
- The English Learner program saw significant growth, with 30 students exiting the program this year compared with 18 students last year. The school is celebrating this achievement with students and families.

District Initiatives & Policy Updates

- The district reviewed its four key priorities for next year. These priorities are updated annually and informed by superintendent focus groups and strategic planning.
- K-3 literacy coaching will be emphasized next year. Schools are clarifying how literacy and math coaching responsibilities will be structured, especially where staffing capacity varies.
- The district adopted a K-2 reading skills progression to create consistency across literacy instruction and align with the Science of Reading expectations.
- A unified K-12 assessment platform is being implemented to replace inconsistent assessment practices across schools.
- Reading instruction materials, terminology, and expectations are being standardized across grade levels so students experience a more consistent instructional progression.
- The district will provide 1-to-1 assigned devices for middle school students for daily classroom use. Devices will not go home.
- iReady will be retired and replaced with a customized learning tool for reading and math intervention and enrichment.
- Teacher compensation remains a district priority, with continued work to stay competitive with nearby districts and narrow the previous compensation gap with Cobb County.
- New grading and promotion/retention policies are being implemented district-wide. Third grade will move from standards-based reporting to numeric grading next year.
- The district is continuing external personnel surveys, internal assessments, and long-term strategic planning beyond annual cycles.
- Elementary code of conduct and behavior supports are key priorities due to increased student needs.
- ParentSquare is supporting multilingual family communication across the 27 languages spoken by Clark Creek families through automatic translation.
- The district is consolidating communication platforms to create more consistent messaging across campuses, classrooms, and families.
- School bus stop-arm cameras have been implemented for traffic enforcement. The district reported 200 verified tickets on the first day of enforcement, with \$1,000 fines.



- The district is using key performance indicators to monitor high-quality school environments, operations, staff evaluations, and consistent procedures.
- Standardized asset manual procedures will support consistent resource allocation across classrooms and facilities.
- New flooring installation is planned district-wide this summer, reducing the need for recurring waxing and chemical-intensive maintenance cycles.
- Select campuses will pilot initiatives before wider implementation so the district can evaluate effectiveness first.

PTA Updates

- The PTA spring event was successful, with strong attendance and community engagement.
- The PTA board has been streamlined from 8 members to 5 members for a more efficient operating model.
- A planning meeting with Mr. Roulier is scheduled for Monday, May 18, to review next year's calendar.
- The school plans to streamline events to reduce family overcommitment, while keeping the three most popular events: Trunk or Treat, Santa Night, and Spring Fling.
- The PTA must maintain three essential officer roles: president, secretary, and treasurer.
- The new treasurer was recognized for her continued commitment to the school, even though she no longer has a student enrolled.
- Julie Baker will conclude her current leadership role at the end of the year, and the PTA is planning for leadership succession.
- A co-president model may help develop future leaders and expand executive board capacity.
- Limiting volunteer commitments to specific events, rather than year-round roles, may lower barriers for parent involvement and help parents build confidence to take on future board roles.
- The group discussed the need to continue rebuilding PTA participation after COVID-related declines across schools.

School Council / Next Steps

- Two school council positions will be open for next year as departing members conclude their service.
- A parent has already expressed interest in joining the school council.
- Sara will serve as the PTA liaison to strengthen coordination between the PTA and the school council.
- The meeting closed with appreciation for the year's progress, recognition of departing leaders, and optimism for next year.