



Lake Norman Charter Board of Education

May Open Board Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2026

7:00 PM Eastern Time

General Meeting

Attending: Shannon Stein-Superintendent, Greg Kilpatrick, Craig Randall, Jorge Gonzalez, Andrew Palladino, Jeff Flanagan, Nicole Benford, Amy Carr, Derick Screen

Greg Kilpatrick called the general meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of March Meeting Minutes

The March meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

I. Support Group Update

A. PTO

1. PTO celebrates staff this week for staff appreciation. There is a beach flow going on at the high school.
2. They will meet soon to build next year's budget to support all of the schools, including the new ES West campus.

B. Athletic Boosters

1. Matt Schlegel: LNC is wrapping up the sports year. Middle school is complete. The golf, tennis, and baseball teams won their conference tournaments during the regular season this year.
2. High school sports are currently in playoffs. Baseball is in the second round of the playoffs, and golf came in second at regionals and will advance to state championships on Monday and Tuesday. Lacrosse had Senior Night last night, and the playoffs will be released on Friday. Soccer had senior night, and the playoff brackets will be released next week. Softball will travel to the second round of the playoffs. The fourth round of tennis for the men's team in the regionals will begin. Three players made the individual state rounds. Track and field has regionals this weekend.
3. Senior signing day will be this Friday (14 players).
4. Free Physical Day will be June 6.
5. A former student-athlete (from the class of 2012) called to say that LNC was recognized as one of the top 20 programs in America. (Maxprep)
6. Boosters President: Four State Championships this school year, and we are not even done with the year.
 1. Financial status: \$121,000 in revenue and \$138,000 in expenses. The loss of the shed and equipment in the theft/fire cost the school money. The championships cost money for travel expenses, we purchased Huddle, a video program, and new equipment. The Boosters have \$242,000 in the bank and are doing well financially.

II. State/School Report

- A. An email was sent from the board to the State Legislature in support of teachers.
- B. Katie Leonard was awarded a trip to Poland to learn about the Holocaust.
- C. Tiffany Cavicchia, the LiA coordinator at the HS and also working with THIRVE, is passionate about work experiences for students and about making connections. She started the Royal Rock

Out this year. Seniors went to the 4th graders and did a service project, had lunch, and played kickball.

- D. The new ES is coming together. The floor is in, the time capsule is in, and the temporary occupancy is coming.
- E. Seven students participated in Special Olympics this year.
- F. Ms. Holland-The Knight's Train has shifted to the Knight's Armor for the Knight Standard. This was explained to the kids by other kids and Ms. Holland. This will cover durable skills, LiA, and academics.
- G. Women in Business Club, advised by Mr. Brackett, each woman was paired with a business that needed assistance with social media, etc.
- H. Melissa Smith was recognized with the National Teacher Advisor Award from NEHS.
- I. LNC has a strong partnership with the Huntersville police department. Busy Town in the summer for little kids. Officer Bo is in all the schools, teaching and helping the students. He assists with the safety planning for the school.
 - 1. In retreat, the Board discussed what the school does to assist kids with the law "problems and situations." Officer Bo has come to speak to the board and let them know what he does. He focuses on relationship building. He covers various topics for each grade level, gradually increasing their number and depth, including safety in the home, community, and online. Officer Bo reported that our school is doing well compared to surrounding schools.

III. Finance Report

- A. Finance Update & Budget Amendment
 - 1. As of March 31, 2026, we have \$18.2 million in assets, mostly in cash. Some liabilities, assigned fund balances, and unrestricted fund balances.
 - 2. P&L: Trending well now. \$19.8 million revenue.
 - a. Good interest income
 - b. State revenue is flowing in
 - c. Expenditures \$14.6 million operating expenditures.
 - d. LNC accrues the July payroll, which is why we have a surplus now
 - e. Fund 7: Bond funds \$11 million in assets; \$4.4 million remaining in the project fund. Capitalized interest and bond funds (lease payments for the bond)
 - f. Income statement = \$2.4 million in revenue; \$10 million in expenditures
- B. Budget Amendment #2 Highlights:
 - 1. State growth funding, summer reading camp, State performance bonus
 - 2. Miscellaneous revenue, including indirect sales tax, interest income
 - 3. Boot, Bets, BBQ event
 - 4. Longevity Bonus Range (\$300-\$ 2,500) for teachers, based on years with LNC.
 - 5. One-time purchases (furniture, building storage, signage, truck attachments)
 - 6. Capital Purchases (community hub, facilities workshop, technology refresh)

Motion to approve the budget amendment #2 by Nicole Benford; Amy Carr seconded; motion passed.

- C. Idle Cash:
 - 1. Investment vehicles (conservative) for idle cash. PNC has been closed and consolidated at Wells Fargo. Next would be to consolidate the US Bank Money Market to Wells Fargo to keep everything at the same bank. Wells Fargo has more fees, so this will continue to be a topic of discussion while the fees are reviewed. LNC does not want to move money to pay additional fees. All spending will still need to be approved and budgeted.

Motion to approve adopt the Idle Cash policy by Craig Randall; Derrek Screen seconded; motion passed.

IV. Old Business

A. Future Ready

1. Online Responsibility is the May durable skill. The guidelines for the AI Student Handbook were developed and made clear expectations. Continued conversations about how to incorporate the durable skills into direct instruction in the classrooms. Grades 5-6 are interested in creating online. Middle schoolers were interested in robotics and applied uses of AI. HS-How can we use AI practically in the real world and prepare ourselves for the next level?
2. THRIVE may add a new pathway.
3. Year 3 of the AI grant will be parent-focused.

B. THRIVE

1. March 9- Big Knight/Little Knight visit #2, completing an activity. April 13 was visit #3, making welcome cards for rising 5th graders; March 25: Career Quest for all sophomores with 11 speakers. All sophomores participated.
2. Knights of Distinction: Moving forward, the focus will be on juniors only. This year we have seniors and juniors. The panel was amazing, and the students are doing great things in the community. They will receive a cord for graduation. There will be a cap, and the awards will be based on the student's impact on the community.
3. Launch-Students in the Premed Club (36 juniors) visited the hospital, gained hands-on experience, attended presentations, and heard from a panel of speakers.

V. New Business

A. Policy Proposals

1. Audit- How it works, board responsibilities, and administrative responsibilities.
2. Annual Budget- Outlines the fiscal year, how it is developed, who approves it, roles for each party involved in the creation of the budget.
3. Contract Approval- outlines when there are expenditures, when/who needs to approve, and who can sign for different levels of contracts. Board approval designation.

Motion to approve the policy proposals for the audit policy as written by Jorge Gonzalez; Nicole Benford seconded; motion passed.

Motion to approve the policy proposals for the annual budget policy with edits by Nicole Benford; Jorge Gonzalez seconded; motion passed.

Motion to approve the policy proposals for the contract approval process by Craig Randall; Derrick Screen seconded; motion passed.

B. 2026-2027 Student Handbook

1. Information about strengthening AI use
2. At the beginning of the school year, attendance was changed to align with state requirements. Changed from 2 weeks to "best of two months" to match the state guidelines.
3. 504 guidelines were aligned with the state
4. ES West Guidelines
5. ES late pickup language to align with current policies
6. Personal technology use policies updates
7. Academic Integrity
8. CPCC Process updates

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Student Handbook by Amy Carr; Craig Randall seconded; motion passed.

Motion to move to closed session at 8:48 pm pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 143-318.11(a)(6) by Nicole Benford; Jorge Gonzalez seconds; motion passed.

Motion to move back to Open Session at 9:44 pm by Amy Carr; second by Craig Randall; motion passes.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 pm by Jorge Gonzalez; seconded by Jeff Flanagan; motion passes