



Cesar Chavez Public Charter School for Public Policy
APPROVED Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2026, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Location: Zoom

Board Members Present: Frances Whalen, Natalie Gordon, Amina Brown, Ph.D., James Jordan, Dana Krein, Marullus Williams, Gerardo (Jerry) Luna.

Board Members Absent: Peter Anderson, AJ Newell, Amber Haywood, Lonell Johnson, Antonio Ellis, Ed.D.

Others Present: Sanjay Mitchell (ED)

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm.

Approval of Agenda: Chair Whalen moved to approve the agenda; it passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda: The Board reviewed the following consent agenda items: (1) Draft meeting minutes for November 2025 and December 2025. The board also reviewed December 2025 Financials. All board members present voted to approve the consent agenda.

Discussion Items:

- Mr. Mitchell shared that Chavez celebrated its "I Love Teachers" Week, along with the Get Out Of School Early (GOOSE'd) and Golden Apple Honorees
- Mr. Mitchell also shared that Black & Latino Professionals Day will be on 2/26/26 and encouraged board members to follow Chavez on social media
- Mr. Mitchell shared that the enrollment target for SY26-27 is 371.
- He also shared that enrollment will focus on three phases - Phase 1: Create the Connection, Phase II: Making the connection official, and Phase III: Keeping the connection warm
- Mr. Mitchell shared that budgeting priorities for SY26-27:
 - The budgeted goal will be 353 students
 - UPSFF and facilities allotment will stay flat
 - Emphasis on high-quality teachers and academics
 - Attendance intervention
 - SBAC Implementation
 - Professional development
 - Extracurricular activities
- Mr. Mitchell also shared that the proposed budget will focus on the following areas:
 - Reducing non-instructional staff by 15.6%
 - Reducing "Network Admin" staff by 1.4%
 - Increasing instructional staff and support by 17%
 - Overall, 91.5% of staff are 75% or more student-facing
- Mr. Luna shared the following from the finance committee meeting:
 - Plans are in motion to close the CityFirst Bank account in the coming months
 - Chavez will close on the \$300K Line of Credit with M&T Bank by Friday, 2/20/2026
 - Finance Committee needs additional members! Please consider joining.
 - We are projected to end the year with 168 days cash on hand, with a DSCR of 2.59 well above PCSB minimum thresholds, with a FAR score of 93
- Ms. Gordon shared that the board needed to vote on adopting ASPIRE as goals.

Motion: It is moved that Chavez Schools will adopt ASPIRE as its Charter Goals for SY25-26 and SY26-27. The board voted unanimously in favor of adopting the motion.

Vote to end the Open Meeting and Move Into Closed Session: Upon motion and second, board members unanimously agreed to vote to end the open meeting and move into Closed Session, per the DC Open Meetings Act, 2-575, Section B.12., to train and develop members of a public body & staff. Motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 8, 2026.