



MINUTES

Shakerag Elementary School Governance Council

Date / time 08/12/2026 | 8:00 am | **Location** PLC Conference Room

SGC Members

Brittany Burnett, Staff (appointed)	Craig Cunningham, Community Member (approved)	Chantel Dowling, Staff (appointed)
Keith Kreutzer, Community Member (approved)	Christine Lemerond, Principal	Rashi Manaktala, Staff (elected)
Tony McNary, Parent (elected)	NaTasha Pennywell, Teacher (elected)	Kathy Preuss, Parent (elected)
Megha Solanki, Parent (elected) - Absent		

FY27 Norms: Be focused and the voice of all stakeholders. ~ Be present, timely, and focused, and goal oriented.

We will now begin our August 12, 2026, meeting of the School Governance Council of Shakerag Elementary School. The Council welcomes and encourages citizens to attend its meetings to become better acquainted with the school programs and the role of the School Governance Council. This meeting is open to the public but is not a public meeting. Citizens are welcome to attend the meeting but must refrain from interruption or distracting the council proceedings. If there are any questions or information that you have for the council, you may contact one of the council members after this meeting or plan to speak at one of the meetings that reserves time for public comment. You can find the council member contact information, meeting dates, and agenda on the School Governance page of the Shakerag Elementary School website.

Time	Item	Owner
8:00am	Action Item: Call to Order	Mrs. Lemerond
8:01am	Action Item: Approve Agenda Motion to approve: Craig Cunningham Second: Keith Kreutzer	Mrs. Lemerond
8:02am	Action Item: Approve May Meeting Minutes Motion to approve: Kathy Preuss Second: Rashi Manaktala - Assign someone to take minutes. - Thank you, Ms. Pennywell	Mrs. Lemerond
8:03am	Action Item: Approve Vacant/Appointed Positions - Keith Kreutzer – Community Member, Approved - Chantel Dowling – Staff, Appointed - Motion to approve: Rashi Manaktala - Second: Kathy Preuss	Mrs. Lemerond
8:05am	Discussion Item: Welcome Back Introduce yourself and share one fun fact.	Mrs. Lemerond
8:15am	Action Item: Election of new officers - Chair, Vice Chair, Parliamentarian - Chair: Rashi Manaktala - Vice Chair: Brittany Burnett - Parliamentarian: Chantel Dowling - Motion to approve: Tony McNary - Second: Kathy Preuss	Mrs. Lemerond
8:20am	Action Item: Staff Committees (Budget and Finance, Outreach and Communication, Principal Selection (chair + 3 members)) - Budget and Finance: Rashi Manaktala, Tony McNary, Craig Cunningham - Outreach and Communication: NaTasha Pennywell, Keith Kreutzer, Chantel Dowling - Principal Selection: Rashi Manaktala, NaTasha Pennywell, Brittany Burnett, Kathy Preuss - Motion to approve: Rashi Manaktala - Second: Keith Kreutzer	Mrs. Lemerond

8:25am	Action Item: Identify Chairs for Committees - Budget and Finance Chair, Outreach and Communications Chair (Carry over to next meeting)	Mrs. Lemerond
8:25am	Discussion Item: Superintendent's Advisory Council - Need a representative for Parent/Community Advisory Council - Thank you, Mr. McNary - If Mr. McNary is unable to attend, he will share the link with other members to support.	Mrs. Manaktala
8:30am	Discussion Item: Establish Norms Norms will remain the same	Mrs. Manaktala
8:35am	Information Item: Principal's Update - The beginning of the year was extremely smooth. - Here Comes the Bus app is not always working. Becomes a challenge when there is a sub bus being used. - Challenges: There are several wasp nests around the campus. Mr. Driss has been able to take care of most of them, but we are waiting on our district pest control company to take care of the one that is inside the poles on the playscape. We have been following up with the district daily. - Enrollment - Enrollment is down across the district - Current count 516 students / Projection 535 students - Last year's projections were 566 - Kindergarten - enrollment is lower than anticipated 2nd grade: - We needed one more student to keep our allocations for 2nd grade. That student returned on Friday, 8/7 - Based on our 5-day enrollment, we should be able to keep all of our general education classes 1st grade - We had originally earned four positions - Based on our end of year enrollment, we were in need of 11 students to open a 4th class, so we froze that position and didn't hire for it - Special Programs - Awaiting final 10-day count - Final details should come around 8/19 - Curriculum Night 8/20 - All teachers will remain the same - Newcomers Coffee: 8/26 - Community Night: 8/26 - No School: Labor Day: 9/7 - SGC Training Requirements – Please reach out if you are having trouble accessing the courses.	Mrs. Lemerond
8:40am	Discussion Item: Strategic Plan Updates - Plans will carry over unless the committee decides to change - District is revamping process to a multi-year plan. - Attendance: our families did a great job with attendance last year.	Mrs. Lemerond

- Several of our academic goals were based on literacy
 - GA Milestones data is delayed for ELA due to the new standards.
We anticipate receiving them around October or November 2026
- We saw great gains in Math GA Milestones Results
 - 4th grade – 75.7% scored level 4 – That is a lot to be proud of

8:45am Action Item: Set Meeting dates for 2026-2027 Mrs. Manaktala

- Keep 2nd Wednesday of every month at 8:00 a.m.
8/12, 9/9, 10/14, 11/11, 12/9, 1/13, 2/24 (Budget),
3/10, 4/15 (State of the School Address at 8:30 am.), 5/12
- Motion to approve: Kathy Preuss
- Second: Craig Cunningham

8:48am Discussion Item: Set Next Meeting Agenda Mrs. Manaktala

- Discussion of spring event, fundraising, market

8:50am Action Item: Meeting Adjournment Mrs. Manaktala

- Thank you, Mr. Cunningham, for donating two tickets for a staff raffle and discounted ticket options for the staff, PTO Board, and SGC for the 8/23 Atlanta United Game

Notes from the Governance and Flexibility Team

Below are some tips and additional details about the items listed on the first page of this document.

* **Setting the date, time, and location of your meeting:** It is a great idea to set your meeting schedule for the entire fall semester (if not the entire year) at your first meeting. Get this information posted at your school and on your SGC website and you will have already covered many requirements of the Open Records and Meetings Laws. It is important that SGC meetings are scheduled outside of school hours so that staff members can attend if they would like to do so. If your meetings will be held virtually, make sure to include a link so that members of the public are able to view the meeting on-line.

* **Action items:** All action items require a motion, a second and a vote (even seemingly simple things like the agenda and meeting minutes need to be voted on). Remember that principals and student members are not voting members, so even if they are designated as an owner of an action item, the voting members of the council will be responsible for motioning, seconding and voting on the item.

* **Discussion items:** These are agenda items that solicit feedback from council members. They do not require a vote.

* **Informational items:** It is common for councils to receive updates throughout the school year related to the day-to-day management of the school or district happenings. Informational items are usually meant to keep the council up to date on important topics even if they do not fall under the purview of the council. These items do not require a vote.

* **Running the first meeting:** Note that in this agenda the principal runs most of the meeting until the point at which officers are elected and the newly elected chair takes the lead. This is a great practice as there will not technically be a standing chair at the beginning of the first meeting of the year. (Note: if the previous chair is still sitting on the council, they are welcome to run the beginning of year meeting until a new chair is elected)

* **Staffing your committees:** Remember that all SGC members should be a part of at least one committee. The Budget and Finance Committee and the Communications and Outreach Committee require a Chair (any voting SGC member), the principal, three voting SGC members and can have up to three additional SGC or external members. Also, every school needs a Principal Selection Committee regardless of whether they believe that their principal position might become vacant. ***This committee is comprised of the SGC Chair and three additional voting SGC members.***

* **Nominating a representative for the Superintendent's Parent/Community Advisory Council:** All schools are asked to select a representative to serve on the Superintendent's Parent/Community Advisory Council. This group meets monthly with the superintendent to provide feedback and receive updates on important issues affecting FCS schools and local communities. Meeting dates/times/locations will be sent out to representatives prior to the first advisory council meeting. If a representative is unable to attend a meeting, another member of the council can attend in their place.

* **Drafting your next meeting agenda:** It is a best practice to draft an agenda for your next meeting at the end of each meeting to help your council plan its upcoming work. If unforeseen events require a council to modify the agenda, the council can simply edit the agenda and vote to approve the modified agenda at the beginning of the next council meeting.

SGC Council Development Opportunities:

Reminder that all new members must complete SGC Essential Training via Canvas and council officers are encouraged to attend in person Officer Training. See the Training Sessions tab of the Charter System website for more information.

SGC Essential Training

To equip you with the knowledge and skills necessary for your role, we have organized an essential training session for all *new* SGC members. This training will cover the core functions and responsibilities of the SGC, as well as provide insights into effective governance practices. The training will be available on Canvas.

See below for more information regarding the training:

SGC Training Course Overview

Our comprehensive SGC training course is essential for understanding the vital roles and responsibilities within the School Governance Council. This training is designed to equip members with knowledge about the SGC's core structure and key processes for successful school governance.

The training includes three modules:

- **SGC Onboarding:** Gain insights into the SGC's purpose, structure, and crucial processes.
- **The Power of Committees:** Learn about the functions of important committees like Outreach & Communication, Budget & Finance, and Principal Selection, including community partnerships and communication strategies.
- **Officer Training:** Delve into the leadership roles within the SGC, focusing on the duties of each officer and their contribution to strategic direction and transparency.

Login Instructions for Canvas:

1. Open your browser and go to fultonschools.instructure.com.
2. Click "employee log in" and sign in with your Microsoft account.
3. Complete authentication and follow the prompts to reduce sign-in requests.
4. Once logged in, find the School Governance Essential Training listed under courses.

Requirements:

- SGC members should complete all three modules by the end of August 2026.
- We suggest completing the training prior to your initial SGC meeting if possible.