



Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting Minutes
September Open Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026
7:00 PM Eastern Time

General Meeting

Attending: Shannon Stein-Superintendent, Craig Randall, Jorge Gonzalez, Andrew Palladino, Nicole Benford, Derick Screen, Landon Eustache, Joana Sampson.

Craig Randall called the general meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Governance Session-Boone

Approval of June & August Meeting Minutes

The July and August meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

I. Support Group Update

- A. PTO: BOY luncheon went well for all schools. PTO is offering \$250 allotment to all teachers. \$14,000 was given to ESW to get them started. PD grant requests have been coming in. ESE is celebrating 10 years- there will be events. August birthdays were celebrated. The lunch program starts next week. Fall luncheon for teachers will be the first week of October.
- B. Athletics: Boosters have had a few tech issues with Dragonfly, but they are working through these issues. Highlights: First varsity FB game vs. Southlake Christian was a great game and a V victory. MS athletics canceled practice this week due to the heat. Homecoming FB September 18. The LNC Royal Gold October 19 at Verdict Golf and Country Club. Register now!

II. State School Report

- A. The middle school band has been honored as a band of distinction. Way to go Mr. Scaringelli!
- B. Teacher of the Year: Sara Patterson, TOY at MS was selected to go on to the State level.
- C. US News and World Report: LNC HS remains in the top 3% in the US and the top 2.5% in NC based on continued performance.
- D. Leadership in Action: Tiffany Cavicchia revamped the LiA in the high school and revised the LiA requirements for all HS grade levels with guiding questions and activities for each grade level to become college and career ready.

III. High School Schedule Proposal: Mark Maleck

- A. Dynamic Schedule Proposal to create a smarter school day. Currently the HS has 7 classes x 47 min + 30 min KT. Question: Is 47 minutes enough for the learning required for today's students and AI in education? Bring the learning and product into the classroom. The proposal is to shift from 7 to 8 classes. On anchor days (Monday, Tuesday, Friday), students will attend 8 classes for 45 minutes. On Deep Learning Days (Wednesday, Thursday), students will attend 4 classes, each lasting 85 minutes. (KT in the Deep Learning Days). Longer times allow for more feedback and active learning, both of which improve student outcomes. This schedule also provides more time for teachers to plan and prepare for the classes. Planning time will increase from 235 min a week to 440 minutes a week.

- B. A demonstration about how a 47-minute class misses or ends before getting to the revise/edit independent work time. The debrief is missed in a 47-minute class and has to be moved to another day. Intervention and support are also not allowed for in the 47 minutes.
- C. The “extra” period will become a “Knight Path” class, similar to a grade-level Study Hall where Counselors can push in through this class; LiA can operate in this time. (9-10) 11th-12th this can be part of the CPCC “free periods,” extra course work access, study hall, future internships.
- D. 73% of the HS teachers overall support the schedule. 75% are open to moving forward.
- E. The HS is interested in having a possible two pilot days this year to see what the timing looks like.
- F. After this meeting with Q/A, there will be a parent presentation to gain insight and feedback from parents; professional development could begin in October.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. 440 minutes for teachers to plan; who is supervising the Knight Path Class? Teachers are, just like some have study hall now. This schedule gives teachers an odd and even planning period so they have a long one on T/TR and two on M/T/F.
- 2. Counselors: Will they be going to fewer classes? How does Knight Path allow them more time to see students? It provides counselors with different opportunities at different times to visit grade-level classes, allowing for more frequent contact and career exploration.
- 3. This is already in some of the AP classes that are double blocked; will their classes stay the same? Yes.
- 4. Deep Days: Will there be a push to make this a deep, project-based learning experience? Yes, there will be intentional professional development to prepare teachers to teach classes with this structure. (Learning Cycle example in slide show)
- 5. How do we address absences, especially on a deep-dive day? This is still something we need to explore. There may be a way to use the Knight Time as recovery during this time.
- 6. Next steps: Will you be incorporating 8th-grade parents into your feedback from parents? Mr. Maleck does feel this would be a good stakeholder group to add to the feedback group, yes. Sara Lay will be assisting in the rollout and feedback from parents.

IV. Old Business

- A. THRIVE: Gonzalez- Met last week in strategic groups. LAUCCH: Will continue to partner with Novant and add a financial opportunity. QUEST: Gathered parent volunteers as potential speakers. BKLK: First meeting date is October 2. The group is working with the elementary schools to ensure the topics align with the Knight Standards.
- B. Future Ready: Screen- The first meeting was this month, and they discussed the goals for the year and set the schedule. LNC is part of Cohort 3 with the State of NC and ETS. This reviews how to meet durable skills in the school. Ms. Tinker is a study group this year for the skill “Collaboration.”

V. New Business

- A. Community Hub Contract
 - 1. Scott Able: Earlier this year, the board voted up to \$2.5 million to start the work at ESE and the practice field and community hub. This is the actual contract with the vendor, Ratzlaff LNC, asking for approval of the contract

Motion to approve the Community Hub Contract, by Jorge Gonzalez; Andrew Pallidino seconded; motion passed.

B. Title II Certification

1. LNC can apply for \$77,374 for the 26-27 Title II funding. LNC is asking for board approval to apply.

***Motion to approve LNC applying for the federal Title II funding by Nicole Benford; Derick Screen
Seconds; motion carries.***

Motion to adjourn by Jorge Gonzalez at 8:02 PM; seconded by Nicole Benford; motion passed.