

Steeltown Highspire School District
Financial Recovery Advisory Committee
August 4, 2026

Meeting Minutes

1. Attendance: Willie Slade, Megan Armstead, George Ioannidis, John Rhodes, Michael Wanner, Calvin Johnson
2. Mr. Mathias welcomed them all to the meeting and thanked them for their work and input over the last year.
3. Mr. Mathias requested feedback from 2025-2026 and input and suggestions for the new CRO:
 - It was stated that Mr. Mathias had been clear in the plan and expectations and up front with the staff and Board. It was also stated that Mr. Mathias took the time to do a thorough needs assessment of the district, met with staff and stakeholders and got the pulse of the district before embarking on the FRP and implementation. Students remained the top priority.
 - SHSD is appreciative of the help provided to it including help in the Business Office and for the administration.
 - It was clarified that the new CRO will follow the approved Financial Recovery Plan and will continue with the FRP-guided course of action.
 - It was requested that the procedures put in place this past year (budget development, Enrollment/Staffing, Business Office, School Board procedures, etc.) remain in place and become systemic rather than one-time occurrences.
 - It was stated that the new CRO continue the practice of fully explaining all implementation including laws, regulations and FRP initiatives and, when explaining, “speak to their level”.
 - It was stated that the Advisory Committee meetings continue to be run with respect to the members’ input and time.
 - It was suggested that Dr. Riker meet with staff and Board soon to get introduced to the district.
 - It was also suggested that Dr. Riker observe and not be frustrated with the Board...but continue to move them forward and remain diligent to proper governance.
 - It was suggested that Dr. Riker take time to understand the uniqueness of SHSD including its urban demographics and families, its youthful faculty and its green Business Office staff.
4. There were no public comments or questions
5. The meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM
6. Next Meeting: 4:00PM; Tuesday, September 1, 2026; SHSD District Office Board room
7. Adjournment