

CITRUS SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2025

4:00 p.m.

27740 Jefferson Ave. Temecula, CA

and

Santa Ana Student Center

2121 N. Grand Ave. Santa Ana, CA

Our mission is to empower students by fostering their innate curiosity, engaging their parents, and promoting optimum learning by collaboratively developing a personalized learning program for each student.

Present:

Eugene Dokes, Chair
Jessica Large, Vice Chair
Michael Solomon, Secretary
Cheryl LaCount, Treasurer
Pam Rivas, Director
Kellie Woodson, Director
Charlene Ponzio, Director

Dr. Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education
Virginia Smith, Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources
Michelle Sapanara, Asst. Superintendent, Student Services
Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin. Ops.
Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent, Business
Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations
Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business
Katherine Van Leeuwen, Senior Director of Admin. Ops
Ruth Newsome, Senior Director of Human Resources
Courtney Cook, Senior Director of Special Education
Karen Arnett, Director of Teacher & Student Support
Lori Louks, Homeschool Director
Erin Chafin, Credential Analyst
Renee Albright, Charter Relations Coordinator

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Dr. Dokes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Action: Approval of Agenda**
 - Ms. Rivas moved to approve the agenda.
 - Ms. LaCount seconded.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
3. **Action: Approval of Board Minutes from May 6, 2025**
 - Ms. Large moved to approve the Board Minutes from May 6, 2025.
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent, 1 Abstention: Ponzio; Motion Adopted
4. **Information: Reappointment of Board of Directors: Dr. Eugene Dokes, Kellie Woodson, and Jessica Large**
 - Natali South announced that Dr. Eugene Dokes, Kellie Woodson and Jessica Large were reappointed for their second three-year term which will expire June 30, 2028.
5. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
 - Ms. Woodson moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants and Personnel Action Report.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
6. **Public Comments**
 - None
7. **Information: Student Spotlight - Virtual Academy - Lucas**
 - The Board enjoyed a video presentation featuring Virtual Academy student Lucas.
8. **Information: Student Spotlight - Junior/Senior Prom**
 - The Board enjoyed a video presentation of our 2025 Junior/Senior Prom held at Hawk Ranch in Murrieta.
9. **Information: 2025 Commencement Ceremony Presentation**
 - The Board enjoyed a video of our 2025 Commencement Ceremony held at Pechanga Resort. We had over 3,000 families and friends in attendance to celebrate our graduating class.

- 10. Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Vivian Price reviewed the Superintendent's Report in Dr. Hermsmeyer's absence. She highlighted year-end events and provided network-wide updates. Dr. Price indicated that 98% of our CAASSP scores are in and early results are reflecting academic growth.
- 11. Information: Receive Information Regarding Learning Center Schedules at Santa Ana**
 - Lori Louks presented information about opportunities available to our homeschool or Individualized Learning Program (ILP) families at the Santa Ana Student Center.
- 12. Information: Visual Arts, Music, & Performing Arts Education (VAPA) Presentation**
 - Karen Arnett reviewed a presentation about our new VAPA program that offers visual, music and performing arts opportunities for our students. This program is funded by Prop 28 grant funds.
- 13. Information: Information Regarding Our Spring into Teaching Spotlight**
 - Karen Arnett announced that we just completed our 5th year of having a Teacher Residency program. We have a 98% retention rate. Karen explained the benefits of having the opportunity to provide training for student teachers to learn how to teach the Springs Way!
- 14. Information: Reporting of State Priority Local Indicators to CDE Dashboard**
 - Katherine Van Leeuwen reviewed the local indicators and explained that data related to our school will be publicly posted on the California Department of Education website.
- 15. Action: Approval of 2025-26 Budget**
 - Ms. Woodson moved to approve the 2025-26 Budget.
 - Ms. Rivas seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the 25-26 Budget. She indicated that the budget reflects a step increase of approximately 3% for all staff. Other features of the budget were highlighted including academic priorities and adjustments based on new funding models.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
- 16. Action: Approval of EPA Education Protection Account Actuals as of 6/30/25 Current Estimates**
 - Ms. LaCount moved to approve the Education Protection Account Actuals as of 6/30/25 current estimates.
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.

- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that the EPA Protection Account covered 1.4 teachers' salaries for the 24-25 school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

17. Action: Approval of 2025-26 EPA Multi-Year Plan

- Ms. Large moved to approve the 2025-26 EPA Multi-Year Plan.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that the EPA Protection Account is projected to cover 2.15 teachers' salaries for the 25-26 school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

18. Action: Approval of Superintendent's Contract 2025-26

- Ms. Rivas moved to approve the Superintendent's contract 2025-26.
- Ms. LaCount seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the Superintendent's contract for the upcoming school year. She indicated that Kathleen will receive the standard 3% salary increase offered to all staff.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

19. Action: Approval of Longevity Payments to 15, 20, and 25-year Employees

- Ms. Woodson moved to approve the longevity payments for 15, 20, and 25-year employees.
- Ms. LaCount seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that we will offer a longevity payment to employees who reach their 15th, 20th and 25th anniversary with Springs, as outlined in the report.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

20. Action: Approval of the Borrowing Under the Temporary Promissory Note

- Ms. Large moved to approve the borrowing under the Temporary Promissory Note.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this agreement allows Orange Springs to borrow funds from Citrus Springs, and outlines the terms.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

- 21. Action: Approval of the Temporary Lending to OSCS**
- Ms. LaCount moved to approve the Temporary Lending to OSCS.
 - Ms. Rivas seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this agreement provides lending authority for Citrus Springs to lend funds to Orange Springs, and outlines the terms.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
- 22. Action: Approval of Cancellation of Sublease Between Citrus Springs and Empire Springs**
- Ms. Large moved to approve the cancellation of sublease between Citrus Springs and Empire Springs.
 - Ms. Ponzio seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that Citrus Springs will no longer sublease the Santa Ana Student Center since Orange Springs will be the charter occupying the building.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
- 23. Action: Approval of Contract with Hatch & Cesario 2025**
- Ms. Woodson moved to approve the contract with Hatch & Cesario 2025.
 - Ms. Rivas seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that this contract will engage the services with Hatch and Cesario for Special Education legal counsel.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
- 24. Action: Approval of the Revised LCAP Federal Addendum**
- Ms. Large moved to approve the revised LCAP Federal Addendum.
 - Ms. LaCount seconded.
 - Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen explained that the federal addendum allows our schools to collect federal funds granted through title offices.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
- 25. Action: Approval of the 2025-26 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)**
- Ms. Large moved to approve the 2025-26 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.
 - Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen reviewed the LCAP report, noting that it will be posted online and serve as a tool to communicate the school's overarching priorities.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson;

0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

26. Action: Waive the First Reading and Approve Revised Board Policy 5032.1 - Residency Requirements and Investigation

- Ms. LaCount moved to waive the first reading and approve revised Board Policy 5032.1 - Residency Requirements and Investigation.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen explained that the policy updates the residency verification process for families to ensure compliance with legal requirements for collecting ADA within the counties we serve.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

27. Action: Second Reading and Approval of Revised Board Policy 5023.1 - Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten

- Ms. LaCount moved to approve the second reading and approval of revised Board Policy 5023.1 - Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that this policy was presented at the last meeting and is presented for second reading and approval.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

28. Action: Second Reading of Board Policy 5037.1 Dyslexia Universal Screening and Intervention

- Ms. LaCount moved to approve the second reading of Board Policy 5037.1 - Dyslexia Universal Screening and Intervention.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Karen Arnett presented this policy and reminded the board that no changes had been requested when it was presented for first reading.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

29. Action: Approval of Special Education Contracts for Providers for 2025-26

- Ms. Rivas moved to approve the Special Education contracts for providers for 2025-26.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Courtney Cook explained that we use service providers for certain Special Education services, and she reviewed the anticipated expenditure for the upcoming school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

30. Action: Approval of Scoot Education Contract

- Ms. LaCount moved to approve the Scoot Education Contract.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Virginia Smith explained that we use Scoot to provide substitutes, and reviewed the anticipated expenditure for the upcoming school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

31. Action: Waive the First Reading and Approve Board Policy 8009.1 - Local Assignment Options (LAOs)

- Ms. LaCount moved to waive the First Reading and Approve Board Policy 8009.1 - Local Assignment Options (LAOs).
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Erin Chafin explained that this policy allows the school's credential analyst to assign credentialed teachers to positions outside their credential area when appropriate.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

32. Action: Waive First Reading and Approve Revised Board Policy 8006.1 - Certification

- Ms. Woodson moved to waive the first reading and approve revised Board Policy 8006.1 - Certification.
- Ms. LaCount seconded.
- Discussion: Erin Chafin explained that legal counsel suggested adding additional language to this policy regarding the timeframe and minimum compensation allowed for a teacher if their credential has expired.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

33. Action: Approval of Position Control System (PCS) and Salary Schedules 2025-2026

- Ms. LaCount moved to approve the Position Control System (PCS) and Salary Schedules 2025-2026.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Ruth Newsome presented the Position Control and Salary Schedules for the upcoming school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

34. Action: Approval of Board calendar 2025-26

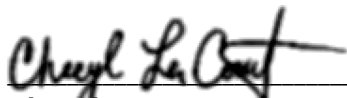
- Ms. Rivas moved to approve the board calendar for 2025-26.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Natali South reviewed the board calendar.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

35. Board Comments and Future Agenda Requests

- Ms. Ponzio: The prom video was fantastic! I've moved out of state and this will be my final meeting. I've enjoyed being part of Springs for so long, and will miss you all so much.
- Mr. Solomon: I encourage our board members to contact their state senators to communicate the impact of AB84.

36. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Dr. Dokes moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Dokes, LaCount, Large, Ponzio, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted


Cheryl LaCount, Secretary

September 9, 2025

Date