

**ORANGE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

**REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

**May 12, 2026**

**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:**

Jessica Large, Chair Michael Solomon, Vice Chair Cheryl LaCount, Secretary Pam Rivas, Treasurer Todd Franklin, Director Kellie Woodson, Director	Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Virginia Smith, Asst. Superintendent, Human Resources Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent, Business Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin. Ops Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations Sarah Adams, Senior Director of Student Services Katherine VanLeeuwen, Senior Director of Admin. Ops. Mary McDaniel, Community Outreach Coordinator Renee Albright, Charter Relations Coordinator
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- 1. Establish a Quorum, Call to Order, and Pledge of Allegiance**
  - Ms. Large called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2. Action: Approval of Agenda**
  - Ms. LaCount moved to table the First Reading of Revised Board Policy 4015.1 – Retirement Health Benefits and approve the remainder of the agenda.
  - Ms. Rivas seconded.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted

3. **Action: Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2026**
  - Ms. Woodson moved to approve the minutes from March 10, 2026.
  - Mr. Solomon seconded.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent: Dokes; Motion Adopted
  
4. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
  - Ms. Rivas moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants and Personnel Action Report.
  - Ms. LaCount seconded.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted
  
5. **Public Comments**
  - None
  
6. **Information: Student Spotlight - Civic Seal of Engagement**
  - Josiah Baker presented his 2026 Civic Engagement Project, titled *From Front Lines to Civilian Life*, which focused on the challenges veterans face when transitioning back into civilian life. He shared personal inspiration behind the project, including his goal of joining the Air Force and his passion for supporting veterans through community connection and service opportunities. Josiah highlighted research regarding reintegration challenges for veterans and introduced his proposed nonprofit organization, "Serve and Belong," aimed at reconnecting veterans with their communities through volunteerism, mentorship, and support programs. Board members were also informed of the organization's mission, projected startup costs, fundraising ideas, and long-term vision for community engagement and veteran support.
  
7. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
  - Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and provided charter and network-wide updates. She indicated that Citrus and Orange Springs Charter Schools received their annual oversight reports from OCDE. Both schools received favorable evaluations with only minor areas of improvement identified. Additionally, Dr. Hermsmeyer indicated that our second location will be open in Santa Ana at the beginning of next school year. The original Santa Ana location will be named Odyssey and will host classical communities and homeschool learning lab programs. The new building is 6 driveways away, and will be named Trail Blazer, and will host Quest programs.

8. **Presentation of McKinney-Vento Data & Resources 2025-26**
  - Mary McDaniel, Community Outreach Coordinator, provided the board with a presentation regarding the McKinney-Vento Act and the services Springs provides to our special populations and homeless students in need of additional support.
  
9. **Information: Public Comment for Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)**
  - Natali South opened the Public Comment window at 4:35 p.m. Katherine Van Leeuwen reviewed the LCAP report for Orange Springs. No public comments were received, and the window was closed at 4:41 p.m.
  
10. **Action: Approval of SB740 Grant**
  - Ms. LaCount moved to approve the SB740 Grant.
  - Ms. Woodson seconded.
  - Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that this grant provides facility reimbursement funds.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted
  
11. **Action: Approval of 2026-27 Consolidated Application for Funding**
  - Ms. Large moved to approve the 2026-27 Consolidated Application for Funding.
  - Ms. Rivas seconded.
  - Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that the consolidated application allows the school to apply for various forms of funding through one application process.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted
  
12. **Action: Second Reading and Approval of Revised Board Policy 8001.1 - 8001.3 Hiring: Recruitment and Selection, Nondiscrimination in Employment, Nepotism**
  - Ms. LaCount moved to approve the revised Board Policy 8001.1 - 8001.3 Hiring: Recruitment and Selection, Nondiscrimination in Employment, Nepotism.
  - Ms. Woodson seconded.
  - Discussion: Virginia Smith explained that this policy was brought for First Reading at a previous meeting and no changes were requested.
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted
  
13. **Action: Second Reading and Approval of Revised Board Policy 8003.1-8003.3 Termination: At-Will Employment, Discipline, Resignation, Dismissal**
  - Ms. Large moved to approve the revised Board Policy 8003.1-8003.3 Termination: At-Will Employment, Discipline, Resignation, Dismissal.

- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Virginia Smith explained that this policy was brought for First Reading at a previous meeting and no changes were requested.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted

**14. Action: Approval of CL-500 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

- Ms. Woodson moved to approve the CL-500 Declaration of need for fully qualified Educators.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Erin Chafin explained that this document is submitted annually to project the number of emergency permits that may be required for teachers who have not yet obtained their credentials.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted

**15. Action: Approval of Board Calendar 2026/27**

- Ms. Large moved to approve the Board calendar 2026/27.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Discussion: Natali South discussed the proposed 2026–2027 Board meeting calendar. The only proposed modification was the addition of tentative meeting dates during months in which regular meetings are not typically scheduled, allowing the Board the flexibility to meet monthly, if needed.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted

**16. Closed Session: GOV Code 54954.5/54957, Entered Closed Session at: 4:55 p.m.**

- 54957: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54957(b)(1))

**17. Open Session: Report of Action Taken in Closed Session**

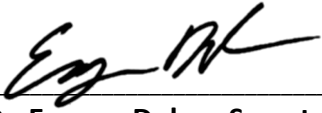
- 54957: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54957(b)(1))
  - No Action to Report

**18. Board Comments and Future Agenda Requests**

- None

**19. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

- Ms. Large moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m.
- Ms. Rivas seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Franklin, LaCount, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson;  
0 Noes; 1 Absent Dokes; Motion Adopted



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Dr. Eugene Dokes, Secretary

June 9, 2026

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Date