



SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

...REDEFINING SCHOOL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 1, 2026

4:00 p.m.

27740 Jefferson Ave, Temecula, CA 92590

Dan Labar 607 E. Tehama St Orland, CA 92963

Irene Valdez 2112 N. Commerce St, Stockton, CA 92504

Jeff Rice 18820 Lodestone Ct Penn Valley, CA 92946

Present:

Board: Dan La Bar, Chair Jeff Rice, Treasurer Irene Valdez, Director	Staff: Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin. Ops. Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business Katherine Van Leeuwen, Senior Director of Admin. Ops. Cynthia Rachel, Senior Director of Education - Northern CA Tony Hager, Director of Risk Management Renee Albright, Charter Relations Coordinator
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1. **Call to Order, Establish a Quorum, and Pledge of Allegiance**
 - Natali South called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. **Action: Approval of Agenda**
 - Mr. La Bar moved to approve the agenda, noting a needed correction.
 - Ms. Valdez seconded.
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.
3. **SSCS/LSCS: Action: Approval of Minutes - March 24, 2026**
 - Mr. Rice moved to approve the Minutes - March 24, 2026.
 - Ms. Valdez seconded.
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

4. Activity: Public Comments

- None

5. Information: Superintendent's Report

- Amy Podratz reviewed the Superintendent's Report, providing network updates regarding the plans for opening the Northern CA schools.

6. Information: Public Comment for Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Shasta Springs Charter School and Liberty Springs Charter School

- Katherine Van Leeuwen opened the Public Hearing for the LCAP at 4:15 p.m. She reviewed the LCAP and provided an opportunity for comments and feedback.

7. SSCS: Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Shasta Springs Charter School and Millville Elementary School District: Charter Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 3031

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Shasta Springs Charter School and Millville Elementary School District: Charter Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 3031.
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the MOU between Shasta Springs and Millville Elementary.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

8. LSCS: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Liberty Springs Charter School and Browns Elementary School District: Charter Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031

- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Liberty Springs Charter School and Browns Elementary School District: Charter Term July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2031.
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the MOU between Liberty Springs and Browns Elementary.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

9. LSCS: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Springs Charter Schools Inc. and Liberty Springs Charter School

- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Springs Charter Schools Inc. and Liberty Springs Charter School.
- Mr. La Bar seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that Springs Inc. is the sole statutory member

for the Springs Charter Schools network, including Liberty Springs. Springs Inc. is responsible for selecting board members and for providing professional development for staff.

- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

10. SSCS: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Springs Charter Schools Inc. and Shasta Springs Charter School

- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Springs Charter Schools Inc. and Shasta Springs Charter School.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that Springs Inc. is a sole statutory member for the Springs Charter Schools network, including Shasta Springs. Springs Inc. is responsible for selecting board members and for providing professional development for staff.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

11. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Employee and Personnel Services Sharing

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Employee and Personnel Services Sharing.
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that this MOU allows for Springs Charter Schools staff to perform duties for all of the charters within the network.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

12. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Pearson Contract with Amendment through June 30, 2029

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the Pearson Contract with Amendment through June 30, 2029.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the contract with Pearson, our partner for Connections at Springs.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

13. SSCS: Approval of the 2026-27 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the 2026-27 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen reviewed the LCAP details for Shasta Springs and answered board members' questions.

- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

14. LSCS: Approval of the 2026-27 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the 2026-27 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Katherine Van Leeuwen reviewed the LCAP details for Liberty Springs and answered board members' questions.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

15. SSCS: Approval of the Borrowing Under the Temporary Promissory Note

- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Borrowing Under the Temporary Promissory Note.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this promissory note will provide for initial start-up costs for Shasta Springs. The note contains repayment terms.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

16. LSCS: Approval of the Borrowing Under the Temporary Promissory Note

- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Borrowing Under the Temporary Promissory Note.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this promissory note will provide for initial start-up costs for Liberty Springs. The note contains repayment terms.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

17. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of 2026-27 EPA Multi-Year Plan

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the 2026-27 EPA Multi-Year Plan.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that EPA funds can be used to offset a portion of teacher salaries.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

18. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Bank Accounts with JPMorgan Chase

- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Bank Accounts with JPMorgan Chase.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson indicated that Springs banks with JP Morgan Chase. Board approval is required to open the bank accounts.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais;

Motion Adopted.

19. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Authorized Signers of Bank Accounts

- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the Authorized Signers of Bank Accounts.
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson reviewed the individuals who are authorized to sign on our bank accounts.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

20. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of 2026-27 Consolidated Application for Funding

- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the 2026-27 Consolidated Application for Funding.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that the Con App allows the school to apply for multiple funding streams with a single application.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

21. SSCS/LSCS: Approval to Establish State Disability Insurance

- Mr. Rice moved to establish State Disability Insurance.
- Mr. La Bar seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that Springs pays into the State Disability Insurance program on behalf of our employees.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

22. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Participation in CalPERS Retirement System

- Ms. Valez moved to approve the participation in the CalPERS Retirement System.
- Mr. Rice seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that Springs participates in the CalPERS retirement system for Classified staff.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

23. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Participation in CalSTRS Retirement System

- Mr. Rice moved to approve the participation in CalSTRS Retirement System.
- Ms. Valdez seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that Springs participates in the CalSTRS retirement system for Certificated staff.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

- 24. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Springs Charter Schools, Northern California, Inc joining the California Charter Schools Joint Powers of Authority DBA Charter Safe**
- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Springs Charter Schools, Northern California, Inc joining the California Charter Schools Joint Powers of Authority DBA Charter Safe.
 - Ms. Valdez seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that Springs participates in the JPA with Charter Safe for various types of insurance coverage.
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.
- 25. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Application and Governing Board Resolution 26-001 for the State of California Department of Industrial Relations Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure Workers' Compensation Liabilities**
- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the Application and Governing Board Resolution 26-001 for the State of California Department of Industrial Relations Certificate of Consent to Self-Insure Workers' Compensation Liabilities.
 - Mr. La Bar seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that this resolution allows Springs to be approved to self-insure for smaller workers' compensation liabilities. Larger claims are covered by the Charter Safe policies.
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.
- 26. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of the Superintendent's Contract 2026-27**
- Mr. Rice moved to approve the Superintendent's Contract 2026-27.
 - Ms. Valdez seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson presented the contract for Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer. He explained that the total contract amount is divided among all of the charters in the network, based on ADA.
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.
- 27. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Board Calendar 2026-27**
- Ms. Valdez moved to approve the Board Calendar 2026-27.
 - Mr. Rice seconded.
 - Discussion: Natali South explained
 - Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.
- 28. SSCS/LSCS: Approval of Board Policies**
- Mr. La Bar moved to approve the Board Policies.
 - Ms. Valdez seconded.
 - Discussion: Natali South

- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

29. Information: Board Comments

- Mr. La Bar: I enjoyed watching graduation and seeing all of the Trailblazers who started with Springs as kindergarteners.

30. Action: Adjournment

- Mr. Rice moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m.
- Ms. Vadez seconded.
- Vote: 3 Ayes: La Bar, Rice, Valdez; 0 Noes; 2 Absent: Jones, Marsolais; Motion Adopted.

Signed by:


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Irene Valdez, Director

8/10/2026 | 9:46 AM PDT

Date