

CITRUS SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 8, 2026

4:00 p.m.

27740 Jefferson Ave. Temecula, CA 92595

Springs Odyssey Student Center

2121 N. Grand Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705

Springs Trailblazer Student Center

1821 N. Grand Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705

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:

Michael Solomon, Chair
Kellie Woodson, Vice Chair
Dr. Eugene Dokes, Secretary
Todd Franklin, Treasurer
Jessica Large, Director
Dianne Mendez, Director

Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent
Dr. Vivian Price, Asst. Supt. of Education
Dr. Virginia Smith, Asst. Supt. of HR
Amy Podratz, Asst. Supt. of Admin. Operations
Michelle Sheane, Asst. Supt. Student Services
Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations
Trevor Johnson, Senior Director of Business
Aaron Lorenz, Senior Director of IT
Courtney Cook, Senior Director of Special Education
Ruth Newsome, Senior Director of HR
Jon Webster, Legal Counsel
Renee Albright, Charter Relations Coordinator

1. Establish a Quorum, Call to Order, and Pledge of Allegiance.

- Natali South called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Action: Approval of Agenda

- Ms. Woodson moved to approve the agenda.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes;
0 Absent; Motion Adopted

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| 3. | Action: Approval of Minutes - August 25, 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ms. Large moved to approve the minutes from August 25, 2026.● Ms. Woodson seconded.● Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted |
| 4. | Action: Approval of Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ms. Mendez moved to approve the: Warrants, Personnel Action Report, and Contract Ratifications as posted: Casala Group, Inc. at Odyssey Student Center; i-Ready Contract; Purchases of Special Education Assessment Software License with Presence Learning for Speech Pathologists.● Ms. Large seconded.● Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted |
| 5. | Public Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">● None |
| 6. | Information: Springs Nation - IGNITE! 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Renee Albright presented the Springs Nation - IGNITE! 2026 video. |
| 7. | Information: Student Spotlight - 2026 8th Grade Leadership Camp Video Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Renee Albright presented the 2026 8th Grade Leadership Camp Student Spotlight video. |
| 8. | Information: Superintendent's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report. She announced that the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) recently granted unanimous approval for Orange Springs to pursue a location in Fullerton rather than Anaheim, as originally planned. Dr. Hermsmeyer also reminded the Board that this year's theme is LEGO — Learning that Empowers Goals and Ownership and shared how the theme is being implemented to engage and empower both staff and students. |
| 9. | Action: Approval of Superintendent Goals 2026-2027 <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ms. Woodson moved to approve the Superintendent Goals 2026-2027.● Ms. Large seconded. |

- Discussion: Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed her goals for the upcoming school year, which address several key areas of focus for the school, including academic achievement, enrollment, LEGO-themed initiatives, and high school graduation rates and college and career readiness.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

10. Action: Waive the First Reading and Approval of Revised Board Policy - 7001.1 - Board Stipends

- Ms. Mendez moved to waive the first reading and approve revised Board Policy - 7001.1 - Board Stipends.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Natali South explained that the policy would change the Board member stipend from \$500 per meeting to \$650 per month and responded to the Board's questions. She further explained that waiving the first reading would allow the policy to take effect immediately.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

11. Action: Waive the First Reading and Approval of Board Policy - 6006.1 - AI Use and Governance

- Ms. Large moved to waive the first reading of Board Policy - 6006.1 - AI Use and Governance.
- Ms. Mendez seconded.
- Discussion: Aaron Lorenz explained that recent legislation has taken effect establishing requirements and responsibilities for the school related to the use of artificial intelligence (AI).
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

12. Action: Approval of Special Education Contract with Harbottle Law Group

- Ms. Mendez moved to approve the Special Education Contract with Harbottle Law Group.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Courtney Cook explained that, following the retirement of Debbie Cesario, Hatch & Cesario has transitioned the school's casework to Harbottle Law Group. She noted that there will be no change to the school's legal team.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

13. **Action: Approval of the Ratification of Renewal Petition for Citrus Springs Charter School 2027-2032**
- Ms. Large moved to approve the Ratification of the Renewal Petition for Citrus Springs Charter School 2027-2032.
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz explained that it is time to renew the Citrus Springs Charter. She noted that the renewal petition has been updated to include new legal language and program offerings.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
14. **Action: Approval of Revised 188 Salary Schedule**
- Ms. Mendez moved to approve the revised 188 Salary Schedule.
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.
 - Discussion: Dr. Virginia Smith explained that an error was identified in the recently approved Salary Schedule. She noted that the revised schedules contain the correct information and confirmed that all employees were paid correctly.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
15. **Action: Approval of Unaudited Actuals**
- Ms. Woodson moved to approve the Unaudited Actuals.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson reviewed the Unaudited Actuals and noted that the results were within 1% of projected budget figures.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
16. **Action: Approval of the Annual Prop 28 Report**
- Ms. Mendez moved to approve the Annual Prop 28 Report.
 - Ms. Large seconded.
 - Discussion: Trevor Johnson reviewed the annual Proposition 28 report, which details the use of funding provided for arts and music education.
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted
17. **Action: Approval of Supplemental Pay Agreement Form Schedule for 2026-27**
- Ms. Large moved to approve the Supplemental Pay Agreement Form Schedule for 2026-27.
 - Ms. Woodson seconded.

- Discussion: Trevor Johnson reviewed the positions and projects that are paid via the Supplemental Pay Agreement.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

18. Action: Approval to Piggyback Hemet Unified School District Bid # PUR2026-01

- Ms. Mendez moved to approve the Piggyback agreement with Hemet Unified School District Bid # PUR2026-01.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that the agreement will allow the school to receive the same pricing as Hemet Unified School District through a recent competitive bidding process for school furniture and supplies.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

19. Action: Approval to Piggyback Kern County Superintendent of Schools / PEPPM Contract Bid #546422

- Ms. Large moved to approve the Piggyback agreement with Kern County Superintendent of Schools / PEPPM Contract Bid #546422.
- Ms. Woodson seconded.
- Discussion: Trevor Johnson explained that the agreement will allow the school to receive the same pricing as Kern County Superintendent of Schools through a recent competitive bidding process for school furniture and supplies.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes; 0 Absent; Motion Adopted

20. Closed Session: GOV Code § 54954.5, Entered into at: 4:57 p.m.

- Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (GOV Code 54956.9 (d)(1)): Approval of Settlement Agreement for Employee ID: 9514

21. Open Session - Report of Action Taken in Closed Session, Entered into at: 5:12 p.m.

- Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation (GOV Code 54956.9 (d)(1)): Approval of Settlement Agreement for Employee ID: 9514
 - The Board moved to approve the settlement agreement for employee ID: 9514.

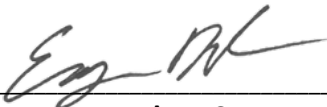
22. Board Comments

- None

23.

Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Ms. Woodson moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:13 p.m.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Dokes, Franklin, Large, Rivas, Solomon, Woodson; 0 Noes;
0 Absent; Motion Adopted



Dr. Eugene Dokes, Secretary

09-08-2026

Date