



OLIVE GROVE CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 11, 2025, 4:00 pm (Pacific Time)

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER Jackie Heidt called the meeting of the Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Board of Directors to order at 4:02pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Deb Willems, Board Chair	absent
Terry Dickinson	present
Hank Gallina	present
Jackie Heidt	present
Ivette Martinez	absent

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the agenda as presented.

SECONDED: Hank Gallina

DISCUSSION: None

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, which included the minutes from the regular Board meeting on August 14, 2025.

SECONDED: Terry Dickinson

DISCUSSION: None

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

6. REPORTS/ TRAININGS/ PRESENTATIONS

A. Reports

i. Superintendent's Report

Meg Rydman provided an update on the charter renewal process. Two public hearings were held this past Tuesday; one for OGCS Buellton at the Santa Ynez Valley Union High School District Board meeting and the second for OGCS Orcutt/Santa Maria at the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Board meeting. We had a solid supportive community turnout at both meetings, made presentations to provide some details

about our schools, and were seemingly well-received at both meetings. The public hearing for OGCS Lompoc will be at the Lompoc Unified School District Board meeting on Tuesday 9/16. The public hearing for OGCS Santa Barbara will be at the Santa Barbara Unified School District Board meeting on Tuesday 9/23.

Meg provided an update on some legislation that would impact charter operations. AB 84 was thought to be a 2-year bill but appears to be coming up for a vote. SB 494 underwent a “gut and amend” process, adding language to extend the moratorium on the establishment of new non-classroom based charter schools for an additional year, and SB 414 will be voted on. The deadline for voting on these bills is Friday 9/12.

Meg provided enrollment information as of today-

Total: 432

TK-5: 46

6-12: 60

9-12: 326

EL: 35, +1 TBD

Sped: 78

- ii. Board Members’ Reports
None

- iii. Financial Report *through June*

Dennis Nguyen provided financial information through June 30, 2025, which wraps up the fiscal year. This presentation covered the information contained in the unaudited actuals reports which were presented for approval in action item 7A. He reported actual expenses and revenue for the fiscal year compared against the 2nd interim budget. The family of schools overall ended in a strong surplus position. Overall, revenues came in about 1% under budget; expenses came in approximately 5% under budget. He reviewed the actuals to budget for each school location. He also reviewed the financial health of the organization, the cash balance over time, and the balance sheet showing assets and liabilities.

B. Presentations

- i. School Performance Data - Overview of Spring 2025 Assessment Results
Meg Rydman presented a review of enrollment data and preliminary results from the 2025 CAASPP.

C. Trainings

Ethics training was provided at the conclusion of the other agenda items.

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals for each of the Olive Grove Charter Schools

- i. 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals OGCS Buellton
- ii. 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals OGCS Lompoc
- iii. 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals OGCS Orcutt/Santa Maria
- iv. 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals OGCS Santa Barbara

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the 2024-25 Unaudited Actuals for each of the Olive Grove Charter Schools.

SECONDED: Terry Dickinson

DISCUSSION: Dennis Nguyen explained that the information presented in the financial report is reflected in these forms. There are the forms that are submitted to the authorizer.

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

B. Education Protection Act

- i. Approval of 2025-26 EPA Resolution (action item)
- ii. Report out of Fiscal Year 2025 EPA Expenditures (informational item)

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the 2025-26 EPA Resolution.

SECONDED: Terry Dickinson

DISCUSSION: Dennis Nguyen explained that we are required to spend EPA funds on instruction-related costs, and OGCS uses these funds for teacher salaries and benefits. The Board must annually approve a resolution stating these funds are only used for instructional purposes. Additionally, we must report how much was received from the EPA in the prior year and how that money was spent. Meg mentioned that the report will be posted on the school website.

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

C. Approval of Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review for each of the Olive Grove Charter Schools (SBE Annual Assurances)

- i. Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review Olive Grove Charter-Buellton
- ii. Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review Olive Grove Charter-Lompoc
- iii. Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review Olive Grove Charter-Orcutt/Santa Maria
- iv. Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review Olive Grove Charter-Santa Barbara

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the Compliance Monitoring and Certifications of Governing Board Compliance Review for each of the Olive Grove Charter Schools.

SECONDED: Hank Gallina

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that this review and certification is required annually by the State Board of Education, the schools' authorizer, to certify compliance. All four of the Olive Grove Charter Schools meet all compliance requirements. The forms need to be signed by Deb Willems, Board Chair, and submitted to the SBE by October 31.

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

D. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding between OGCS and Santa Barbara County Education Office Children's Creative Project August-December 2025

MOTION: Jackie Heidt moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between OGCS and Santa Barbara County Education Office Children's Creative Project August-December 2025.

SECONDED: Hank Gallina

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that this MOU is for the ongoing partnership with the Children's Creative Project to provide art and guitar workshops to the students. It is funded by Prop 28 funds and is accounted for in the budget. Meg pointed out that this MOU is only for the first semester, and the cost represents about what was spent in total the year prior. There will be a second MOU for the second semester. OGCS is expanding its arts offerings, and there is adequate funding for the increased costs.

APPROVED by a vote of 3-0

Jackie Heidt (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y)

8. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Board Business

None

B. New Business/Future Agenda Items

None

9. Ethics Training - Part 2 of 2 - Conducted after adjournment of meeting.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

- November 13, 2025 - Jackie will be absent.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53pm. Jackie Heidt departed.

Ethics Training - Part 2 of 2

The remaining Board members completed the required ethics training by watching the conclusion of the recording of the training provided by CSDC.

Minutes submitted by Terry Dickinson, OGCS, Inc. Board Secretary

Terry Dickinson
