



OLIVE GROVE CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 5, 2026, 4:00 pm (Pacific Time)

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Deb Willems called the meeting of the Olive Grove Charter Schools, Inc. Board of Directors to order at 4:01pm.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Deb Willems, Board Chair	present
Terry Dickinson	present
Hank Gallina	present
Jackie Heidt	present
Ivette Martinez	absent until 4:30pm; present for remainder of meeting

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECONDED: Jackie Heidt
DISCUSSION: None
APPROVED by a vote of 4-0
Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y)

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

5. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, which included: the minutes from the regular Board meeting on February 12, 2026; the check register for the month of January 2026; revised policies *OGCS, Inc. Educational Records and Student Information Policy* and *OGCS, Inc. Suspension/Expulsion Policies and Procedures*; rescinded policy *OGCS Inc. Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures*; and new policies *OGCS, Inc. Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination and Bullying Policy* and *OGCS, Inc. Title IX Policy Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Sex*.
SECONDED: Terry Dickinson
DISCUSSION: None
APPROVED by a vote of 4-0
Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y)

6. **REPORTS/ TRAININGS/ PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. **Reports**
 - i. Superintendent's Report

Meg Rydman reported that the State Board of Education meeting where Santa Barbara's charter renewal appeal will be heard is next Thursday. Four people are traveling to Sacramento - thanks, Ivette! Meg encourages everyone to please call or write in support.

Enrollment is closed for the current school year.

Total enrollment as of 3/5/26: 464

- 50 elementary (TK-5)
- 78 middle school (6-8)
- 336 high school (9-12)
- 83 special education students
- 33 EL students

The schools closed enrollment with 104 students on the waitlist. They are contacting those families to see if they want to stay on the list for the 2026-27 lottery.

The intent to return survey was sent out to current families. The 2026-27 lottery will be held on March 25 if one or more schools has more interest than projected capacity. They already have 45 students who specifically applied for next school year, combined with those remaining on waitlist, so they anticipate a lottery will probably be needed.

ii. Board Members' Reports

None

iii. Financial Report - *through January*

Dennis Nguyen provided financial information through January 31, 2026. He reported actual expenses and revenue as of January 31 compared to the revised budget (first interims). He reviewed the financial health of the organization, the cash balance over time, and the balance sheet showing assets and liabilities. Both revenues and expenditures are coming in under budget, which is expected for this point in the school year.

B. Presentations

i. English Language Development at OGCS -*Presented by Curtis Schwisow, EL Coordinator*

Curtis Schwisow presented data and information about English Learners across California and specifically at Olive Grove, as well as information about the ELD programming at OGCS. Hank Gallina commented on the long standing challenges facing English learners then provided commentary on the state of test scores across the state and in Lompoc in particular.

Ivette Martinez joined the meeting at 4:30pm.

C. Trainings

None

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of FY25/26 Revised Operating Budgets

- i. Revised Budget - Olive Grove Charter-Buellton
- ii. Revised Budget - Olive Grove Charter-Lompoc
- iii. Revised Budget - Olive Grove Charter-Orcutt/Santa Maria
- iv. Revised Budget - Olive Grove Charter-Santa Barbara

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the FY25/26 Revised Operating Budgets.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Dennis Nguyen presented information about the revised operating budgets, including the fact that the OGCS operating budgets were reviewed and revised to align with current enrollment, revenue, and expenditure expectations and in order to prepare for submission of the second interim reports.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

B. Approval of FY25/26 Second Interim Reports

- i. Second Interim Report - Olive Grove Charter-Buellton
- ii. Second Interim Report - Olive Grove Charter-Lompoc
- iii. Second Interim Report - Olive Grove Charter-Orcutt/Santa Maria
- iv. Second Interim Report - Olive Grove Charter-Santa Barbara

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the FY25/26 Second Interim Reports.

SECONDED: Jackie Heidt

DISCUSSION: Dennis Nguyen explained that the second interim reports capture the financials through January 31 and the revisions to the budgets approved in the prior agenda item, and they are presented in the format required for submission. Hank expressed appreciation for the clear and concise fiscal information consistently provided to the Board.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

C. Approval of the selection of CWDL to conduct audit and tax preparation services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026

MOTION: Deb Willems moved to approve the selection of CWDL to conduct audit and tax preparation services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

SECONDED: Terry Dickinson

DISCUSSION: Meg Rydman explained that the schools must select an auditor and annually submit the auditor's information to the county education office and authorizer by April 1. CWDL is the firm that has conducted the audits for the past three school years. The cost will be \$21,000; \$18,375 for audit services and \$2,625 for tax preparation services. This represents a \$1,000 increase over the previous year's costs.

APPROVED by a vote of 5-0

Deb Willems (Y) Terry Dickinson (Y) Hank Gallina (Y) Jackie Heidt (Y) Ivette Martinez (Y)

8. DISCUSSION/INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Board Business

- i. *Reminder - Form 700 -due by April 1*
Meg provided a reminder of this annual requirement.
- ii. *Mandated Reporter Training -must be completed by Board members by July 1, 2026*
Meg suggested the Board members could complete this training independently through the same platform the employees use. The Board agreed that this method would be satisfactory for completing this required training.

B. New Business/Future Agenda Items

None

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

- May 7, 2026

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59pm.

Minutes submitted by Ivette Martinez, OGCS, Inc. Board Secretary

Ivette Martinez
