



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 20th, 2026 Time: 6:00pm Location: Aspen Media Center

School Board Norms of Engagement 2026 The Board of Aspen Academy will

Tenacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> form cohesion, cooperate, respectfully engage, listen effectively, and remain future minded.
High Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep students first, speak with one voice, operate as a governance board.
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> always remain respectful to staff, employees, parents, students and other stakeholders, hear all voices before key decisions, maintain oversight, and work together to carry out our responsibilities.
Notable Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> always assume positive intent, be accountable for self-behaviors and their impact on board activities, be open to clarifying questions, constructive comments and relevant discussions, and read all materials before board meetings.
Kindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> treat each other with respect at all times, respect time allotted for all presentations at board meetings, and respect each other's time.

- CALL TO ORDER AT 6:02pm**

In attendance Stephanie Smitley, Rob Allison, Liliya Tsibulko, Eric Sandberg, Jackie Miaffo, Kristin Carlson

Authorizer Comments _____

Community Comments _____

Community members must pre-register to speak at the meeting. Items are limited to those motions on the night's agenda. The Board Chair has the discretion to hear a community member who has not pre-registered, but items remain limited to those on the agenda.

- Motion: **Approval of Agenda**

First Tsibulko Second Miaffo Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approval of Minutes** (February 23rd, 2026).

First Carlson Second Tsibulko Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

Student Board Representative Report: By Taya and Aiza. Kindergarten is looking forward to volunteers for Field Day. First has their American Symbols project coming up. 2nd – working on poems for their final writing project. 3rd – started their first MCA test. 4th – went to the MN Capital and History Center. 5th has been working on their final writing project about the Civil War. 6th-8th had their annual Pi Day celebration, started their science fair projects and attended the Young Author’s Conference. House Benevolence won a house party and Valor had the most points in March. Special Education staff have been flexible with MCA testing coming.

ASPEN ACCOLADES (Mr. Sandberg): Shout out to all staff for lots of positive energy during the All Staff meeting last week! Shout out to Ms. Jazmin for all of her work with spring pictures and the yearbook! Thank you to Ms. Gulachek, Dr. Erin, Mrs. Mong and Mark for their work on MCA scheduling and preparation. Shout out to the K team and Lydia for welcoming the new Kindergarten families. Wednesday is Administrative Professionals Day for Mrs. Brening, Mrs. Lindsay and Mr. Jiskra.

Approve the following consent agenda items:

- Thomas Faust, custodian (effective 3-25-26)
- Fadumo Barqadle, para (effective 3-2-26)

Service Agreements

- Uptick Education for SpED Director 2026-2027
- NOVA Education Consultants for Lead Paraprofessional amendment for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027
- Dr. Erin Haley Strub for MTSS 2026-2027
- Focused Staffing Group for substitute teachers for 2026-2027

First Allison Second Miaffo Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

Program Services Committee (Smitley/Carlson)

- Committee Report: The committee did not meet.

Finance & Facility Committee (Allison/Tsibulko)

- Committee Report: The committee met prior to the meeting. Presentation of Financials by Nate Winter – 75% through the fiscal year. Revenues at 75%, includes the fundraiser. Expenditures at 75%, includes landscape bill from August (Nate will check into it). 990 is due in May. FY27 draft budget is ready for approval tonight, waiting for actual benefit numbers before finalizing. Will close accounts at Sterling by end of school year.

- Motion: **Approve the February check register.**

First Allison Second Tsibulko Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve the March check register.**

First Tsibulko Second Allison Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve the revised FY26 budget.**

First Tsibulko Second Allison Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve the draft FY27 budget.**

First Allison Second Tsibulko Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

Board Elections, Responsibilities & Governance Committee (Smitley/Tsibulko)

- Committee Report: Election update – Only 1 parent and 2 teachers applied before the election deadline and will be on the ballot. Voting will take place between May 1 and 14th with an hour of in-person voting on May 14th. Candidate packets sent out on April 9. Board can approve another parent until next election.
- Motion: **Approve Stephanie Oberloh as a parent board member beginning May 18, pending completion of training and background check.**

First Tsibulko Second Miaffo Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____

Community Engagement Committee (Regehr/Carlson)

- Administration Report: Festival of Nations was cancelled, not enough families signed up to participate. Fundraising update – Aspen made about \$40,000 which is enough for a monument sign. Next fundraiser will be in the fall.
- Committee Report: The committee did not meet.

Strategic Planning Committee (Faulise)

- Administration Report: Strategic plan work continues.
- Committee Report: The committee did not meet.

- **Adjournment at 6:30pm**_____

- First Tsibulko Second Allison Yes X(5) No _____ Abst _____