

# September 2, 2025 SLA Board Meeting

## Transcript

<https://otter.ai/u/EBybxWFUrqDvyTXB4FlpD6u0nSU?view=summary>

The September Board Meeting began with roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance. Casey Holmes reported that the organization is 16.7% through the fiscal year, with revenues slightly short and expenses on target. Enrollment is strong, with a 2% attrition rate, and a waitlist for the first time. The bond issue of \$35.5 million was closed, covering various capital improvements. High school data showed improvements in math and reading scores, and science scores are expected to rise. Ashley Santillana was formally seated on the board, and Lori Aguilar resigned. The board elected Darrell as chair, Becki Byrne as vice chair, and Ashley Santillana as secretary. Committees were reorganized with specific roles assigned.

## Action Items

- Conduct a soft search for potential new board members.
- Write a thank you letter to Lori Aguilar for her service on the board.

## Outline

### Opening and Roll Call

- Speaker 1 welcomes everyone to the September board meeting and shares the agenda.
- Roll call is conducted with Sam Gibbs as Executive Director, Anthony Beltran, Becki B, Casey Holmes, and Ashley Santillana joining later.
- Lori Aguilar and Roxy Luna are excused due to personal reasons.
- The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by the participants.

### Approval of Minutes and Public Comment

- Speaker 1 moves the approval of minutes to a later agenda item due to Daryl's absence.
- Public comment is stipulated to be none, with board members able to comment during discussions.
- Casey Holmes begins the financial report, noting the organization is 16.7% through the fiscal year and on track with budget estimates.

### Financial Report by Casey Holmes

- Casey Holmes explains the current fiscal year status, including two monthly allotments received and the upcoming student count on October 1.
- Revenues are slightly short, but expenses are on target, with some higher costs due to safety upgrades and computer purchases.
- Speaker 1 notes that most supplies are bought at the start of the year, which explains the higher initial expenses.
- Ashley Santillana joins the meeting, and Casey Holmes concludes the financial report.

## **Director's Report by Sam Gibbs**

- Sam Gibbs presents the director's report, starting with enrollment updates.
- The enrollment tracker shows a current count of 906 students, with a 2% attrition rate in the first month, which is considered good.
- The organization has a wait list for the first time, specifically in seventh grade.
- Sam discusses the progress on the bond, noting that \$35.5 million in municipal bonds were sold to cover various capital improvements.

## **School Data and Staffing Updates**

- Sam presents high school data using the NWEA test, showing improvements in math, reading, English language, and science scores.
- The organization made significant changes in staffing, including hiring a new mental health counselor and a counseling intern.
- Sam also mentions the addition of a special education para and a licensed special education teacher to fill vacant positions.
- The organization is fully staffed, with the new staffing arrangements expected to be more fiscally conservative.

## **Action Items and Board Organization**

- The board formally seats Ashley Santillana, with a roll call vote confirming her membership.
- Lori Aguilar's resignation is acknowledged and accepted, with a motion to thank her for her service.
- The board discusses the number of seats to be filled, deciding to stay at five for now.
- The board organizes itself by appointing Darrell as chair, Becki Byrne as vice chair, and Ashley Santillana as secretary.
- Committees are formally organized, with specific board members assigned to the audit and finance committees.

## **Closing and Closed Session**

- The board thanks Sam and other staff members for their hard work and expresses excitement for the future.

- A motion is made to close the open session and enter a closed session for personnel matters.
- The recording is paused, and Casey Holmes is asked to leave the meeting.