

Vision: To empower all students with a STEM education which will help them reach their maximum potential and guide them to a promising and successful career.

Mission: To provide a high-quality, well-rounded education for K-12 students in Central Florida by incorporating innovative, proven, research-based instructional methods in a stimulating and nurturing environment which provides a special emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), and Reading.

DISCOVERY EDUCATION SERVICES INC.,  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 21, 2025

5:30 PM

at Orlando Science Middle/High School Lynx Campus

Schools:

Orlando Science Middle/High School  
Orlando Science Elementary School  
Orlando Science Charter School K-8  
Seminole Science Charter School  
Osceola Science Charter School

## **AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda Items
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 5.15.2025
4. Principal's Report (3A)
5. Public Remarks
6. Board Member Remarks

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- A01. Request Approval of Cell Phone Policy
- A02. Request Approval of Instructional Employee Arrest Policy
- A03. Request Approval of Student Welfare Policy
- A04. Request Approval of Threat Management Policy
- A05. Request Approval of Dismissal Policy
- A06. Request Approval of 25-26 Mental Health Plans for SSCS, OSEC, OSS, OSES and OSCS
- A07. Request Approval of School Districts Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan
- A08. Request Approval of Discovery Education Services Inc., 2025-26 Employee Handbook
- A09. Request Approval of 2025-26 Student Handbooks
- A10. Request Approval of 2025-26 Safe School Plans
- A11. Request Approval of Charter School Safety and Security Compliance Rule for OSS, OSES and OSEC
- A12. Request Approval of Safe School Officer Contracts
- A13. Request Approval of CEO Agreement

## **Non-Consent Agenda Items**

- A14. Request Approval of Seminole Construction financial increases
- A15. Request Approval for Board of Directors Conflict-of-Interest Policy and individual Board Member signing of attestation form
- A16. Request Approval Resolution of the Discovery Education Services, Inc. Regarding Bank Accounts
- A17. Request Approval of 2025-26 Budgets
- A18. Request Approval of Inter-Campus Loan Agreement
- A19. Request Approval of Feeder Agreement Between OSS and OSEC 9<sup>th</sup> Graders
- A20. Action on search/selection of principals

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- D01. OSS High School 9th Grade Center
- D02. Ownership and relationship between DES entities

## **INFORMATION**

- I01. Seminole Science Expansion Project Update
- I02. Governing Board Workshop – Legislative Updates – Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Lynx Campus/Virtual

## **A07. Closure of the Meeting**

### **Items Discussed and Voted by Governing Board Members:**

Board Members Mr. Fortna, Mr. Sabuncu, Dr. Brindala, Mr. Akdeniz and Mr. Colak attended in person.

### **1. Call to Order**

- Mr. Fortna called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

### **2. Approval of Agenda Items**

- The motion was moved by Dr. Brindala and seconded by Mr. Akdeniz. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of 5/15/2025**

- The motion was moved by Dr. Brindala and seconded by Mr. Akdeniz. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **3A. Principal's Report**

- Ms. Santos provided an update on recent activities at Orlando Science Middle/High School Lynx Campus.

### **4. Public Remarks**

- One of the parents asked a question about the transparency of a recent board member selection. Dr. Brindala described the process used for that selection as a last minute addition to the agenda, not transparent, and

against the Board Attorney's recommendation of not to do so. Other parents also commented on the lack of transparency.

## **6. Board Member Remarks**

- Mr. Fortna reminded board members about the upcoming governance conference on September 6<sup>th</sup> in Tampa. He also reminded about the upcoming Florida Charter School Conference in October.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- Dr. Brindala moved to approve the consent agenda in its entirety. Mr. Sabuncu seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Non-Consent Agenda Items**

#### **A14. Request Approval of Seminole Construction financial increases**

- SSCS expansion project manager Dan Hogan provided the board with an update on the construction costs, noting a change in the final amount due to the request from Seminole County Board. Dr. Brindala moved to approve the revised budget of 24.2 million, which includes the cost of builder's risk insurance. Mr. Akdeniz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **A15. Request Approval for Board of Directors Conflict-of-Interest Policy and individual Board Member signing of attestation form**

- The motion was moved by Dr. Brindala and seconded by Mr. Fortna. Mr. Fortna and Dr. Brindala voted in favor; Mr. Colak, Mr. Sabuncu and Mr. Akdeniz voted against. The motion failed.

#### **A16. Request Approval Resolution of the Discovery Education Services, Inc. Regarding Bank Accounts**

- Dr. Brindala moved to approve that Mr. Aksu will have full access and signature authorization on all DES bank accounts. Mr. Colak seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Dr. Brindala moved to approve that Mr. Celik will have full access and signature authorization on all DES bank accounts. Mr. Akdeniz seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Dr. Brindala moved to approve that Mr. Fortna will have full access and signature authorization on all DES bank accounts. Mr. Akdeniz seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **A17. Request Approval of 2025-26 Budgets**

- Mr. Sabuncu moved to approve 2025-26 budgets for all DES schools. Mr. Akdeniz seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **A18. Request Approval of Inter-Campus Loan Agreement**

- Mr. Aksu explained the need of inter-campus loan agreements for SSCS expansion project.
- Dr. Brindala moved to approve of agreements. Mr. Akdeniz seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **A19. Request Approval of Feeder Agreement Between OSS and OSEC 9<sup>th</sup> Graders**

- Mr. Akdeniz moved to approve of feeder agreement. Dr. Brindala seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### A20. Action on search/selection of principals

- Mr. Fortna asked Mr. Aksu to explain the principal hiring process for OSEC (why only outside FL candidates) and SSCS (why only a recent teacher employee candidate for SSCS HS) during the summer of 2025. Mr. Aksu provided an overview of the process stating that the lack of time to find and lack of experience found, led to the principal hires and responded to other board members' questions. No action was taken on this agenda item.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### D01. OSS High School 9th Grade Center

- Mr. Aksu explained the need for additional space at Orlando Science High School to accommodate 8th grade graduates from the Orlando Science East campus at the end of the 2027–2028 school year. The board began discussions on potential space solutions to address this need.

#### D02. Ownership and relationship between DES entities

- Dr. Brindala and other board members were satisfied with “retention and relationship of sole member LLCs and discovery education services Inc” letter from South Milhausen Association regarding this agenda item.

#### A07. Closure of the Meeting

- Mr. Fortna moved to adjourn the meeting and Dr. Brindala seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.