

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, October 2, 2025
5:30 PM
at Osceola Science Charter School

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 – 8.21.2025
4. Principal's Report
5. Public Remarks
6. Board Member Remarks

INFORMATION

- I01. SSCS Expansion Project Update

PRESENTATION

- P01. Annual Audit Reports Presentation by the CPA

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- A01. Request Approval of the 2024-25 Final Budgets of OSS, OSES, OSEC, SSCS and OSCS
- A02. Request Approval of the 2024-25 Fiscal Year Audit reports of OSS, OSES, OSEC, SSCS and OSCS
- A03. Request Approval of Renewing Charter Educational Service & Resources Contracts – Connect Accounts of OSS, OSES, SSCS and OSCS
- A04. Request Approval of 2025-26 School Year Out-of-Field Teachers of Orlando Science Middle-High School (480089): Huntley, Austin (ESOL), McCord, Sara (ESOL), Tomko, Laura (ESOL), Heaney, Tiffany (ESOL), Gopidi, Anitha (Computer Science)

- A05. Request Approval of 2025-26 School Year Out-of-Field Teachers of Orlando Science Elementary School (480200): Anan, Sukunya (ESOL), Glenn, Katrina (ESOL), Julian, Ashley (ESOL), Lamour, Vaniah (ESOL), Layher, Melissa (ESOL), MacAllister, Jennifer (ESOL), Nickerson, Lauren (ESOL), Patsilevas, Caitlin (ESOL), Raines, Allison (ESOL), Rodriguez, Grace (ESOL), Vancol, Leigh Anne (ESOL)
- A06. Request Approval of 2025-26 School Year Out-of-Field Teachers of Seminole Science Charter School (599236): Dawes, Megan (Gifted, ESOL), Abraham McAra, Lydia (ESOL), Davis, Brooke (Gifted), Duve, Ashley (ESOL), Collins, Valerie (Gifted), Jordan (McKishnie), Jillian (Gifted), Buckley, Lisa (Gifted, ESOL), Foster, Amanda (Gifted), Mercier, Valerie (Gifted, ESOL), McLemore, Susan (Gifted), Mpasiakos, Joshua (Gifted, ESOL, Reading)
- A07. Request Approval of 2025-26 School Year Out-of-Field Teachers of Osceola Science Charter School (490181): Acharya, Pooja (ESOL) – Baritogo, Maria Vanessa (ESOL) – Bryant, Madison (Middle Grades General Science 5-9) – Cenita, Maria (ESOL) – Cherelus, Daphney (ESOL) – Chervenak, Deana (ESOL) – Coke, Faith (ESOL) – Durham, Veery (ESOL) – Eltanal, Jenilee (ESOL) – Fletcher, Tamara (ESOL) – Forrester, Tasha (ESOL) – Gonzalez, Jennifer (ESOL) – Harrison, Cierra (ESOL) – Hopkins, Kari (ESOL) – Jude Johnson, Anna (Health K-12) – Kafati, Carolina (ESOL) – Lopez, Juan (ESOL) – Machado, Miriam (ESOL) – Mañon, Jazmin (ESOL) – Oquendo, George (ESOL) – Parker, Deborah (ESOL) – Quiñones, Jasmine (ESOL) – Ruddock, Nefretitti (ESOL) – Saint-Pierre, Samantha (ESOL) – Sommer, Caleb (ESOL) – Sousa, Patricia (ESOL) – Taylor, Sandra (ESOL) – Velez, Mildred (ESOL) – Velez-Perez, Paulette (ESOL) – Walter, Tanya (ESOL) – Williams, Zyka (ESOL)
- A08. Request Approval of 2025-26 School Year Out-of-Field Teachers of Orlando Science Charter School K-8 (480103): Aman Ali-Savja, Aman (ESOL), Cartagena, Valeria (ESOL), Cespedes, Nayla (ESOL), Christie, Arielle (ESOL), Duncan, Susan (ESOL), Forte, Shantonie (ESOL), Henderson, Isabel (ESOL), Hitchcock, Raisa (ESOL), Hoyle, Ashley (ESOL), Marilao, Mary (ESOL), McCormick, Christina (ESOL), Mendoza, Annie (ESOL), Payton, James (ESOL), Perez, Myara (ESOL), Rendon, Emma (ESOL), Richards, Michelle-Ann (ESOL, K-6), Ripp, Joshua (ESOL), Virani, Noreen (ESOL), Williams, Colette (ESOL), Paris, Ingrid (ESOL), Roe, Raymond (ESOL)
- A09. Request Approval of the 2025-26 School Year Teacher Salary Allocation Plans of OSS, OSES, OSEC, SSCS, and OSCS

Non-Consent Agenda Items

- A10. Request Approval for Board of Directors Conflict-of-Interest Policy and individual Board Member signing of attestation form

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- D01. Process of new board member selection
- D02. East Campus Expansion Discussion
- D03. Discussion regarding turf field at SSCS new campus

INFORMATION

- I02. SGO Tax Credit

A07. Closure of the Meeting

Items Discussed and Voted by Governing Board Members:

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

1. Call to Order

- Mr. Fortna called the meeting to order at 5:40 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 8/21/2025

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

3A. Principal's Report

- Mr. Moon provided an update on recent activities at Osceola Science Charter School.

4. Public Remarks

- Mr. Fortna reminded everyone of the proper process for public remarks.
- There were four individuals who made comments questioning board elections transparency, questioning conflict of interest policy support within the Board, and questioning east campus principal selection and process of selection and news of potential high school.

6. Board Member Remarks

- Mr. Fortna reminded board members about the upcoming Florida Charter School Conference on October 14-16.

INFORMATION

I01. SSCS Expansion Project Update

- Dan Hogan, project manager for the Seminole expansion project, provided an update on the construction of SSCS's new building.

PRESENTATION

P01. Annual Audit Reports Presentation by the CPA

- Auditor, Steven Giarratano, presented the audit reports of Orlando Science Middle/High Charter School, Orlando Science Elementary School, Orlando Science Charter School K-8, Seminole Science Charter School, and Osceola Science Charter School. The auditor highlighted that a clean, unmodified opinion was issued in the audit reports, indicating that the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- Strong internal control practices were demonstrated by the schools, ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations while safeguarding the integrity of financial reporting processes. Additionally, robust financial performance was shown, reflecting sound fiscal management and sustainability.
- High standards of financial accountability and operational excellence were highlighted through these results.
- The present board members also asked questions while reviewing the audit reports.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- Mr. Akdeniz moved to approve the consent agenda in its entirety(A01-A09). Dr. Brindala seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Non-Consent Agenda Items

A10. Request Approval for Board of Directors Conflict-of-Interest Policy and individual Board Member signing of attestation form

- After brief discussion of changes to the draft policy led by the Board Attorney, Mr. Fortna questioned if the changes made the intent different. The changes were very minor and did not change the intent. Mr. Akdeniz moved to approve the Board of Directors Conflict-of-Interest Policy and individual Board Member signing of attestation form. Dr. Brindala seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

D01. Process of new board member selection

- Dr. Brindala emphasized the importance of openness and transparency in the board member selection process and requested that Board attorney Shawn Arnold provide sample documents to the Board. The Board agreed to hold a Governance Committee meeting on October 25, 2025, to work on board member selection procedures.

D02. East Campus Expansion Discussion

- As a follow-up to the August 21st meeting, Mr. Aksu provided the Board with an update on the potential east campus expansion and the plan to add a high school.

D03. Discussion regarding turf field at SSCS new campus

- The Board discussed the pros and cons of a turf field at SSCS's new campus and agreed to proceed with the turf option, as it was included in the approved project cost.

INFORMATION

I02. SGO Tax Credit

- Mr. Aksu shared his research findings on the new SGO tax credit with the Board.

A07. Closure of the Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.