



STAR
ACADEMY
CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, April 22 | 7:00AM

Board Attendees:

Gerald Fanion III (chairman), Brack Henderson, Shakia Clark, Paul Stephens, Brandon Arrindell. Mark Yates, Brandon Arrindell.

I. Opening- Gerald Fanion III, Chairman

- Meeting called to order by Mr. Fanion..
 - Roll call conducted by Mrs. Moore
 - Encouraged board members and staff to invite up to five community guests to upcoming Urban Roots Grand Opening.
 - Highlighted excitement around the visible progress of the Urban Roots project.
 - Initiated a **Human Capital Assessment** to evaluate staffing needs across instructional and leadership roles.
 - Emphasized continued evaluation of:
 - Policies and procedures
 - Internal control systems
 - Organizational sustainability and growth
 - Reinforced commitment to maintaining a strong, scalable operational foundation.
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II. Academic Report — Principal Brown

TCAP Testing Updates

- Testing in progress:
 - Last week: ELA (Grades 2–8) — **100% participation achieved**
 - This week: Math, Science, Social Studies
- Goal: Complete all testing (including makeups) by end of week (ahead of May 4 deadline)
- Strong attendance; minimal makeup testing required

3rd Grade Promotion Requirements

- Students must **meet/exceed expectations** for automatic promotion
- Retake window: **May 20–21**

- Summer Learning Academy (SLA):
 - All 3rd graders must be registered by Friday
 - Final placement determined after retake results

Compliance & Instruction

- RTI audit and progress monitoring review upcoming
- Focus areas:
 - Teacher facilitation and modeling strategies
 - Classroom management (end-of-year structure)
 - Data-driven instruction and disaggregation

iReady Diagnostic

- Final administration scheduled for next week
- Goal: Increase Tier 1 (on-grade level), reduce Tiers 2 & 3

Science & Social Studies Focus

- Targeting historically lower-performing areas
- Use of **standards-based mini-assessments** to track mastery
- Focus grades:
 - Science: 5th–8th (tested for accountability)
 - Social Studies: Middle School only (6th–8th)

End-of-Year Dates

- Teacher Appreciation Week & Book Fair: **May 5–9**
- Last Day for Students: **May 21**
- Last Day for Teachers: **May 22**
- Promotion Ceremonies (May 20):
 - PreK & Kindergarten – 9:00 AM (GGC Sanctuary)
 - 8th Grade (Inaugural Class) – 11:00 AM

(Full academic data presentation referenced in shared slide deck.)

STAR ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Board Meeting
April 22, 2026

Janice R. Brown
Chief Academic Officer/Principal

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Academics

- TCAP Testing
 - Grades 2-8 ELA
 - Grades 2-8 Math
 - Grades 2-8 Science
 - Grades 4-8 Social Studies
- 2nd Grade Commitment
 - Grades dates May 20th & May 21st
 - SLA
- IRTI Compliance
- Staff Professional Development
 - Focused on teacher facilitation moves
 - Classroom management
 - Data disaggregation

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i-READY

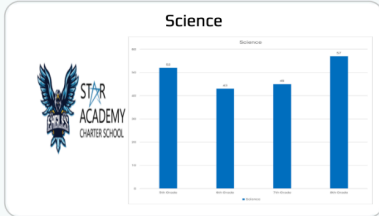
Reading:

- Increased Tier 1 by 77 students
- Reduced Tier 2 by 47 students
- Reduced Tier 3 by 30 students

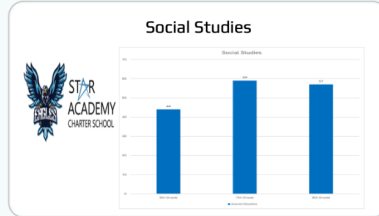
Math:

- Increased Tier 1 by 69 students
- Reduced Tier 2 by 22 students
- Reduced Tier 3 by 47 students

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TCAP - April 14th - April 24th
100% Participation Rate (SLA)

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
May 4th - May 8th

END OF YEAR CLOSEOUT
Last Day for Students: May 21, 2026
Last Day for Teachers: May 22, 2026

ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS
PreK & Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m.

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Inaugural 8th Grade Class

8th grade week
May 11th - May 15th

- Day in Downtown Memphis
- Picnic on Campus
- Amuse field trip
- Spring Formal
- Athletic Banquet

Promotion Ceremony
Wednesday, May 20, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m.

Forward Focus

- ★ Reenrollment
- ★ Enrollment
- ★ Summer Planning
- ★ Summer Professional Development
- ★ Staffing

III. Financial Report — CFO Lindsey McGuire

Financial Overview

- Revenue: On track (TISA funding timing-based)
- Cash on hand: ~\$750,000
- Expenses:
 - Personnel: On target
 - Debt service: Steady
 - Supplies/Operations: Within expectations

Key Investments

- New desks for middle school classrooms
- Pro boards & whiteboards
- Additional laptops for testing capacity
- Student programming (events, activities, music program)
- Urban Roots curriculum and engagement resources

Facilities & Maintenance

- Ongoing plumbing issues in elementary building

- Exploring **restroom renovation project**
 - Architect engaged
 - Awaiting plans and contractor bids
 - Potential summer implementation

FY27 Budget Planning

- ~12 open positions identified (replacement + growth)
 - Active hiring and staffing expansion underway
 - Strategic budgeting to support continued growth
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Operations & Safety Updates

- Adjusted campus flow to improve safety and supervision:
 - Designated visitor parking areas
 - Controlled entry through main office
 - Security stationed at key access points
- Reconfigured outdoor space:
 - Students now utilize rear campus area (safer, no traffic interference)
 - Supports new **90-minute outdoor requirement for middle school**
- Improved traffic flow and reduced risk exposure

(Redacted financial data presentation referenced in shared slide deck.)

IV. Executive Report — Dr. Ed Stephens, III

Human Capital Growth

- Initiated a comprehensive human capital assessment
- Focus on aligning staffing structure with organizational growth
- Goal: Ensure the right talent is in place to support academic and operational excellence

Enrollment & Capacity

- Continued increase in family interest and enrollment demand
- Emphasis on maintaining quality while scaling student capacity
- Monitoring current capacity to ensure sustainable growth

Facility Expansion (Future Planning)

- Identified need for long-term physical building expansion
- Early-stage exploration of options to accommodate growth
- Focus on aligning facilities with enrollment and programmatic needs

Urban Roots Grand Opening – May 6

- Major milestone for STAR Academy and Urban Roots of Tennessee
 - Event will showcase the integration of education, community, and innovation
 - Opportunity to engage partners, stakeholders, and community leaders
 - Reinforces organizational vision and future growth strategy
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VI. Motions & Actions

- **Adjournment:** Motion by **Brack Henderson**; second by **Mark Yates** (second voiced).
Motion carried.