



STAR
ACADEMY
CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, February 25 | 7:00AM

Board Attendees:

Gerald Fanion III (chairman), Brack Henderson, Dr. Linda Tharp, Shakia Clark, Paul Stephens, Brandon Arrindell

I. Opening

- Meeting called to order by Chair Fanion.
 - Roll call conducted by Mrs. Moore
 - Chair acknowledged and thanked board members for their continued leadership, advocacy, and service to STAR Academy.
 - Leadership expressed gratitude for board visibility, strategic support, pop-up presence, tours, and behind-the-scenes advocacy.
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II. Academic Report — Principal Brown

Diagnostic & Benchmark Assessments

- **iReady Diagnostics** administered:
 - Fall (August)
 - Winter (January)
- **Mastery View Predictive Assessments**
- Focus on measuring:
 - Tier movement
 - Standards mastery
 - Growth trends from Fall → Winter

RTI Schedule (JumpSTART)

- Tier 1: Core instruction
- Tier 2: Small group intervention
- Tier 3: Intensive pull-out support
- Students receive support based on skill deficit areas identified in diagnostics.

Instructional Recovery Plan

- Focused instructional pacing calendars
- Spiral review structures
- Mini-lessons targeting standards gaps
- Increased data-driven regrouping cycles

Human Capital

- Added Instructional Coach
 - Focus primarily on middle school
 - Data meetings, classroom modeling, teacher support

iReady Diagnostic Comparison – Reading (Fall vs. Winter)

Overall Trends:

- Movement from Tier 3 (At Risk) into Tier 2 and Tier 1
- Growth in overall placement percentages
- Increased student readiness indicators from Fall to Winter

iReady Diagnostic Comparison – Math (Fall vs. Winter)

Overall Trends:

- Reduction in Tier 3 population
- Growth in Tier 2 and Tier 1 placement
- Steady upward trajectory across multiple grade levels

Math & ELA Mastery (MVPA 1 → MVPA 2):

Most grade levels demonstrated measurable growth, with strongest acceleration in upper grades (6th–8th). Gains align with iReady Winter diagnostic improvements.

Academic Trend:

Targeted interventions, spiral review, and data-driven regrouping are positively impacting standards mastery across both content areas.

Data Monitoring System:

The Digital Data Wall tracks individual student progress using a color-coded system (On Level, Approaching, Intervention Needed).

Bi-weekly data cycles allow for quick instructional adjustments and focused support for students still in intervention tiers.

Academic & School Events

- Staff Professional Development – Feb 13, 2026
- Parent Teacher Conferences – Feb 17, 2026
- Black History Program – March 5, 2026
- MVPA 3 Assessment – March 9–11, 2026
- Sneaker Ball – March 12, 2026
- Spring Break – March 16–20, 2026

Athletics

- Basketball & Track updates
- Girls won TSSAA District Division Championship

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

III. Financial Report — CFO Lindsey McGuire

Year-to-Date Budget-to-Actual Overview

Revenue Summary

- TISA Funding: 69% received
- Federal Programs (Title I): 44% received
- Grants: 79% received
- Other Contributions: 20% received
- Total Revenues trending appropriately for mid-year

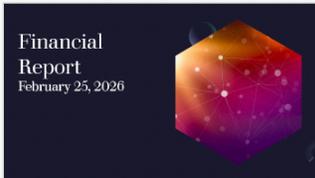
Expenditure Summary

- Personnel: 57% spent
- Support Services:
 - Debt Service: 64%
 - Programming: 49%
 - Building: 58%

- Repairs & Maintenance: 46%
- Supplies: 77%
- Communications: 63%
- Insurance: 66%
- Professional Development: 36%
- Dues & Subscriptions: 50%
- Professional Services: 59%
- Travel: 200% (noted for review/overage explanation)
- Total Expenditures: 57%

Financial Position

- Cash on Hand: ~\$1M
- Audit preparation underway
- Planning for summer expenditures
- Beginning FY27 forecasting process



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 Slide 3: A financial statement table with a dark background and white text. The table lists various revenue and expenditure categories with corresponding dollar amounts.

REVENUE	
Tuition	100%
Other Revenue	100%
Cash	100%
Other Revenue	100%
TOTAL REVENUES	100%
EXPENSES	
Professional Services	100%
Supplies	100%
Travel	100%
Repairs & Maintenance	100%
Insurance	100%
Communications	100%
Professional Development	100%
Dues and Subscriptions	100%
Professional Services	100%
Travel	100%
Other Support Services	100%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	100%

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IV. Executive Director Report — Dr. Stephens

Social Engagement Strategy

- STAR Academy brand strengthening
- Urban Roots of TN visibility expansion

- Increased digital storytelling & stakeholder communication

AI Lab Exploration

- Early stage exploration of AI integration in instruction.
- Potential innovation opportunity for middle school programming.

Security & Surveillance Updates

- Middle school security enhancements underway.
 - Additional monitoring measures being reviewed.
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Urban Roots of TN Update

Presenter: Jessica Moore

Spring Launch Planning

- Partnership with Cul2vate for seedlings & supplies
- Potential partnership with Germantown Parks & Recreation
- Year One planting logistics underway
- Volunteer coordination in progress



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Fundraising & Social Strategy

Federal grants, Micro grants, Foundations, Private Donors

Star Academy
Dr. Stephens & Jessica Moore
Urban Roots of TN
Dr. Maddy Hunter & Jessica Moore

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Middle School Security & Surveillance



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VI. Motions & Actions

- **Adjournment:** Motion by **Brandon Arriental**; second by **Brack Henderson** (second voiced). **Motion carried.**