

**Minutes of the
CHIME Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, May 5th, 2026**

Members Present: Marc Polansky, Dawn Hamilton, Keisha Carroll

Members Absent: J. Mark, K. Kodet

Others Present: E. Studer, A. Cox, I. Castillo, W. Caplenor

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by P. Smith.

- II. **Public Comment:** (3 minutes each)—Members of the public were given the opportunity to make a public comment. Each speaker, if any, was advised of the three (3) minute time limit and that ordinarily, Board members cannot respond to presentations on non-action items as no action can be taken on non-agenda items, but that the Board may advise that direction may be given to staff following a presentation later.
 - A. W. Caplenor made a public comment.

- III. **Consent Agenda** (5 min) The following item(s) may be adopted by a single vote of the board, or any item(s) may be pulled off of consent by any member's request (without any need for a vote to pull from consent).
 - A. **M/S/P** Motion (M. Polansky, K. Carroll) to approve the Minutes of the CHIME Institute Board of Directors meeting held on 3/3/2026
 1. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 2. **VOTE:**
 3. **Yeses:** *M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, K. Carroll, B. Laskey*
 4. **No's:** none
 5. **Abstentions:** *D. Hamilton, P. Smith*
 6. **MOTION PASSES: 4-0-2**

- IV. **Declaration of Need: Emergency CLAD/EL Authorization (Renewal) for Sam Lee**
 - A. **M/S/P** Motion (M. Polansky, K. Carroll) to approve the Declaration of Need: Emergency CLAD/EL Authorization (Renewal) for Sam Lee Approval of an emergency waiver CLAD permit for teaching of English Learners in the 2026-27 school year
 1. WHEREAS Same Lee is a fully credentialed Art teacher who was prepared out of state;
 2. AND WHEREAS this preparation did not include coursework which would lead to the conferment of a CLAD certification in California;
 3. AND WHEREAS Sam Lee requires a CLAD permit to teach individuals who are English Learners in the state of California;
 4. AND Whereas Sam Lee has enrolled in a course of study which will entitle him to earn a CLAD certificate; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CHIME Board of Directors authorizes the application of an emergency waiver CLAD certificate for Sam Lee for the 2026-27 school year so that he can provide instruction to students identified as English Language Learners and take necessary steps complete his CLAD certificate.
 5. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 6. **VOTE:**

7. **Yeses:** *M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, K. Carroll, B. Laskey, D. Hamilton, P. Smith*
8. **No's:** none
9. **Abstentions:** none
10. **MOTION PASSES: 6-0-0**

V. Review of afterschool budget

VI. Review of 26-27 budget

A. I. Castillo presented an update on the 26-27 budget

1. E. Studer and I. Castillo requested that the June 2nd meeting be on zoom for a fiscal meeting. D. hamilton is not available. M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, P. Smith, K. Carroll, B. Laskey are all available.
2. The next board meeting will be June 16th, 2026

VII. Approve CHIME Fiscal Policies

- A. I. Castillo presented the afterschool budget
1. There was a discussion about enrollment
 2. There was a discussion about fees

VIII. Approve Teacher Salary Scale

- A. E. Studer presented the new teacher salary scale.
- B. There was a discussion about the units in the pay scale.
- C. **M/S/P** Motion (P. Smith, B. Laskey) to approve the teacher salary scale as presented.
1. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 2. **VOTE:**
 3. **Yeses:** *M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, K. Carroll, B. Laskey, D. Hamilton, P. Smith*
 4. **No's:** none
 5. **Abstentions:** none
 6. **MOTION PASSES: 6-0-0**

IX. Approve Employee Health Benefits package

- A. E. Studer explained the thought process behind the benefit package that was chosen.
- B. There was a discussion about the decision.
- C. **M/S/P** Motion (M. Polansky, K. Carroll) to approve the Employee Health Benefits package: Staff recommends continuing to offer Kaiser Gold and United Health Gold health policies to employees. CHIME will cover 100% of employee premiums and 50% of added dependents. There is an approximate 7% increase to these premiums over last year at an approximate cost of \$625,000 for the FY 26-27 year
1. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 2. **VOTE:**
 3. **Yeses:** *M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, K. Carroll, B. Laskey, D. Hamilton, P. Smith*
 4. **No's:** none
 5. **Abstentions:** none
 6. **MOTION PASSES: 6-0-0**

X. March Financials

- A. I. Castillo presented the March financial dashboard
1. There was a discussion about the hiring process for an SLP.

2. There was a discussion about the a debt balance figure.
3. There were several questions about line items on the check register.

XI. Executive Director's report

- A. Dr. Studer presented an update on his own work on a bill that could increase funding for schools like CHIME.
- B. Dr. Studer notified the board of a district questionnaire for the board.

XII. Adjournment: .

- A. **M/S/P** Motion (D. Hamilton, K. Carroll) to adjourn the CHIME Charter School Board meeting.
- B. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 1. **Public comment:** There was an opportunity for public comment. None were made
 2. **VOTE:**
 3. **Yeses:** *M. Polansky, M. Rinnert, K. Carroll, B. Laskey, D. Hamilton, P. Smith*
 4. **No's:** none
 5. **Abstentions:** none
 6. **MOTION PASSES: 6-0-0**