

Attendees:

- Present: Will Blackwell, Jaime Coyne, Baburhan Uzum, Mae Lane, Katherine Weimar, and Tracey Hodges.
- Absent: Susie Kamman
- Non-voting board associates present: Craig Toney, SHSU Charter School Superintendent; Misty Rains, Administrative Coordinator; Joel Gaston, Educational Technology Specialist; Richard Ray, Charter School Business Manager; and Ginger Yount, TSUS Office of General Counsel.
- Visitors Present: None

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

- Dr. Will Blackwell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., and noted a quorum was present.

2. Public Comments (Public comments shall be limited to five minutes per person.)

- There were no public comments.

3. Approve Minutes of December 15, 2025 Board Meeting

- Minutes of the December 15, 2025 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

4. Superintendent's Updates and Reports

Dr. Toney presented the following updates and reports.

- Recognition of Board Appreciation Month
 - Dr. Toney expressed his deep appreciation for the dedication of the Board to education and the SHSU-CS. He acknowledged the two newest members, Katherine Weimar and Tracey Hodges.
- Fiscal Year 2025-2026 ("FY26") Enrollment Update
 - Total enrollment was 340. Enrollment is stable at this time. Looking at reenrollment for next year. Considering two fifth grades classes next year.
- SHSU Charter School ("SHSU-CS") Financial Report

Dr. Toney introduced Richard Ray, the Business Manager for the SHSU-CS.

- Mr. Ray presented financial reports as of December 31, 2025. Mr. Ray's presentation provided an overview of all financial reports.
- Financial reporting was based on Average Daily Attendance of 322 (94.65%). Not much change over last month.
- Mr. Ray provided details of each financial report and fund balance.
- Forecast state revenue is up from last month by ~\$270,000.
- Administrative costs were up slightly as rents were due in December.
- Monthly revenue versus expenses was down mostly due to rent payments ~ \$74,000.
- One-third of the year is done and SHSU-CS is still showing a profit.
- Grants came in late this year. Strategic staffing grant has not been spent yet.
- District Technology Report
 - Whenever funds over \$24,999 are spent, Board approval is required. Joel is working on a plan to improve the status of technology. Joel's goal is make a plan to keep the technology up to date. Industry Standard is 1:1 device refresh

cycles. Devices should be replaced on or before three to five years. ViewBoards are needed for the classrooms as they were last purchased in 2021. iPads were also last replaced in 2021. Joel outlined the most immediate needs, which will amount to a large outlay of funds of approximately \$142,000. The goal is to refresh every two years to avoid the large outlay of funds when refreshing every five years.

- ViewSonics (ViewBoards) are needed right away.
- Dr. Blackwell asked about the delivery platform to be rolled out by the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”).
- Update on Progress of New Campus Site
 - Klein’s Board will vote at the end of this month on whether to move forward with the new SHSU-CS campus.
- Review of Proposal for Music Program Addition
 - The detailed work on the music program proposal that Dr. Uzum’s wife provided was outstanding. Music and Fine Arts programs are very valuable to the students and there is strong interest in moving forward. It will require staffing. Considering possibly adding proposal part #1 (which does not include a band option).
 - There is one current staff member who has a background in Fine Arts.
 - Contemplating starting the program at Brighton and then incorporating at other campuses as well.
 - Katherine Weimar asked if the University could partner with SHSU-CS for this program.

5. Executive Session –The Board did not conduct an Executive/Closed Session this month. It was not needed at this time.

6. Discussion and Possible Board Action

- Discussion and Action Regarding Adoption of a Policy Establishing a Period of Prayer or Reading of Religious Texts in Alignment with SB 11.

The law requires a vote. However, it was noted that there are already laws in place to protect students who wish to pray. Adopting a policy establishing a period of prayer or reading of religious texts would merely allow a set time for doing so.

Dr. Jaime Coyne moved to decline adoption of such a policy.

Motion by Jaime Coyne, seconded by Mae Lane, and was unanimously approved.

- Discussion and Action Regarding Adoption of a Policy Allowing Students to be Excused from School to Attend a Course in Religious Instruction Offered by a Private Entity, in Accordance with SB 1049.

This is a mandate to allow a student to attend an outside entity for religious instruction. SHSU-CS must adopt a policy. It will essentially act as excused absences. The policy presented is the standard policy by Texas Charter School Association. It will not affect absences. If students miss instruction, they will need to make it up. The private entity will need to provide verification of attendance. It is unclear as to who will be responsible for providing proof of attendance.

The motion to adopt the policy was made by Dr. Hodges.

Motion by Tracey Hodges, seconded by Jaime Coyne, and was unanimously approved.

- Discussion and Action Regarding Approval of the 2026-2027 SHSU-CS District Academic Calendar

The process of building the calendar is limited due to University policy and workdays required. The draft calendar is distributed to faculty and suggestions are taken into consideration and adopted as much as possible. Easter is in March this year and Spring Break too. Three weeks of April is STAAR testing. Faculty wanted to try some early release days so that has been incorporated.

Motion by Jaime Coyne, seconded by Tracey Hodges, and was unanimously approved.

7. Adjourn

- There being no further business, Will Blackwell adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Dr. Will Blackwell, Chair