

Board of Directors Minutes
Everglades Preparatory Academy
Date: September 10, 2025

Meeting Location: Everglades Preparatory Academy 360 East Main Street Pahokee, Florida 33476

Members in attendance were:

Board Members

X Emilia Fanjul
Joseph Galardi-(Absent)
X Angela Pope
X Maureen Johnston
X Christopher McDermott
Charles Shaw- (Absent)
Vivian White- (Absent)

Staff

X Linda Johnson Earsley
X Sheila Bynes
X Roman Salas

Also, in attendance

X Tony Arza, Arza Consultant
X Maria Alba Quesada, Strategic Consulting
X Daniel Rishavy, Link-Up

The Board Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Emilia Fanjul, Board Chair, at 2:12 p.m.

Agenda:

1. The agenda was presented and reviewed by the Board.
2. Public Comment- There were no public comments.

IV. Approval of Minutes for September 10, 2025:

Maureen Johnston made the motion. Christopher McDermott seconded the motion to approve September 10, 2025, minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Approved
 Minutes Not Approved
 Corrections/Changes: None

Reports:

V. Chairperson – Emilia Fanjul

1. Welcome Back
2. Board Contact Form
3. SY2025-SY2026 Board Meeting Announcement

VI. Consent Agenda

- a. SY26 Drill Schedule
- b. SY26 Master Schedule
- c. SY26 Bell Schedule
- d. SY26 School Annual Goals and Action Steps



- e. SY26 School Improvement Plan
- f. SY26 Staff Roster
- g. SY26 EPA Organizational Chart
- h. SY26 Capital Outlay Plan
- i. SY26 Crisis Response Plan

VII. Governmental Affairs updates----- Arza Consulting Group

VIII. Quality Charter School Solutions ----- Maria Alba-Quesada

- a. Academic
- b. Operational

IX. Principal's Report

- a. School Snapshot: Assessment Data Snapshot, Forward Focus and Motion- the board reviewed and discussed the school's snapshot which provided board members with an overview of the school's strengths and weaknesses using assessment data. Also, it allows them to understand how resources were being used, monitor the school's overall results, and make informed decisions that promote student success.
- b. SY26 School Improvement Plan Rating- Principal Earsley submitted an appeal to the state to review individual student-level data used by the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) for calculating school grades and improvement ratings. On September 9, 2025, Commissioner Anastasios Kamoutsas granted the appeal. Everglades Preparatory Academy earned a Commendable rating for the FY25 school year.
- c. SY26 Title I Budget- the board reviewed and discussed SY26 Title I Budget.
-Voting Item
- d. FY26 UniSIG Budget- the board reviewed and discussed FY26 UniSIG Budget.
-Voting Item
- e. SY26 ESE (IDEA) Budget- the board reviewed and discussed SY26 ESE (IDEA) budget and acknowledged the school's IDEA student count concerns. - **Voting Item**
- f. FY2025-FY2026 Employee Health Plan- the board reviewed and discussed FY2025-FY2026 Employee Health Plan. - **Voting Item**
- g. FY26 Referendum Expenditure Plan- the board reviewed and discussed FY26 Referendum Expenditure Plan- **Voting Item**
- h. 401K Retirement Plan-Authorized Contact, Plan Administrator- the board reviewed and discussed Daniel Rishavy, Link-Up replacing Craig Khale, EPA's past 401K Retirement Plan-Authorized Contact, Plan Administrator for the school. -**Voting Item**

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X. Financial Report- Link-Up, Inc.

The Board discussed the following:

1. Everglades Highlighted Financial Results and Analysis 2024-25- The June 2025 financial statements were reviewed, showing a deficit of \$455,891 in the general fund and \$383,257 in total governmental funds. These figures reflect the final reconciled figures for the fiscal year, following the transition to the new accounting firm. It was noted that throughout SY 2024–2025, the school spent more than it earned, leading to a serious cash flow issue. As of now, the school has only 11 days of cash on hand. The board discussed why this financial concern was not flagged earlier in the monthly financial reports and acknowledged that it only became clear after year-end reconciliation. The board emphasized the need for tighter oversight of the school’s financials and a budget that aligns with actual student enrollment. It was agreed that budget cuts will be necessary to maintain financial health. The board also stressed the importance of improved financial controls, ensuring that the accounting team is informed of all budget-related decisions, and that the board is included in such decisions to confirm funds are available before commitments are made.

Everglades Preparatory Academy  FY 2024-25

Financial Results

1. The April 2025 financial report (presented in June) projected a year-end deficit of (\$212,741).
2. The June 2025 financial statements show:
 - a. Deficit of (\$455,891) in the general fund
 - b. Deficit of (\$383,257) in total governmental funds

	General Fund	Special	Capital Outlay	Total
	YTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Actual
Revenues				
Total Revenues	1,529,441	144,753	132,933	1,807,127
Expenditures				
Total Expenditures	1,985,333	85,279	119,770	2,190,385
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	(455,892)	59,474	13,163	(383,257)
Fund Balances, Beginning as Restated	432,098	-	120,522	552,620
Fund Balances, Ending	(937)	59,474	133,659	192,196

Fund Balances

1. The general fund balance as reported in the GASB statements is **negative (\$936)**, meaning the school has consumed the general fund surplus accumulated over prior years.
2. The total governmental funds balance showed a surplus of \$192,196, but this is primarily from restricted funds and not available for general operations.

Cash Position as of June 30, 2025

Balance in the bank = \$293,074. See the following breakdown.

1. Unrestricted Capital Outlay Balance: \$133,659
2. Unspent Glades Foundation Funds (for 2025–26 expenses): \$60,000
3. Net Cash Position (excluding restricted and unspent funds): \$99,415

Cash Position – as of July 31, 2025

Balance in the bank = \$533,912. See the following breakdown.

1. \$133,658 – Capital outlay restricted balance
2. \$328,968 – Unspent foundation donations
3. \$17,810 – Other deferred revenues
4. Net available general fund balance = \$53,476, or 11 days of cash on hand.

Cashflow analysis of 2024-25

1. The following table analyzes the school’s cash flow trends without foundation money and related expenses.
2. Throughout the year, the school consistently **spent more than it earned**, which nearly resulted in a cash deficit of 455,892 as of June 30, 2025.
3. These trends corroborate our findings that the school is at risk of running into a cash flow problem.

Net Cashflow	(90,710)	218,757	(52,044)	(45,601)	(79,187)	(38,086)	(73,159)	(52,581)	(67,068)	21,535	(95,444)	(102,304)	3,235,497
Cumulative Cash	(90,710)	128,048	76,004	30,402	(48,785)	(86,871)	(160,030)	(212,611)	(279,679)	(258,144)	(353,588)	(455,892)	

2. Everglades Preparatory Academy Dashboard – July 2025

The board reviewed the July 2025 financial dashboard presented by Link-Up, Inc. Enrollment was below projection with 93 FTEs compared to the budgeted 134, and budget revisions are pending board approval. The school reported a fund balance of \$100,797, with total cash of \$533,912; however, only \$53,473 was available for operations after excluding restricted funds.

3. Everglades Budget 2025-26 – 28th Aug 2025 – 93 FTE

Budget presented at 93 FTE with significant budgetary cuts due to the lower enrollment from the original projection of 134.

a. Reconciliation of June 2025 financial statements- Link-up, Inc. presented to the Board the June Monthly Financials.

b. financial reports July 2025- Link-Up, Inc. presented the financial reports for July 2025.

c. SY25-26 Amended Budget-**Voting Item** – Deferred until November.

XI. Old Business

1. NONE

I. Voting Item

1. Consent Agenda- Angela Pope made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the Board approved correction to the Organizational chart. Maureen Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2. SY26 Title I Budget- Christopher McDermott made the motion to approve SY26 Title I Budget. Angela Pope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. FY26 UniSIG Budget- Maureen Johnston made the motion to approve SY26 UniSig Budget. Angela Pope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. SY26 ESE (IDEA) Budget- Maureen Johnston made the motion to officially support the principal's position and are giving her, the principal, the authority to formally dispute the FY26 budget allocation with the appropriate body (e.g., the superintendent, the district finance office) on our behalf.". Christopher McDermott seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
5. FY2025-FY2026 Employee Health Plan- Christopher McDermott made the motion to approve FY2025-FY2026 Employee Health Plan. Maureen Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

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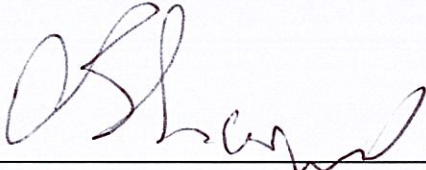


6. FY26 Referendum Expenditure Plan-Christopher McDermott made the motion to approve FY26 Referendum Expenditure Plan. Maureen Johnston seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. 401K Retirement Plan-Authorized Contact, Plan Administrator- Christopher McDermott made the motion to approve changing 401K Retirement Plan-Authorized Contact, Plan Administrator from Craig Khale to Dan Riskay. Angela Pope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. Financial reports July 2025- Maureen Johnston made the motion to approve financial reports July 2025. Angela Pope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
9. Financial (Budget) Results and Analysis 2024-25- Maureen Johnston made the motion to approve the Financial Results and Analysis 2024-25 presented by Link-up, Inc. Angela Pope seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
10. SY25-26 Amended Budget-Deferred until November.

◆ Unanimously approved

The meeting adjourned at 4:32pm

◆ Approved by _____


Charles "Chuck" Shaw, As Secretary

Date _____

