



Rocketship DC Board of Trustees Meeting - June 9, 2026 Agenda (2025-26 - Q4)

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 1:00 PM

Location: 5450 3rd St, NE Washington, DC 20011

Webinar Link: <https://rocketshipschools.zoom.us/j/84153435951>

Webinar ID: 841 5343 5951

1. Opening Items

A. Call to Order

At 1:03pm, Mr. Saunders took roll call. With a quorum of board members present, Mr. Saunders called the meeting to order.

Present: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders

Absent: Jennifer McManus, Joey Slotter, Matt Aaron, Rena Johnson

2. Consent Items

At 1:04pm, Matt Aaron joined the meeting.

At 1:04pm, a motion to approve consent items 2(A-C) was made by Ms. Herndon, seconded by Mr. Saunders, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

- A. Approve minutes from the April 10, 2026 Special Meeting of the Rocketship DC Board of Trustees
- B. Approve 2026-27 School Instructional Calendar for Rocketship Schools in DC
- C. Approve 2026-27 Rocketship Public Schools DC Board of Trustees Meeting Calendar

3. Information Items

A. Executive Director and Board Updates

At 1:06pm, Sabrina Hernandez, Multilingual Learning Coordinator, provided a Mission Moment in regard to multilingual learner WIDA growth. Multilingual learner enrollment varies by campus, with RIC serving the majority of our multilingual learners. Board members celebrated an increase in percentage of students meeting their growth target in comparison to last year.

Sabrina shared recommendations for continued MLL student growth in 2026-27. Board members asked questions in regard to staffing for the MLL program.

Zakiya shared updates in regard to the organizational structure of the DC Executive and Regional Team. Additionally, she provided updates on the schools' 2026-27 priorities.

At 1:14pm, Joey Sloter joined the meeting.

At 1:18pm, Rena Johnson joined the meeting.

4. Action Items: Agreements - Review and Approval

At 1:41pm, the board discussed action items 4(A-B). The board asked questions about the RFP process for the food service and janitorial contracts. Staff provided an overview of what those processes entail.

At 1:49pm, a motion to approve action items 4(A-B) was made by Ms. Herndon, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron, Joey Sloter, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --

- A. Approve Food Service Management Company Contract Extension with Red Rabbit, LLC
- B. Approve Janitorial Service Contract Renewal with Busy Bee Environmental Services, Inc.

5. Action Items: Applications & Resolutions - Review and Approval

- A. Approve Resolution #2026-05 - Rocketship Education DC One Network Support Agreement

At 1:50pm, the board discussed action item 5(A). The Board asked for a brief overview of the updates made to the One Network Support Agreement, which was provided by staff.

At 1:54pm, Ms. Hanson-Hall left the meeting.

At 1:57pm, to allow more time for review, the Board asked to review action item 5(A) at a future meeting.

- B. Approve Eleventh Amendment to the 2014 Charter School Agreement

At 1:58pm, Mr. Saunders asked for questions or comments on action item 5(B). Staff clarified that this agenda item sought approval for the finalized Eleventh Amendment to the 2014 Charter School Agreement.

At 2:00pm, a motion to approve action item 5(B) was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Herndon, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Melissa Martin, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron, Joey Slotter, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --

- C. Resolution #2026-06 Approving Simon Rodberg as advisor to the Achievement Committee of Rocketship Education DC

At 2:01pm, Mr. Saunders asked for questions or comments on action item 5(C). Ms. Sackor provided background information for Mr. Rodberg to the Board.

At 2:03pm, a motion to approve action item 5(C) was made by Mr. Sokolov, seconded by Mr. Aaron, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Melissa Martin, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron, Joey Slotter, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --

6. Action Items: Operations - Review and Approval

At 2:04pm, Mr. Saunders asked for questions or comments on action items 6(A-C). The Board asked questions in regard to the annual updates made to each item. Staff briefly summarized the changes to each item. Given the considerable volume of each of the items up for approval and limited time in the meeting, the Board asked to review action items 6(A-C) at a future meeting.

- A. Approve 2026-27 Rocketship Student and Parent Handbook
- B. Approve 2026-27 Rocketship Education Employee Handbook
- C. Approve 2026-27 School Safety Plan

7. Action Items: Finance - Review and Approval

- A. Review and Approve Rocketship DC Annual Plan and 2026-27 Budget, including all School-Level Budgets

At 2:14pm, the Board discussed action item 7(A). Ben Carson, Chief Financial Officer, reviewed the Q3 financial update and progress against budget so far this year. Mr. Carson reviewed the annual budget process for the board and discussed the key inputs, including the current status of enrollment, staffing planning, and non compensation planning.

Mr. Carson shared the FY27 budget, including school level budgets and the regional team budget. The Board asked questions in regard to key budgetary risks including enrollment for the upcoming year and ongoing expense management.

The Board discussed focus areas for investment and areas for collaboration between the region and network support team.

At 2:33pm, Ms. Martin left the meeting.

B. Approve Revised Rocketship Fiscal Policies

At 3:14pm, the Board discussed action item 7(B). Mr. Carson provided an overview of the minor changes to the fiscal policies.

At 3:17pm, a motion to approve action items 7(A-B) was made by Ms. Tommelleo, seconded by Ms. Marcus, and carried unanimously by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron, Joey Slotter, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --

8. Break

At 3:17pm, the Board took a brief break.

9. Information Items

A. Family Recruitment and Enrollment Update

At 3:24pm, the Board discussed information item 9(A). Ashlee Watson, Regional Director of Culture, provided an enrollment update. Ms. Watson discussed progress on student enrollment for the 2026-27 school year and the strategies the team is using to achieve the region's enrollment goals through both re-enrollment and new student enrollment. The Board asked questions to better understand each of the enrollment metrics.

At 3:31pm, Ms. Martin rejoined the meeting.

B. Deep Dive on NWEA and ASPIRE Results

At 3:56pm, the Board discussed information item 9(B). Eric Neumann, Vice President of Program, presented the deep dive, including highlights from the Spring NWEA assessment. The Board celebrated significant academic achievement in the second half of the school year and asked questions as to how the region can build on this momentum.

At 4:15pm, Ms. Martin left the meeting.

10. Adjourn

A. Meeting adjourned

At 4:24pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Herndon, and carried by a roll call vote.

Yes: Ashanti Herndon, Camilla Jensen, Lauren Marcus, Maggie Marcus, Rachel Tommelleo, Ron Sokolov, Kamuzu Saunders, Matt Aaron, Joey Slotter, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --