
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF TUCSON COUNTRY DAY CHARTER SCHOOL OF MEETING HELD
AUGUST 25, 2026**

A public meeting of the Governing Board of Tucson Country Day Charter School was convened on Tuesday, August 25th, 2026, at 5:00 PM via Google Meet.

Present at the meeting were the following members of the Governing Board of Tucson Country Day Charter School:

Christina Brown, Michelle Bullock, Renee Danielson, and James Kraykovich

Absent: Cassidy James

Quorum present? Yes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by Michelle Bullock

The following matters were discussed, considered, and decided at the meeting:

CALL TO PUBLIC

- Jeremy Field – parent of two TCDS students. Mr. Field expressed concerns regarding the discontinuation of pre-algebra for 7th grade students. He questioned whether this change would affect the availability of Algebra for 8th grade students as a high school credit course. Mr. Field requested clarification regarding the reasons for eliminating pre-algebra and emphasized the importance of maintaining a strong mathematics course sequence to support students seeking admission to highly rated high schools in the Tucson area.

ACTION: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE FOLLOWING BOARD MEETINGS:

June 27th, 2026, and July 7th, 2026:

Motion to approve the minutes of the School Board meetings for June 27th, 2026, and July 7th, 2026.

Motioned by James Kraykovich and seconded by Christina Brown

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Christina Brown, Michelle Bullock, Renee Danielson, and James Kraykovich

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

CEO - Jordan Krause

Enrollment: Mr. Krause provided an enrollment update and stated that enrollment counts will be reported monthly, including current enrollment, the previous month's enrollment, and Lil Champs enrollment. Capacity in Grades 1-3 is lower than in previous years, as these grade levels are currently staffed with two teachers rather than three. Despite the reduced capacity, current enrollment is higher than at the same point last year and exceeds enrollment levels from several previous years. There are currently eight DLS students who were previously enrolled TCDS students, while 16 students were newly enrolled. Our Lil Champs program typically begins lower at the start of the year and increases throughout the school year.

Math Curriculum – Claudio Bravo:

Mr. Bravo addressed the concerns regarding mathematics instruction and noted that, as presented to the Board Members over the summer, the school's state assessment results in mathematics were lower than in previous years. While some students continue to exceed grade-level expectations, administration has been evaluating how to strengthen instruction aligned with grade-level standards.

Mr. Bravo explained that the goal was to ensure that 8th grade students who are prepared for Algebra do not lose access to the course. For 7th grade students, Mrs. Schaeде has implemented a new instructional approach that includes small-group instruction based on students' individual levels and needs. Students demonstrating advanced proficiency will continue to have access to accelerated mathematics opportunities.

Under the revised approach, students entering 8th grade next year may have the opportunity to take Algebra I or Geometry, depending on their readiness. Mr. Bravo emphasized that the process is intended to provide greater personalization and flexibility while supporting students at their respective instructional levels.

The first benchmark assessment was launched this week, with the assessment window closing on September 4th. The administration will review the results to determine which students are prepared for accelerated mathematics and will provide an update to the Board Members at the next meeting. The decision to make the curriculum change was a collaborative team-based effort and Mrs. Schaeде sent out clear communication to parents regarding the change.

Staffing and Electives – Jordan Krause:

Mr. Krause reported that TCDS is currently fully staffed. New staffing and programming include a K-5 Musical Theater teacher, Middle School STEM and Young Entrepreneurs

elective teachers, and a new Lil Champs teacher. Our Spanish and Band/Choir teachers departed at the end of the previous school year, requiring adjustments to the current program offerings. Spanish and Band are not currently being offered because the school is prioritizing finding appropriately qualified teachers rather than filling the positions hastily. The new STEM teacher is familiar with the TCDS community. STEM and Young Entrepreneurs are new elective offerings this year. A Recess Coach elective is also being offered, providing students with opportunities to exercise leadership and have a greater voice in the school community.

Project-Based Learning and Student Leadership:

Teacher collaboration continues to focus on authentic, cross-curricular project-based learning with support from the Chief of Academics. Student voice and leadership opportunities are also expanding, including the launch of the middle school recess coaches. Mr. Krause shared that the theme for the school year is “**Own It, Grow.**” Schoolwide non-negotiables include authentic project-based units, elevating student voice, and teacher collaboration.

Athletics:

The TCDS Athletic programs are underway, with strong student interest in flag football and volleyball.

Safety and Family Partnership:

The school was approved for a school safety grant that will fund a School Resource Officer (SRO) on campus two days per week. The officers will serve not only in a safety capacity but also as educators, mentors, and relationship-builders. Mr. Krause described this as a valuable partnership in supporting school safety.

Parent-teacher conferences were moved to September to establish and strengthen school-family relationships and identify student needs earlier in the school year.

DLS Update:

The Desert Lab School (DLS) has had a strong start to the school year, with students demonstrating high levels of engagement, curiosity, collaboration, and ownership of their learning. The DLS model emphasizes not only what students learn, but also the development of students’ ability to independently navigate their learning. Through “Agency Time,” students are intentionally provided with opportunities to make choices about how they spend their time and what they pursue next. This approach is designed to foster independence, decision-making, and ownership of the learning experience.

Early feedback from families has been very positive and supports the value of an practical, student-centered approach to learning. Families have reported increased enthusiasm among students about coming to school, with some noting a significant change in their children’s morning routines and attitudes toward school. Mr. Krause shared that it has been

encouraging to observe how students are using their time, making choices, and engaging in the opportunities available to them through the DLS model. The school plans to develop “A Day in the Life of a DLS Student” videos and provide opportunities for families and community members to visit the program through open-house-style events.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 29th at 5:00 PM via Google Meet.
- Our first flag football and volleyball games are scheduled for September 1st. Please come support our student athletes.
- Board Member Christina Brown gave an update regarding medical concerns she will be addressing over the next six months.
- Board Member James Kraykovich expressed appreciation to Coach Hall, Coach Alec, and Mr. Bravo for their work supporting the athletics program and shared his enthusiasm for the upcoming school year.

Motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion by Renee Danielson and seconded by James Kraykovich

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Christina Brown, Michelle Bullock, Renee Danielson and James Kraykovich

Meeting adjourned at 5:49 PM

Dated this 25th day of August 2026

The Governing Board of Tucson Country Day Charter School

Minutes taken by Board Secretary, Pam Hubble