



Ascent Classical Academy South Carolina
Governing Board Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2025

1. Preliminary.

The meeting was called to order at 5:01pm EST.

Mark Dillon, Michael Murphy, Mark Shuler, Dennis Getter, Marifrances Bolger, Caleb Greene, and Brendan Kelley were present.

Mr. Getter moved to adopt the agenda, second by Mrs. Bolger. The agenda was adopted 7-0.

2. Approve October 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the meeting minutes, second by Mr. Getter. The minutes were adopted 7-0.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Ratify Approval of Family Handbook
- b. Approve SC Meetings Policy

Mrs. Bolger asked to remove 3a. Ratify Approval of Family Handbook from the Consent Agenda. It was moved to agenda item 8b.

Mr. Getter moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Dillon. The Consent Agenda was adopted 7-0.

4. Public Comment – Public comment was received.

5. Board Training and Development

The board received training and a presentation on the school funding, budgeting, and accounting process, the grievance policy, and SC Freedom of Information Act. The school does not provide detailed cost breakdowns when providing estimates, in accordance with state statute and on the advice from its legal counsel.

6. Reports

- a. Fort Mill Campus Report – Mrs. Mognett presented her report on improvements being made on campus and the staff's work to implement the intended classical academic program and culture. Her leadership team has been working to ensure the campus is in compliance with applicable requirements. The school is fully staffed with core teachers, the first time this year. Teachers have been submitted for alternative certification.

- b. Executive Director Report – Mr. Derec Shuler presented the executive director report.
 - c. Audit Report – Mr. Getter reported that the ACA Fort Mill audit was “clean” and without exceptions.
 - d. Chairman’s Report – Mr. Dillon presented the chairman report.
7. Executive Session – The board may enter executive session as allowed under SC Code 30-4-70(a)(2) to discuss contract negotiations, real estate, and receive legal advice.

Mr. Dillon moved to enter executive session to discuss contract negotiations, real estate, and to receive legal advice, seconded by Mr. Getter. The motion was adopted 7-0 and the board entered executive session at 6:14pm.

The board reconvened in public session at 8:11pm. Mr. Greene had to depart the meeting.

No actions taken were taken in executive session.

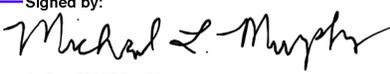
8. Business
- a. Mr. Kelley moved to amend the agenda to include conversation on executive session items, seconded by Mrs. Bolger. The agenda was amended 6-0.

Mr. Dillon moved to recognize and ratify the 2023 bylaws from the first cohort of charter applications submitted to Erskine, seconded by Mr. Getter. The motion was adopted 6-0.

- b. Ratify Approval of Family Handbook

Mrs. Bolger moved to approve the Family Handbook with a revision to SE 33.0 to reflect the recent change to the public comment procedure, seconded by Mr. Dillon. The motion was adopted 6-0.

9. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.

Signed by:

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Vision

Ascent Classical Academies develop the moral and intellectual skills, habits, and virtues upon which independent, responsible, and joyful lives are built, in the firm belief that such lives are the basis for a free and flourishing republic.

Mission

Ascent Classical Academies train the minds and improve the hearts of young people through a classical, content-rich education in the liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue in an orderly and disciplined environment.

Public Comment Procedures:

The board welcomes and encourages public participation. Public comment must relate to an item listed on the current agenda.

We respectfully ask that you adhere to the procedures below:

1. Any individual who desires to address the board during a regular board meeting shall sign in 3 hours before the meeting begins and will be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes to address the board. The public comment period will be allotted a total maximum of sixteen (16) minutes. If the list of those signed up to speak exceeds eight (8) names, the sixteen (16) minute period will be divided equally among those speakers. Each speaker shall be allowed a minimum of one minute. In the event that all speakers cannot each be afforded one minute within the sixteen (16) minute period may be extended by the chairman.
2. Speakers may offer objective criticism of Ascent Classical Academy operations and programs as it relates to items on the agenda before the board. The chair may direct the member of the public to the appropriate means to address concerns brought before the board; however, the board will not respond with action but will take comments under advisement and direct the comments to the appropriate staff member to address outside of the board meeting.
3. If a group wishes to speak, please designate one spokesperson for the group.
4. Please state your name and the topic you are addressing, as it relates to an agenda item, before you begin.
5. Speakers are asked to direct their questions and comments to the chair.
6. Considering that we need to be a model for students and young adults in board meetings, defamatory and personal attacks on schools, partners, staff and board members will not be allowed.