



Palmetto Excel Center
Q2 Board of Directors Meeting

April 14, 2026

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Herbert Drayton III, Chris Harvey, Brian Itzkowitz, Amy Mims, Dr. Fran Welch

Staff & Consultants present: John Brisini, Katie Bustamente, Theresa Craft, Jeremy Easley, Megan Friedman, Mary Ann Gilmer, Stacey Lindbergh

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM by Amy Mims to review school program process, approve financials, and discuss Palmetto Goodwill Excel legislative and funding updates.

Program Progress (Jeremy Easley)

- Enrollment projected at **155–160 students** by week's end.
- **18 students certified** (pharmacy technician); up to **23 graduates** anticipated.
- All **35 potential graduates remain eligible**.
- Final grades expected **late May**.
- Strong student motivation through visible progress tracking system.

Legislative & Funding (John Brisini)

- **\$839,000 in state funding** included in current budget proviso (pending final approval).
- Budget decision expected **late May–July**.
- **Critical:** This is likely the **final year of proviso funding** → alternative funding required.
- Charter school reform legislation under review.

Palmetto Goodwill Update (Mary Ann Gilmer)

- Ongoing legislative engagement and advocacy.
- Active **student recruitment strategy** (events + digital outreach).
- **Graduation scheduled:** June 23, 10:00 AM (Trident Tech).



- Anticipated **large graduating class (~35 students)**.

Finance Report (Chris Harvey)

- Expenses trending **under budget**; year-end surplus expected.
- New financial reporting format implemented.
- January & February financials **approved**.
- Funding allocated for **graduation brunch event** for seniors.
- Bank fee review pending.

Governance Update (Herbert Drayton)

- Proposal to **extend current board terms by one year**.
- Potential new board member: **Kathy Almquist**.
- Vote scheduled for next meeting.

Critical Issue: Charter Authorization (Voorhees)

- Hearing discussion
- Key items:
 - Funding
 - Governance
 - Performance metrics

Response Plan:

- **Presentation and materials**.
- **Virtual presentation** scheduled (7 min presentation + Q&A).
- Internal prep session scheduled prior to presentation.

Key Actions



- Revise and plan Voorhees presentation.
- Confirm virtual presentation logistics.
- Continue legislative advocacy and identify **long-term funding solutions**.
- Execute student recruitment plan.
- Finalize graduation logistics and communications.
- Review banking fees for cost savings.
- Plan additional **legislator engagement event**.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Amy Mims at 5PM following motion and approval.

A recording of this meeting is available here: <https://palmettogoodwill-org.zoom.us/rec/share/H5stsEDLmtNS9KuuuIM1BgNfoLDitfFe4dHnKyqvl5OJjp6Szaza3uzX624tXA2N.mAPwEQ3HU6Hm7Rbn?startTime=1776197429000>
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