

PELICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 12:00 PM

8716 Siegen Ln
Baton Rouge, LA, 70810

AGENDA

Notice: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting may request assistance by contacting us at info@kenilworthst.org

Opening Items

- I. Welcome and Call to Order
- II. Attendance and Determination of Quorum
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting (April 26, 2026) – Attachment A

Information Agenda

- V. Update from the Planning & Instruction Committee
- VI. 2025-2026 Operating Budget Update – Attachment B
- VII. Update from the Executive Director & Team – Attachment C

Action Agenda

- VIII. Nomination of Two New Board Members – Attachment D
- IX. Acceptance of Resignations of Two Current Board Members

Closing Items

- X. Announcements
 - i. Upcoming meetings
 - ii. LA Board of Ethics: 2025 Annual Disclosure Reminder
 - iii. NCSC 2026 Conference
- XI. Adjournment

MINUTES

PELICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 12:00 PM
8716 Siegen Ln, Baton Rouge, LA, 70810

I. Welcome and Call to Order

These are the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Pelican Educational Foundation, Inc. (PEF), a Louisiana nonprofit corporation. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 8716 Siegen Ln, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, by Mr. S. Masarath, President.

II. Attendance and Quorum

Present: Dr. O. Kizilkaya, Mr. S. Masarath, Ms. M. Kilic, Ms. V. Valdez, and Mr. A. Akinci.

Absent: Ms. T. Rivers and Dr. O. Kazan.

Also in attendance: Mr. H. Suzuk.

A quorum was present.

III. Public Comments

No public comment.

IV. Approval of the minutes from the regular board meeting on April 26, 2026 – Attachment A

Motion: To approve the minutes of the April 26, 2026 regular board meeting as amended.

Moved by: Ms. V. Valdez

Seconded by: Ms. M. Kilic

Discussion: The minutes of the board meeting held on April 26, 2026 were presented and discussed. Two changes were made. The motion was unanimously approved.

Information Agenda

V. Update from the Planning & Instruction Committee

The Planning & Instruction Committee meeting was held on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 11:35 a.m. at 8716 Siegen Ln. The participants were Dr. O. Kizilkaya, Ms. M. Kilic, and Mr. H. Suzuk. The committee discussed the following topics:

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Audience Introductions
3. School Quality & Growth Planning – Bellwether
4. 2025–2026 Planning / High School Opening Progress
5. Adjournment

VI. 2025–2026 Operating Budget Update – Attachment B

Mr. Suzuk presented the updated operating budget and statement of financial position for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. The budget continues to reflect stronger-than-projected enrollment. The fiscal year remains on track to close with a positive balance. No significant variances from the previously approved budget were reported.

VII. Update from the Executive Director and the Team – Attachment C

Mr. Suzuk presented the report as detailed in Attachment C including the following items:

- Staffing Update
- Student Enrollment Data
- Pre-K Update
- Parent Complaints
- Summer Programs
- English I, Algebra I, and LEAP Connect Scores
- Food Service Audit Update
- Staffing for next year - Leadership Updates
- Board Training – BESE

Action Agenda

VIII. Nomination of Two New Board Members – Attachment D

Motion: To approve the nomination and appointment of two new board members as presented.

Moved by: Mr. S. Masarath

Seconded by: Mr. A. Akinci

Discussion: Mr. Suzuk and Dr. Kizilkaya presented the nominations of Mr. Agil Sharifov and Dr. Omer Mermer for board membership. Mr. Sharifov brings more than 25 years of leadership experience in education, school operations, and strategic planning, including executive and superintendent-level roles in public and international STEM education systems. He currently serves in a leadership role at Harmony Public Schools, one of the organization's partner schools, and the Board noted that having a representative from Harmony Public Schools would further strengthen collaboration and partnership opportunities between the organizations. Dr. Mermer brings extensive expertise in research, engineering, artificial intelligence, and higher education, with significant experience leading academic and technology-based research initiatives. The Board reviewed the nominees' qualifications, leadership experience, and potential contributions to the organization's governance and strategic priorities. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Acceptance of Resignations of Two Current Board Members

Motion: To accept the resignations of two current board members with gratitude for their service.

Moved by: Ms. V. Valdez

Seconded by: Ms. M. Kilic

Discussion: The Board acknowledged the resignations of Dr. O. Kizilkaya and Dr. O. Kazan from their positions as board members. The Board expressed its sincere appreciation and gratitude for their dedicated service, leadership, and valuable contributions to the Pelican Educational Foundation during their tenure. Board members thanked Dr. Kizilkaya and Dr. Kazan for their commitment to the organization's mission and ongoing support of its educational initiatives. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Closing Items

X. Announcements

- i. Upcoming Meeting: The next regular board meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2026.
- ii. Tier 3 Financial Disclosure: Mr. Suzuk reminded board members to ensure that their Tier 3 Financial Disclosure Forms had been submitted to the Louisiana Board of Ethics.
- iii. NCSC Conference: The 2026 National Charter Schools Conference (NCSC26) will be held June 24–26, 2026, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Suzuk invited board members to attend.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m. by a vote of 5 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.