



# UTOPIAN

ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK

Mission Statement: Through a structured and supportive environment, Utopian Academy for the Arts will develop students' artistic and academic gifts to enter and to succeed in high school and eventually enroll in a college, university, or specialty school of their choice.

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## Utopian Academy for the Arts Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 23, 2025

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### Document Preparation Information

**Prepared by:**  
Kimberly Murphy, Recording Secretary

### Meeting Information

<b>Date:</b> October 23, 2025	<b>Start Time:</b> 6:00 pm	<b>Teleconference Details:</b> (646) 558-8656, Access Code 82241821532
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<b>Meeting Objectives:</b> Monthly Board Meeting		
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<b>Called by:</b> Joshua Menifee, Board Chair	<b>Email Address:</b> <a href="mailto:Joshua.Menifee@utopianacademy.com">Joshua.Menifee@utopianacademy.com</a>	<b>Phone:</b> (470) 446-1070 Office
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### Attendees

Mr. Joshua Menifee, Governance Board Chair  
Mr. Steven Garner, Governance Board CFO  
Mrs. Stephany Walls, Member  
Mr. Christopher Copeland, Member  
Mr. Gavin McGuire, Member  
Dr. Artesius Miller, Founder and CEO  
Mr. Dale Smith, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms. Pamela Dingle, Executive Director  
Dr. Selina Walton, Elementary Principal  
Ms. Elisha Byers, Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Dr. Marcus Broadhead, Director of New School Design and Development  
Mr. Gregory Leaphart, Director of Operations

### Agenda

Call To Order	Call to Order: 6:05 pm	Vote: 4-0
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda by Gavin McGuire Second: Steven Garner	<i>Unanimous</i> <i>*Vote does not include Christopher Copeland</i>

Approval of Board Minutes October 1, 2025 (Special Called Board Meeting)	Motion to accept minutes as read by Gavin McGuire Second: Steven Garner	Vote: 4-0 <i>Unanimous</i> <i>*Vote does not include Christopher Copeland</i>
Public Participation	There was no public participation at this meeting	
<u>Action Agenda</u>		
Fiscal Independence and Financial Sustainability Plan	Motion to accept the Trilith School Deficit Plan with oversight provided through the Finance Committee by: Steven Garner Second: Christopher Copeland	Vote: 5-0 <i>Unanimous</i>
Cash on Hand Report	Dale Smith, CFO presented and shared the Cash on Hand Report to the Board. No action taken.	
Finance Policy and Procedures Manual – Emergency Situations Purchasing Policy	Motion to approve the revised Finance Policy Manual with the added language regarding the purchasing thresholds by: Steven Garner Second: Joshua Meniffee	Vote: 5-0 <i>Unanimous</i>
Executive Session	There were no matters to discuss in Executive Session	
Recommendations from Executive Session		
Announcements Adjournment	Motion to adjourn meeting by Joshua Meniffee Second: Steven Garner Time: 7:05 pm *Next board meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on November 20, 2025	Vote: 5-0 <i>Unanimous</i>