



## MARCH 2026 STERLING SCHOOL SIC MEETING MINUTES

### Sterling School SIC Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 5, 2026

**Time:** 8:30 a.m.

**Location:** Sterling School/CTC

**Attendees:** Natisha Johnson-Gaither, Sarah Frick, Glenda Morrison-Fair, Chloe McGoogin, Allison Champion-Wescott, Missy Talbert, Tiffany Walsh, Kathryn Pavia, Chelsea Waller, Liz VanDommelen, Karen McCarthy, David Bernardy, Christy Guth, Josh Patterson, Lindsey Berry, Deborah Foulkes, Natalee Sparkes, Alyson Sweeney, Molly Spitler, Jessie Flowers

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### Call to Order

**Time:** 8:35a a.m.

**Welcome:** Sarah Frick calls the meeting to order

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### Approval of Minutes

**September Minutes:** Approved by Deborah Foulkes; seconded, motion passes

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### Principal's Report – Dr. Patterson

- ACE Awards were held at Mauldin High School on Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Two students from Sterling School were recognized as Advocates for Character and Education. Those students are Arshi Patel and Jack Robinson.
  - Read-a-Thon raised \$9,745 and logged 91,013 minutes of reading. More than 1500 hours of reading.
    - Winning class (most funds raised and most minutes read): Mrs. Langley's 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$1,455 and 10,817 minutes)
    - Most Money Raised: Carrie McKinney: \$550
    - Most Minutes Read: Swara Gore: 3,120 minutes
  - District Art Show: 7 students received recognition...
    - Elementary Level District Art Show:
      - Elijah Flowers (Kindergarten): **Honorable Mention**
    - Middle Level District Art Show:
      - Hank Archino — Painting: **1st Place**
      - Paloma Legoretta — Mixed Media: **1st Place**
      - Mateo Pene Puenta — 3D: **3rd Place**
      - Paige Riley — Mixed Media: **Honorable Mention**
      - Boggs Howard — 3D: **Honorable Mention**
      - Jackson Champion Wescott — Printmaking: **Honorable Mention**
  - On Tuesday, 2/10, we hosted our new prospective CTC families...tours of the school began the following day and continued over the next several days, allowing families to visit the school when in action. All 90 spots will be filled. 4th-6th grade
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**Teacher Share/Highlights: Mollye Spitler for Ashleigh Ledford (Related Arts), Allison Sweeney for Cate O'Brien (Sterling Primary), David Bernardy (Sterling Elementary), Christy Guth (CTC Elementary), Liz Van Dommelen (CTC Middle School)**

- **Related Arts: Performing Arts**
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Musical “Arf”**: March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m.
  - **4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical “Shake it Up Shakespeare”**: April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m.
  - Through the PTA Grant, the Greenville Theater performed *Charlotte’s Web* for the 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- **Related Arts: Visual Arts**
  - Great representation at the district art show. Please see above notes from Dr. Patterson.
  - Honors Art Showcase, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in Vegas
    - Features 20 student’s artist body of artwork in Art 1 honors from CTC
  - April Arts, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
    - Theme: “Once Upon an April Arts; Every Masterpiece Begins with a Story!”
    - Teachers, grade levels, and parents will be asked to sponsor an activity.
    - Activities will connect to different genres of literature and classroom curriculum.
    - The goal is to get volunteers who are tied to specific grade levels or subjects.
- **Sterling Primary K - 2:**
  - Kindergarten: Students began a subtraction unit using a fun bowling activity.
    - They explored subtraction through hands-on experiences:
    - Reading Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons
    - Using a “fish tank” with goldfish crackers to model taking away
  - 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Students completed their informative writing unit.
    - They researched, planned, revised, and edited their own information books.
    - They celebrated with a publishing party, sharing their books with their 4th-grade buddies.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade: Wrapped up a research unit on historical African American figures.
    - Students created mini trifolds showcasing what they learned.
    - These were displayed in the school’s Black History Museum
- **Sterling Elementary 3-5:**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade: Students researched an influential African American.
    - Students created a collage based on the research they collected highlighting their achievements.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Students wrote **two-voice poems**
    - Each poem paired one artist from the **Harlem Renaissance** and one **contemporary artist**
    - The poems explored similarities and shared themes between the two artists.



- **Middle School:**
  - **6<sup>th</sup> grade:** Students completed their annual Spanish food projects, a favorite tradition.
    - They researched foods associated with cultural holidays.
    - Many cooked dishes at home and brought them in to share.
    - They wrote guest-style food reviews and contributed to a recipe database.
  - **7<sup>th</sup> grade:** Social studies students demonstrated a water walk based on research of Sub-Saharan Africa.
  - **8<sup>th</sup>-grade:** Science and ELA students' teachers teamed up for a Lunar New Year fashion show. They created outfits, presented them in a fashion show, and invited other middle schoolers to attend.
    - Students incorporated:
      - Chinese mythology
      - Modern fashion design
      - Genetics concepts (e.g., traits represented through design)

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### **Community Partners Reports – Glenda Morrison-Fair (GCS Trustee)**

- **No updates**
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### **PTA School of Excellence Data Collection – Sarah Frick**

- School Partner Spotlight Newsletter: received information for 2 to 3 partners to add to the newsletter.
  - PTA created an adaptive bulletin board with all the Community Partners listed
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### **2024-2025 SIC Initiatives Update –**

- **Family Engagement Task Force**
  - **Buddy Family Program/Engagement:** First year of program didn't go as planned
    - **What *did* work**
      - People enjoyed the initial introductions.
      - There was good energy when everyone first connected.
      - An in-person chat with Paul went well.
      - Early sharing and bonding happened.
    - **What *didn't* work**
      - After the initial meeting, communication faded.
      - Students stopped responding.
      - Once students started classes, they formed their own groups and didn't stay engaged with the buddy program.
      - One student even said a university contacted them and they declined, which made the organizers realize the program wasn't providing enough perceived value.



- **What they want to do moving forward:** The Committee wants to shift the program’s purpose to create a simple, reliable support system for incoming students before they arrive.
  - Have a small set of volunteers (“buddies”) who are willing to be contacted by incoming students.
  - These volunteers would answer questions like:
    - “What’s something you wish you knew before coming?”
    - “What advice would you give someone deciding whether to come here?”
  - Incoming students could reach out individually instead of being placed in groups.
- April Meeting will be the last meeting for this school year. Things to think about for next year
  - SIC Voting Members and Elections
    - SIC Officers Positions up for elections : Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary
      - Officers must be current SIC members (elected or appointed.)
      - Officer elections happen at the first regular SIC meeting after member elections are done
      - Terms are one year.
      - The principal and ex-officio members cannot serve as officers.
    - Bylaws details and interpretation: They’re walking through the bylaws to clarify:
      - Officer elections:
        - Done by SIC members (not the whole parent body).
        - Held at the first SIC meeting after elections are complete.
        - Who can be an officer:
          - Any elected or appointed SIC member.
          - Principal/ex-officio members cannot.
          - “All three officer positions may not be held at the same time by the same type of member”:
            - This likely means they don’t want all officers to be from just one category (e.g., all parents, or all teachers).
            - Right now, all three officers are parents, which technically fits the current reality, but they’re aware it’s not perfectly balanced.
            - They’re also acknowledging:
              - Some of this is open to interpretation, which is why they’re revisiting the bylaws.
              - They want to create more opportunities for people who are genuinely interested and committed.

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## **Adjournment**

**Time:** 9:36am

**Next Meeting:** April 2, 2026 at 8:30am

**Prepared by:** Natisha Johnson-Gaither