

E. Rivers Elementary School

Date: **September 2, 2025**

Time: **3:30pm**

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/@E.RiversAPS/streams>

- I. Call to order: Summer Clayton
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Summer Clayton	P
Parent/Guardian	Paige Dees	P
Parent/Guardian	Erica Militello	P
Parent/Guardian	Gregory Smolar	P
Instructional Staff	Wendy Sanders	P
Instructional Staff	Allison Nelson	P
Instructional Staff	Nicole Cherooff	P
Community Member	Erly Smith *not involved in voting until after approved by board.*	P
Community Member	Amanetta Somerville	P
Swing Seat	Vacant	
Student (High Schools)		

Quorum Established: **Yes**

III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: **Wendy Sanders**; Seconded by: **Amanetta Somerville**

Members Approving: 8

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion **Passes**

- b. **Fill Open Community Seat**

Ms. Clayton nominated Erly Smith. Erly works at AGAPE and supports our ESOL program here at E. Rivers.

Members Approving: 8

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

c. Fill Open Swing Seat

Gregory Smolar nominated Marc Hardy. Marc is the CEO of CSM America which specialized integrated facilities maintenance and cleaning services provider for large showcase Fortune 500 corporate headquarters and other complex commercial, industrial, and government properties.

Members Approving: 8

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

d. Approval of Previous Minutes: Motion made by: [Wendy Sanders](#); Seconded by: [Amenetta Somerville](#)

Members Approving: 9

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

e. Election of Officers and Representatives

i. Chair

Amanetta Somerville was nominated by Paige Dees.

ii. Vice-Chair

Erica Militello was nominated by Allison Nelson.

iii. Secretary

Nicole Campbell Cheroff was nominated by Wendy Sanders.

iv. Cluster Representative

Wendy Sanders was nominated by Nicole Campbell Cheroff

All nominees were given an opportunity to speak on why they should be nominated for the position. All members voted and all were approved.

Members Approving: 9

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

f. Review and Approve Public Comment Protocol

A discussion was held around the Public Comment Protocol. No one had any questions or concerns.

The Public Comment Protocol:

- Opportunities for public comment shall be provided at least four (4) times in a school/fiscal year and noted on the GO Team's webpage and meeting agenda;
- GO Team members will not provide responses or engage in direct conversation during public comment;
- Each GO Team will determine a consistent method for receiving public comments and for parents and other citizens to sign up to address the team;
- At least 20 minutes of time will be allotted for the public to make comments at meetings where public comment is permitted; and
- The public will receive at least 2 business days' notice of the Public Comment Protocol.

Approval of Public Comment Protocol: Motion made by: [Nicole Cheroff](#); Seconded by:

[Gregory Smolar](#)

Members Approving: 9

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

g. Set GO Team Meeting Calendar

A discussion was held about meeting requirements, dates, and time. All members agreed to hold meetings on the first Monday of each month at 3:30pm except in January and April. The team also determined the four public comment meetings (November, December, February, and March).

Meeting Dates:

September 2nd

October 6th

November 3rd - open to public comment

December 1st - open to public comment

January 12th

February 2nd - open to public comment

March 2nd - open to public comment

April 13th

Approval of GO Team Meeting Schedule: Motion made by: [Paige Dees](#); Seconded by:

[Elry Smith](#)

Members Approving: 9

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

h. Review, Confirm/Update, and Adopt GO Team Meeting Norms

The team reviewed and held a brief discussion about the GO Team Meeting Norms. The below norms were unanimously approved.

GO Team Meeting Norms:

- This is a meeting of the GO Team. Only members of the team may participate in the discussion. Any members of the public present are here to quietly observe.
- We will be fully present.
- We will follow the agenda as noticed by the public and stay on task.
- We will be respectful of each other at all times.
- We will be open-minded.
- We invite and welcome contributions of every member and listen to each other.
- We will respect all ideas and assume good intentions.
- We will approach differences of opinion with curiosity.

Approval of GO Team Meeting Norms: Motion made by: [Paige Dees](#); Seconded by:

[Wendy Sanders](#)

Members Approving: 9

Members Opposing: 0

Members Abstaining: 0

Motion Passes

IV. Discussion Items

a. Discussion Item 1: Stakeholder Engagement Exercise

	Families	Students	Staff	Community
INFORM What's a fun easy to keep theme in the loop?	Schedule Night: Parents run through their child's school-day schedule. What'sAPP for multi-lingual communication	Student input in a focus group	Short informational videos using parent liaison - create a QR code to link and place in Lion's Roar and classroom	Short informational videos using parent liaison - create a QR code to link and place in Lion's Roar and in email.

	<p>Dads at buses and carpool handout informational flyers</p> <p>Short informational videos using parent liaison - create a QR code to link and place in Lion's Roar and classroom newsletters</p> <p>Share information at the following places: Fall Picnic EREF PTA</p>		newsletters	
<p>INPUT What's a meaningful easy to gather their ideas or feedback?</p>	<p>Surveys Focus Group</p>	<p>Surveys for upper grades Focus Group</p>	<p>Surveys Focus Group</p>	<p>Surveys for Community Partners Focus Group</p>
<p>INVITE How can we bring them into the work, not just the audience?</p>	<p>Infinite Campus push out of info.</p> <p>Continue use of Facebook and Instagram</p> <p>Continue to</p>	<p>Teachers share highlights of GO Team meeting notes that pertain to students (3rd-5th)</p>	<p>Continue to publicize the GO Team Minutes</p> <p>Provide a summary to staff via email.</p>	<p>Continue to publicize the GO Team Minutes</p> <p>Provide a summary to stakeholders via email.</p>

	publicize the GO Team Minutes (provide a short summary in Spanish)			
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V. Information Items

a. Principal's Report

i. APS Personal Electronic Device Policy (PED)

Starting this school year (2025–2026), students will be asked to keep their phones “up a and away” during the school day. Our [Personal Electronic Device policy](#) is a long-standing Board policy designed to support a focused, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment for everyone. Additionally, **next school year (2026–2027)**, in line with a new state law ([HB340](#)), this will expand to include other personal devices like smartwatches, tablets, and headphones

ii. Our PED Implementation

At E. Rivers, we are implementing this policy by:

- Sending communication via Infinite Campus Messenger & Lion's Roar outlying the policy and regulations
- Reaching out to parents of students who have brought a PED to school and accessed it in the course of the day
- If we see a pattern of students returning with their Personal Electronic devices, E. Rivers' Progressive Discipline plan will be followed.

b. Information item 2: APS Forward - Comprehensive Long-Range Facilities Plan

At the next School Board Meeting the options for change will become public.

Taskforce Meetings

May 8, 2025 - [Presentation](#)

August 5, 2025- [Presentation](#)

Upcoming Public Meetings

- August 25
- September 3 (Young Middle School)
- October 20
- November 10

[Virtual](#) – at Noon

[In-person](#) at 6PM at CLL (130 Trinity Ave)

c. Information item 3: Leveling and FY 26 Budget Adjustment

Leveling is the process the District uses to adjust the school budget allocations to match student enrollment. Day 15 of a school year starts the process of leveling and/or budget adjustment. Based on our current enrollment, we needed to make a budget adjustment of \$178,860. We are able to use our current hold-back funds of \$149,122 to cover this cost. The district is holding E. Rivers harmless for the remaining \$30,000.

- ❖ Projected Enrollment - 658
- ❖ 15-Day Count Enrollment - 628
- ❖ Difference - 30

VI. Announcements

a. Announcement Item 1: New GO Team Member Training and Orientation

As outlined in Section 2.14 of the GO Team Handbook, GO Team Members are required to complete orientation within one year of joining the team and must be renewed every four years. Failure to complete this training will result in removal from the GO Team. Contact the GO Team Office if you have any questions.

b. Announcement Item 2: SAVE THE DATE: G3 Summit

An in-person G3 Summit will take place on Saturday, September 27th from 8:30am-2:30pm. The G3 Summit will be held at the Atlanta College and Career Academy (1090 Windsor Street SW).

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: [Wendy Sanders](#); Seconded by: [Gregory Smolar](#)

[Members Approving: 9](#)

[Members Opposing: 0](#)

[Members Abstaining: 0](#)

[Motion Passes](#)

ADJOURNED AT [4:44pm](#)

Minutes Taken By: [Nicole CampeblI Cheroff](#)

Position: [Instructional Staff and Secretary](#)

Date Approved: [\[Insert Date When Approved\]](#)