



# Perspectives

## Perspectives Board Meeting

March 5, 2026, 10:00 pm to 1:00 pm

EY Headquarters: 155 N. Wacker, #2000

Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88531904476>

### **Board Members Present:**

Rick Fezell (Via Zoom)  
Glori Bond (Via Zoom)  
DeEtta Jones (Via Zoom)  
Adrienne Irmer (In Person)  
Bill Mack (In Person)  
Andrew Moyer (In Person)  
Kathleen Murray (In Person)  
Maryah Phillips (Via Zoom)  
Nina Robinson (In Person)  
Alex Silverberg (In Person)  
Deborah Stevens (Non-Voting Member)  
Kareem Trice (Via Zoom)  
George Wright (Via Zoom)  
Basia Brown (In Person)  
Kim Waller (In Person)  
Catrina Mitchell (Via Zoom)  
Sheree Speakman (via Zoom)

### **Board Members Absent**

Ikram Goldman  
Debi Mitra  
Vanessa Smith  
Andy Ward  
Angelo Buffalino

### **Presenter:**

Mary Bradley

### **Guests:**

Holly Copeland (In Person)  
Amore Porter (Via Zoom)  
Amy Gambrel (In Person)  
Leanna Lantz (Via Zoom)  
Stephen Todd (In Person)  
Earnestine Williams (In Person)  
Tracy Fletcher (In Person)

**Opening:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Rick Fezell.

Because we did not have an in-person quorum, the Umbrella Resolution was not approved.

An opportunity for Public Comment was made available. No one was present on Zoom or in person to provide Public Comment.

Mary Bradley, COO, National Charter Schools Institute, presented the Revised Strategic Plan, which includes revisions suggested by the Board from our March Board Meeting.

Perspectives Charter Schools Mission revised draft:

Our mission is to empower students through a rigorous and relevant education rooted in the principles of A Disciplined Life®, shaping resilient lifelong learners and critical thinkers prepared to thrive in a changing world and lead lives of purpose and impact.



*Note: Resilience (keeping cool while not giving up in difficult circumstances), lifelong learning (keeping up with technology and innovation) and critical thinking (dealing with information in general and AI in particular), are the keys to our students' future success. Purpose and impact - Great things to aspire to accomplish in life!*

- **Goal 1: Academics and a Disciplined Life**

Ensure every student graduates prepared to pursue the postsecondary pathway of their choice, including college, career, and civic life, by strengthening academic rigor, integrating workforce development opportunities, and cultivating responsible citizenship.

- **Objective 1.1 Academic Rigor**

Instruction is flexible and personalized to foster critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and lifelong learning through engaging, challenging content that supports diverse learners and prepares them for success beyond the classroom.

- **Objective 1.2 Cultivate Aspirational Culture & ADL**

Cultivate a culture that nurtures growth mindsets, resilience, and personal responsibility, empowering students to become conscious contributors who positively impact their communities and the world.

- **Objective 1.3 Post-Secondary and Experiential Opportunities**

Students engage in diverse postsecondary and experiential learning opportunities, including career exploration, industry certifications, and personalized college and career guidance.

- **Goal 2: Financial Sustainability & Growth Goal**

Ensure long-term financial stability and responsible growth for Perspectives by diversifying revenue and strategically investing in programs that advance student success.

- **Objective 2.1 Continue to Strengthen Core Financial Health**

Ensure fiscal stability through disciplined budgeting, robust financial controls, strategic enrollment management, and a high-performing finance team.



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## Objective 2.2 Diversify Revenue Streams

**Develop and execute a diversified revenue strategy** that balances public funding, philanthropy, grants, and earned or innovative revenue streams, and expansion projects to diversify revenue and reduce reliance on any single source.

- **Goal 3: Fundraising, Ambassadorship, and Advocacy Goal**

Strengthen Perspectives' long-term sustainability and influence by cultivating a culture of philanthropy, empowering board members, and stakeholders as ambassadors, and advancing local and state advocacy efforts that support students and schools.

- **Objective 3.1 Build a Robust Fundraising Program**

Establish a comprehensive, mission-driven fundraising program that expands donor engagement and secures sustainable philanthropic growth

- **Objective 3.2 Empower the Stakeholders as Ambassadors**

Equip stakeholders and board members with the tools, training, and opportunities to actively represent and promote Perspectives in the community.

- **Objective 3.3 Maintain & Expand Advocacy**

Advance advocacy efforts and partnerships that elevate student needs and strengthen support for equitable, high-quality education.

- **Objective 3.4 Continue to build and enhance Community Partnerships**

Deepen collaborations with community, business, and higher education partners to enhance student opportunities and drive enrollment growth

- **Objective 3.5 Integrate Ambassadorship, Advocacy, and Fundraising**

Align fundraising, advocacy, and outreach efforts to build unified momentum for Perspectives' mission and long-term sustainability.

- **Goal 4: Organizational Sustainability & Growth Goal**

Ensure the long-term strength and adaptability of Perspectives by fostering effective governance, planning for board and leadership succession, and proactively managing organizational risks.



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- **Objective 4.1 Leadership Strength**

Sustain strong, effective leadership through intentional CEO support and a shared focus on organizational excellence and support for mission, goals, and leadership/staff

- **Objective 4.2 Governance Excellence**

Advance governance effectiveness through continuous board development, sound committee structures, and alignment with best practices and legal standards.

- **Objective 4.3 Great Place to Work**

Cultivate a great place to work by investing in professional growth, mentorship, and leadership pathways, fostering a mission-driven team that models effective communication and a growth mindset, creating a thriving, high-quality learning environment for both the team and students.

Board Members provided additional feedback and suggestions.

Next step is to meet with Stakeholders to discuss the Network's Strategic Plan.

Katy Murray and the Education Team reviewed:

- Education Goals versus YTD Performance
  - ACT growth was 4 growth points
  - ADL Positive Feelings was 55% (winter)
  - Attendance was 76.2%
  - Chronic Truancy was 18.2%
  - Suspension Rate was 4.2% for Middle School & 3.2% for High School
  - Math and Reading Screeners: 40% at or above grade level
- Fall Academic Screeners and subsequent growth from FY2425 to FY2526
  - Reading: Cohort increased on or mid grade level from 5 to 51%
  - Math increased on or mid grade level from 3 to 45%

Holly Copeland, EVP of External Affairs, presented information that showed our growth in fundraising (from \$845,671 to \$1,120,000 for FY25. In addition, she presented the FY26 Goals:

- 24 grants submitted
- 24 new corporate partner meetings
- Increase views & followers on social media
- \$1.2 million fundraising goal

This year's Showcase will be on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Old Post Office.

Basia Brown presented re: Alumni Engagement. The Mission of the Alumni Board is to create a cycle of support by equipping alumni for success beyond graduation and providing a platform to uplift and mentor the next generation of Perspectives graduates.



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Core functions:

- Connect & Mentor
- Recruit & Represent
- Give & Grow

Finance Committee presented YTD December Financials. Perspectives is better than budget on revenue by \$2.4 million and better than budget on Change in Net Assets by 2.39 million. Debt Service Coverage is 4.2x (compared to required bond covenant of 1.1) and Days Cash on Hand is 171 days (compared to required bond covenant of 45 days).

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm after motions (primary – Adrienne Irmer & secondary – Nina Robinson) and unanimous vote (8 in person & 8 via zoom).