



Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Thursday, September 24, 2026, 2-4 PM

Virtual (Zoom)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/ZwHwWF9eS-OoP0tj6gHNtw>

AGENDA

I. Roll Call Samantha Ingram, Board Liaison

II. Public Comment Period

The public is invited to provide comments relevant to the South Carolina First Steps and/or SC Early Childhood Advisory Council during this period. Members of the public wishing to speak must sign up before the meeting. Comments should be limited to no more than three minutes per speaker.

III. Call to Order and Approve the Agenda David Morley, Chairman

Motion: To adopt the agenda as submitted

IV. New Trustee Introductions David Morley, Chairman

Karen Brackett-Browning, CEO, Carolina Community Actions, Inc.

(early childhood educator, appointed by Governor)

Tyler Williams Stokes, Senior Banker II, Bank of America

(business representative, appointed by the Governor)

Melanie Gambrell, Director, Office of Mental Health, SC Dept. of Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities (by virtue of position)

V. Consent Agenda Chairman Morley

Motion: To adopt the consent agenda as submitted

a. To adopt the Board of Trustees meeting minutes from June 18, 2026.

b. To approve minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting for the August 19, 2026, August 27, 2026, September 9, 2026 and September 14, 2026 meetings.

c. To approve the corrective action plan for Kershaw County First Steps recommended by the Local Partnership and Grants Committee on September 3, 2026.

VI. Proposed 26-27 SCFS Board Meeting Schedule

VII. Renovation request from Laurens County First Steps

Per SECTION 59-152-120. Local partnerships; funding use restrictions. Funds received by a local partnership may not be used for capital expenses, new construction, or to renovate, refurbish, or

upgrade existing facilities without prior approval by the SC First Steps to School Readiness Board of Trustees. 1999 Act No. 99, SECTION 2; 2014 Act No. 287 (H.3428), SECTION 15, eff June 18, 2014

Laurens County First Steps has submitted a request for \$9,124.01 needed for an office relocation due to black mold in existing office. The local school district has donated new space. The request is for moving, painting and related expenses. LCFS has the funding within its administrative fund.

- VIII. Executive Committee Report Chairman Morley
- IX. Program and Grants Committee Report Kerry Cordan, Ph.D., Chief Partnership Officer
- X. Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee Report Dr. Amy Williams, Committee Chair
- XI. Finance and Administration Committee Report Jessica Mackey, Committee Chair
- XII. Legislative Report Senator Greg Hembree
- XIII. Proposed Executive Session to discuss Local Partnership Contract Matters Chairman Morley
- XIV. Agency Director Report Ann Vandervliet
- XV. Special Recognition for Martha Strickland Proclamation Recognizing Martha Stickland's 13 years of service to families in Richland County Jessica Mackey
- XVI. Adjournment Chairman Morley
- Motion: To adjourn the meeting of the SC First Steps Board of Trustees

Attachments:

- SC First Steps Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – June 18, 2026
- Executive Committee Minutes – August 19, 2026
- Executive Committee Minutes – August 27, 2026
- Executive Committee Minutes – September 9, 2026
- Executive Committee Minutes – September 14, 2026
- Proposed 26-27 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule
- Laurens County First Steps Funding Request
- Executive Committee Report
- Program and Grants Committee Report
- Program and Grants Committee Meeting Minutes – September 3, 2026
- Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee Report
- Finance and Administration Committee Report
- Legislative Report
- Agency Director Report