



May 15, 2025 6:00 P.M.
 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
 7800 Airport Center Drive, Greensboro, NC

Cornerstone Charter Academy Library

Meeting Minutes

Member Attendance

	Jonetta Appling	Chris Gorham	Ryan Homer	Crystal Scillitani	Cyndie Swindlehurst	Andrew Wright
7.18.24	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present
7.25.24	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present	Absent
8.08.24	Present	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Absent
9.19.24	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
10.17.24	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent
11.21.24	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Present
No Mtg.						
1.16.25	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present

2.20.25	Present	Present	Present	Absent	Present	Absent
3.20.25	Present	Phone	Present	Present	Present	Phone
4.10.25	Present	Absent	Present	Absent	Present	Present
5.15.25	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Absent

I. Call to Order Time: 6:18pm

II. Motion to approve agenda Cyndie/Ryan/all

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Mission Statement:

- *Cornerstone Charter Academy, a tuition-free public charter school, will give every student the opportunity to reach his or her potential by providing a rigorous academic program, character education and meaningful parental participation.*

V. Motion to approve minutes for April 10, 2025 & April 30, 2025
Ryan/Jonetta/all

VI. Building Expansion Items Claire Dobbs / John Lawrence

- Budget
- Project status
- Timelines and Meetings

VII. The Cornerstone Experience Joe Caraher

VIII. New Business Joe Caraher/John Lawrence

- Discussion of Fountain Expenses

IX. Actionable Items from Committee

- Motion from Academic to approve reduction of foreign language graduation requirement from 3 to 2 in the same language.
- Motion from Finance to approve contract with Polaris for our Student Information System (SIS) management.
- Motion from Governance to approve Grandparent preference in our enrollment lottery.

- Motion from Governance to approve revision of Charter to include exclusion as a disciplinary consequence.
- Motion from Academic to Approve *Give Me Liberty, An American History* by Forner, DuVal, and McGirr as approved text for US History (description below)
- Motion from Academic to Approve Kesler Science as 7th Grade Science curriculum (description below)
- Motion from Academic to Approve Intro to Drama for Middle School Approved as a slate

- X. Reports to the Board
 - Director’s Report Joe Caraher
- XI. Public Comment - none
- XII. Motion to enter into executive session for personnel and contract matters
Cyndie/Ryan/all Time: 7:14 pm
- XIII. Return to Open session Cyndie/Jonetta/all Time: 7:30 pm
- XIV. Motion to approve as new hire Ruth McKinney Ryan/Jonetta/all
- XV. Motion to approve a contract with SHP Cyndie/Ryan/all
- XVI. Motion to adjourn Cyndie/Ryan/all Time: 7:30 pm

Minutes submitted on: June 13, 2025

Minutes approved on: June 19, 2025

Jonetta Appling

Jonetta Appling, board secretaryMu

Standard and Honors United State History Text:

Give Me Liberty, An American History (print source from Norton Books)
by Eric Foner (Author, Columbia University), Kathleen DuVal (Author, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Lisa McGirr (Author, Harvard University)

The implementation of this text does not bring in new curriculum or require additional teacher training. It covers US history from colonial times through the modern period. It is written in a more narrative style than the old textbook that we have been using since 2015 making it easier for students to read inside and outside of the classroom. The units also lend themselves to more classroom discussion. Chapters are broken down into easier to understand units than the current book. It aligns with the standard course of study as laid out by the state, which is what my course is designed around.

- Ch.1- Old Worlds and New
 - Ch. 2- European Colonies and Native Nations
 - Ch. 3- Creating Anglo-America
 - Ch. 4- Slavery, Freedom, and the Struggle, to 1763
 - Ch. 5- The American Revolution 1763-1783
 - Ch. 6- The Revolution Within
 - Ch.7- Founding a Nation, 1783-1791
 - Ch. 8- Securing the Republic 1791-1815
 - Ch. 9- The Market Revolution, 1800-1840
 - Ch. 10 Democracy in America, 1815-1840
 - Ch. 11- The Peculiar Institution
 - Ch. 12- An Age of Reform, 1820-1840
 - Ch. 13- A House Divided, 1840-1861
 - Ch. 14- A New Birth of Freedom: The Civil War, 1861-1865
 - Ch. 15- "What is Freedom?": Reconstruction 1865-1877
 - Ch. 16- America's Gilded Age, 1870-1890
 - Ch. 17- Freedom's Boundaries, At Home and Abroad, 1890-1900
 - Ch. 18- The Progressive Era, 1900-1916
 - Ch. 19- Safe for Democracy: The United States and World War I, 1916-1920
 - Ch. 20- From Business Culture to Great Depression: The Twenties, 1920-1932
 - Ch. 21- The New Deal, 1932-1940
 - Ch. 22- Fighting for the Four Freedoms: World War II, 1941-1945
 - Ch. 23- The United States and the Cold War, 1945-1953
 - Ch. 24- An Affluent Society, 1953-1960
 - Ch. 25- The Sixties, 1960-1968
 - Ch. 26- The Conservative Turn, 1969-1988
 - Ch. 27- A New World Order 1989-2004
 - Ch. 28- A Divided Nation
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Science Curriculum for Science 7: (Eric Loveday)

Kesler Science *(online and paper access for students and teacher)*

<https://keslerscience.com/>

Teacher Training Needed: Training videos are included that explain how to navigate the program to find all available resources and use the digital tools to assign them to students. Free technical support is provided through chat and email. Professional Development—LIVE 1-hour sessions with 6 times per year plus recorded, virtual, and private options for material familiarization.

The program provides standards-aligned lessons, following the 5E model (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate). Editable, differentiated materials are provided for 21 of the 23 7th grade science standards. While they don't have full units that tie directly to the two missing standards in their NC standards alignment document, I have been able to find resources for those standards in their other available units. Additionally I have resources I've used in the past. Resources for all units include:

- Station labs and inquiry labs.
- Presentations that include guided notes or digital interactive notes, interactive notebook pages.
- Writing prompts and reading passages including differentiated versions.
- WIKI Tickets (What I Know Is) to be used as a quick check like an exit ticket or bell ringer.
- Homework and assessments
- Choice projects
- Extensions for early finishers.
- Engagement ideas for each lesson.
- Anchors in two parts, part 1 the engage, or pre-lesson, materials introduce a phenomenon and are designed to stimulate curiosity before investigating a topic. Part 2 is an explanation of the phenomenon presented in the engagement section and encourages students to apply their knowledge.
- STEM Activities, Graphing
- Escape Rooms, Games, Crossword
- Sub Plans, Posters, Videos

All seventh grade units can be addressed by Kesler Science, 21 of 23 7th grade science standards are complete with resources which can be used to engage students and grow students.

YEAR 1: Intro to Drama

Tuesday/Thursday 1st Elective, both semesters (every T/TH)

Everyone is required to take this level.* An intro PERFORMANCE course that covers all the ACTING tools as well as basic structures and procedures of the theatre. Musical theatre will be integrated in every unit to ensure students are prepared for the most popular theatre art form, especially the singing and dancing components. Students will have a short performance opportunity (still working out the details).

YEAR 2 & 3:Drama

Monday/Wednesday/Friday 1st Elective

Students can take this class after Year 1 Drama. These students will delve into deeper acting tools and will be involved in the middle school drama jr musical or the 6-12 full-length musical, depending on what is planned for that year.

**For the 2025-2026 school year ONLY, 8th graders who have not taken YEAR 1 can audition to take the YEAR 2 & 3 class. It is their responsibility to make direct contact with Mrs. Cockman to receive the audition information and schedule a time to try out.*