



# COLLEGE PARK ACADEMY

Board Meeting Agenda  
Public Session  
September 25, 2025  
6:00-7:45 PM

**CPA Board & Staff in attendance:** Rob Day, Donna Wiseman, Carlo Colella, Carolyn Bernache (joined at 7:30 PM), Hank Boyd, Gayatri Varma, Jim Rosapepe, Erica Estrada-Liou, Gary Michael, Sandy Abu-Arja, Steve Baker, Sean Murgage, Stephanie Ban, Nicole Nelson, Chelai Johnson, Yvonnada McNeill, Jamie Haton

**Absent:** Kimberley Griffin, Stephen Thomas, Duane Arbogast

1. Call to Order 6:02 PM
2. Opening Statement: Robert Day opened the meeting thanking everyone for their continued work, dedication and accomplishments.
3. [Principals' Report](#): Steve Baker
  - a. Enrollment stands at 682 students, slightly above target, with strong staff retention and new hires in core subjects.
  - b. CPA Plus launched 22 after-school programs with high participation, and sports expanded with a new girls' flag football team and a strong soccer season.
  - c. Summer programs achieved a 100% pass rate, and MCAP results showed continued improvement—CPA is now outperforming county and state averages in nearly all subjects.
  - d. CPA climbed to #856 nationally in U.S. News & World Report rankings, and AP results remain strong with 42% of exam takers scoring 3 or higher.
4. **Budget and Finance Committee Report:** Carlo Colella
  - a. [B & FC Financial Report Q4 '25](#)
  - b. [SY26 Budget](#)
  - c. Empower K12 Vote
    - i. CPA Next to utilize dashboard to monitor student achievement

- ii. Jim Rosapepe motioned to approve \$31,000/year to develop and maintain a data dashboard with Empower K12. Carlo Colella seconded. All in favor.

**5. Academic Affairs Committee Report:**

- a. CPA NEXT - Erica Estrada-Liou
  - i. Continued focus on improving math scores
  - ii. High-dosage tutoring
  - iii. Writing across the curriculum
    - 1. Book club with small group of teachers and staff
      - a. Writing Revolution 2.0 book selected
      - b. Ordered copies for leadership team to review
- b. External Relations Update - Nicole Nelson
  - i. Back to School Cookie Socials
  - ii. PTO/CPA Board Dinner
  - iii. CPA Guest Visits - Interim Superintendent, Maryland Board President, CFO Purpleline among others.
  - iv. Student Ambassador Orientation

**6. PTO Report:** Chelai Johnson

- a. New PTO leadership focusing on parent engagement, advocacy, cultural relevance
- b. 77 members so far (18% increase from last year)
- c. Upcoming "Night of Latin Culture" event on October 6th

**7. Marketing and Communications Committee Report:** Hank Boyd

- a. Promoting College Park Academy to UMD faculty and staff
- b. Considering local advertising options
- c. Highlighting success stories, like Class of 2025 Valedictorian, Shakira Ali
- d. Participated in county charter school boards' networking event with Aisha Braveboy

**8. Organization and Leadership Committee Report:** Jim Rosapepe

- a. Sandy Abu-Arja to conclude her role as Executive Director at end of school year, June 2026
- b. Board members praised her leadership through COVID, fiscal management, and academic improvements
- c. Sandy Abu-Arja thanked everyone for their heartfelt tributes

9. **Executive Director's Report:** Sandy Abu-Arja

a. Advocacy

- i. Ongoing efforts to secure equitable funding model similar to Anne Arundel County

b. Charter Renewal Waiver Request

- i. State-level workgroup also examining charter funding regulations
- ii. Recent meeting with PGCPs Superintendent showed openness to proposal

10. **Public Comment/Announcements:** Chair Rob Day opened the floor for public comments and announcements; none were offered.

11. **Executive Session:** At 7:45 pm, Rob Day read a statement to close the public session and moved to the executive session. Jim Rosapepe seconded. All approved.

APPROVED