

**Special Board of Trustees Meeting  
Webinar  
January 28, 2026  
Minutes**

## **Convene Meeting**

### Welcome

The special meeting (Teleconference) of the Board of Trustees for the North Carolina State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees (Plan) was called to order by Chair Bradford B. Briner at 5:00 p.m. on January 28, 2026.

### Roll Call for Attendance

**Present:** Melanie Bush; Russell “Rusty” Duke; Kimberly Jones; Brian Miller, M.D.; Joe Slater; Mike Stevenson; Cyrus Vernon; Samuel Watts; Kristin Walker; Bradford B. Briner

Chair Briner confirmed that a quorum was present.

### Conflict of Interest

Chair Briner reminded all Board members of their responsibility to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. No conflicts were reported.

## **Contracts for Board Consideration and Approval**

### Preferred Primary Care Provider Network Contracts

Lotta Crabtree, Chief Administrative Officer, presented information on three provider network contracts: Aledade, Community Care Physician Network, and UNC Health Alliance. Under the North Carolina law, the Board approval is required for contracts over 3 million dollars. The Plan’s relationship with these groups will:

- Ensure statewide access to high quality, local primary care
- Align incentives between the practices, members, and the Plan
- Improve health, reduce costs, and sustain partner providers

Members who choose a Primary Care Provider will have the lowest copay and experience continuity of care. Providers will experience better reimbursement, reduced administrative burden, and a chance to share in Plan savings. With continuity of care for members, the Plan should see reduced emergency room and urgent care visits.

The aim of future preferred provider networks is to include specialty, maternity, dermatology, and independent pharmacy.

**Board Vote:** Motion by Ms. Bush to approve the provider network contracts for Aledade, Community Care Physician Network, and UNC Health Alliance; second by Mr. Slater; Roll call vote: 7 ayes, 1 abstaining (Judge Duke); motion was approved.

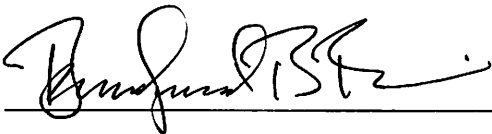
**Adjournment**

Chair Briner called for a vote to adjourn the meeting

**Board vote:** Motion by Mr. Slater to adjourn the meeting; second by Ms. Jones; voice vote: passed unanimously; motion was approved

The Board adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Joel Heimbach, Secretary

Approved by:  \_\_\_\_\_

Bradford B. Briner  
Chairman of Board of Trustees  
North Carolina State Health Plan