



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

DATE: MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024, 6:00–8:35 P.M.

LOCATION: NORTH CAMPUS – SECONDARY SCHOOL, 1ST FLOOR, ROOM 1102

The Classical Academy exists to assist parents in their mission to develop exemplary citizens, equipped with analytical thinking skills, virtuous character, and a passion for learning, all built upon a solid foundation of knowledge.

AGENDA

	Allotted Time/Start Time
I. Call to Order (6:00 pm)	1 min (6:00) (6:00)
• The Board Vice-Chair (Mr. Hannan) called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.	
II. Pledge of Allegiance/Mission/Roll Call	2 min (6:01) (6:01)
A. Roll Call: (Mr. Fradette; Here (on the phone)//Mr. Hannan; Here // Mrs. Hawkins; Here // Mrs. Johnson; Here // Mrs. Wittleder; Here // Mr. Palmer; Here // Mr. Young; absent.) A quorum was present.	
III. Approval of Agenda	2 min (6:03) (6:01)
A. Motion: Mr. Palmer moved to approve the agenda and was seconded.	
B. Discussion: None.	
C. <u>Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).</u>	
IV. Celebrate TCA (TCA D20 Art Winners)	5 min (6:05) (6:02)
Action: (Harris)	
Motion: (Info)	
Rationale: to highlight accomplishments of TCA students, staff, and parents.	
• Mrs. Harris shared that we would be celebrating our D20/Air Academy Federal Credit Union Art Show winners.	
○ 14 art awards in the district were given to TCA students.	
○ TCA won two out of the three Best of Show awards.	
○ Student winners from Elementary, Cottage School, Junior High, College Pathways, and High School were represented and were able to share their artwork with the Board.	
V. Comments from the Audience (Audience members have 3 minutes to address the Board)	10 min (6:10) (6:09)
(NOTE: Per procedural rules if more than one person is speaking on the same topic, we request that one or two specific spokespersons speak on behalf of the group.)	
• There were no comments from the audience.	
VI. Comments from the Board of Directors	10 min (6:20) (6:09)
• Mrs. Wittleder shared how much she enjoyed attending a recent assembly at Central. It was great to hear from Mrs. DeMeyer, Mr. Walters, and Dr. Thomason. Seeing how the students engaged with TCA leadership staff was a joy.	
• Mrs. Johnson shared that she appreciated how much is going on behind the scenes to protect our school and end our year strong.	
• Mr. Hannan shared about how much he enjoyed going to the TCA Carnival.	
VII. Legal Update/Training	10 min (6:30) (6:13)
Action: (Miller)	
Motion: (Info)	
Rationale: to update the Board on Colorado Legislative actions.	
• Mr. Miller (TCA Attorney) highlighted the following items in his report:	
○ He shared TCA will be addressing legislation coming up, but the topic he wanted the Board to focus on during this meeting was Special Education.	
○ He shared that there is a narrative that charter schools are exclusive and that numbers of students in special education are lower because some schools have a better fit with specific schools in the district.	
○ Parents also look at TCA as a highly rigorous and structured program, so parents self-select other schools.	

- TCA does not provide the same breadth of graduation opportunities as other schools.
- Due to small class sizes, we have opportunities to offer more attention to students, which can help students exit plans.

VIII. Report of the President

15 min (6:40) (6:25)

Action: (Thomason)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to highlight cabinet activities (Pres., Ops, Academics, HR, Finance).

- Dr. Thomason highlighted the following items in his report:
 - He attended the College Pathways Art Walk and enjoyed seeing the beautiful artwork of TCA students on May 2.
 - He shared the staff compensation plan for next school year 2024-25 (8.5% wage increase, projected returning bonus of \$1,000, and 5% increase in benefits for staff).
 - He spoke at all three Elementary Kindergarten Orientation Nights, and he also spoke with the rising 7th grade families and reminded them of staff and parent commitments to one another.
 - Dr. Thomason was part of a panel of judges for the Kretchman Cup and listened to three senior finalists. It was phenomenal to listen to how students could articulate their ideas after wrestling with great questions.
 - Regarding the May Match Campaign, six TCA families created an anchor gift to be matched. So far, TCA has received \$25,000 toward the \$44,000 match.

IX. Consent Agenda

3 min (6:55) (6:43)

Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:

Motion: (Vote) to file the Consent Agenda

- A. Finance (VanGambleare)
 - 1. March Financials
 - 2. Auditors Engagement
 - 3. Quarterly Financial Summary
 - 4. Review Form 990
- B. SAC Reports
 - 1. Cottage School Program/College Pathways, April 9, 2024
 - 2. Central Elementary, April 22, 2024
- C. 2024 TCA Board Election Report
 - 1. Survey, Ballots, and Systems Election Report
 - 2. Daily Election Participation Rates

- Motion: Mrs. Wittleder moved to approve the Consent agenda minus C.1 2024 TCA Board Election Report and was seconded.
- Discussion: Mrs. Johnson asked to remove C.1 2024 TCA Board Election Report from the Consent Agenda.
- Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).

X. Minutes: April 8, 2024

2 min (6:58) (6:45)

Action: (Walters)

Motion: (Vote) to approve the April 8, 2024 minutes.

Rationale: to provide a record of the Board meeting for files.

- Motion: Mr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes and was seconded.
- Discussion: None.
- Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).

Break

10 min (7:00) (6:46)

XI. Discussion Agenda Items

A. Items removed from Consent Agenda

- 1. 2024 TCA Board Election Report (6:57)
 - a. Survey, Ballots, and Systems Election Report
 - b. Daily Election Participation Rates
 - Mrs. Johnson shared parent comments from the survey in the Survey, Ballots, and Systems Board Election Report surrounding the voting process.
 - Motion: Mrs. Johnson moved to approve the 2024 TCA Board Election Report and was seconded.
 - Discussion: None.
 - Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).

B. Cabinet Level Reports

- 1. Preliminary Budget Review for Next FY 10 min (7:10) (7:05)
 - Action: (VanGambleare)
 - Motion: (1st Read)
 - Rationale: to review the proposed budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Mr. VanGamble drew attention to adopting the budget and brought attention to how the General Fund is being used.
- There was good news regarding next year's PPF with an increase of about 7%.
- He highlighted three capital expenditures: resurfacing athletic track at North, HVAC at Central, and roof at North.
- He addressed next year's compensation package with an 8.5% base wage increase and a returning bonus of \$1,000.
- Base salary for new teachers \$43,230 (7.2% increase).

2. Student Fee Schedule 5 min (7:20) (7:30)

Action: (Jolly, Birkey)

Motion: (Vote) to approve the student fee schedule for the 2024-2025 school year.

Rationale: to review and approve the student fee schedule for 2024-2025 school year.

- Mr. Jolly shared that there were a few changes to the Student Fee Schedule.
- Naviance fees and fees for girls' flag football in high school were explained.
- Motion: Mr. Hannan motioned to approve the student fees and was seconded.
- Discussion: Mrs. Wittleder shared that she was excited about the flag football opportunity.
- Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).

3. Annual Parent Survey Analysis 20 min (7:25) (7:34)

Action: (Jolly)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review the results of the Annual Parent Survey.

- Mr. Jolly shared about the historical participation and positive response in parent survey.
 - 15% of parents provided a comment with score and shared how leadership has read through every comment.
 - The Best thing about TCA: Teachers/Staff, Community, Academics/Quality Ed, Character.
 - A new question was included: What topics were parents concerned about regarding wellness? The highest results were Anxiety & Coping, Resilience vs. Fragility, Good Habits, Social Media, and Study Habits.
 - High School students chose sleep as their highest concern for the same wellness question.
 - Areas for focus based on the survey: homework balance, math comments, dips in facilities.

4. Secondary Curriculum – Computer Science 5 min (7:45) (8:00)

Action: (Jolly, Galvin)

Motion: (1st Read)

Rationale: submit new text for the new course approved earlier this year and name change for JH course

- Mr. Galvin shared that Computer 7 and Computer 8 classes were changing names to Digital Literacy and Communication 1 and 2. He shared that the content was not changing, but the emphasis will focus more on digital citizenship.
- "Think Python: How to Think Like a Computer Scientist" is the new textbook for the newly approved course "Intro to Computer Science."
- The text will be made available to be reviewed by parents.

5. Annual Charter Contract Review 5 min (7:50) (8:05)

Action: (Pacht)

Motion: (1st Read)

Rationale: to annually review and approve changes to the Charter Contract Between TCA and ASD20.

- Mr. Pacht shared that a group from D20 and TCA met to approve TCA Charter Contract, which was in a draft state.
- This year TCA's conflict resolution policy was included, too.
- Security costs have increased because of having five security officers and additional D20 IT software costs.

C. Board Level Reports

1. Annual Board Self Evaluation/Results 5 min (7:55) (8:10)

Action: (Fradette)

Motion: (Discussion)

Rationale: to review the results of the board Self Evaluation.

- Mr. Hannan highlighted the following items from the evaluation:
 - Currently, not everyone has a clear understanding of what the Board does.
 - There was a drop in how Directors value each other in difference of opinions.
 - He also expressed hopes of increasing the score of the effectiveness of the Board.
- Mrs. Johnson encouraged Board Directors to focus on working together as a team.
- Mr. Fradette shared that it is important for Board members to develop positive relationships with all stakeholders.

2. Adopt a School Reports 15 min (8:00) (8:16)

Action: (Fradette, Board)

Motion: (Discussion)

Rationale: to listen to Board experiences at adopted schools.

- Mrs. Wittleder (Central Elementary) prioritized meeting with Central's principal, attended a staff meeting, Epic Night, an assembly, Back to School Night, etc.
- Mrs. Johnson (Junior High) enjoyed attending the TCA Carnival and speaking with Mr. DiPretere about his reflections on this past year.
- Mr. Hannan (College Pathways/Cottage School) had a tour at College Pathways with Mrs. Upchurch and learned a lot about the teamwork that happens at College Pathways.
- Mrs. Hawkins (North Elementary) She shared how much she enjoyed getting to reconnect with Mrs. Peterson and experience North elementary. She got to go on a tour, visit during a curriculum day, attended Back-to-School Night, etc.
- Mr. Fradette (Traditional High School) has had the opportunity to attend the Worldview Seminar, SAC Meetings, theater productions, sporting events, etc.

3. Training Committee Annual Report

15 min (8:15) (8:25)

Action: (Johnson, Hannan)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review Board new Board member training activities.

- Mrs. Johnson shared that she appreciated partnering with Mr. Hannan to streamline and organize the onboarding process.

D. Board Communication

5 min (8:30) (8:28)

Action: (Wittleder)

Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community.

- Celebrate TCA- D20 Art Winners
- Parent Survey
- Fee Schedule- with link
- Curriculum Review

E Future Board Agenda Items

5 min (8:35) (8:30)

1. Annual Charter Contract Review, June, Vote, Pacht
2. Quarterly FAC Report, June, Info, VanGambleare
3. Current Year Budget Revision, June, Vote, VanGambleare
4. Budget Approval for Next FY, June, Vote, VanGambleare
5. Annual Character Report, June, Info, Jolly
6. Appreciation Committee Annual Report, June, Info, Hawkins/Johnson
7. Board Evaluation Action Items, June, Discussion, Fradette
8. Confirm July Working Session Agenda, June, Discussion, Fradette
9. President Annual Evaluation and Compensation Evaluation, June, Exec Session, Vote, Fradette
10. Adopt A School Board Assignments, June, Discussion, Fradette
11. Training Committee Annual Report, June, Info, Johnson/Hannan

F. Comments from the Board of Directors

5 min (8:40) (8:31)

- Mr. Fradette encouraged new Board Directors to bring concerns related to Bylaws to the Governance Committee.

G. Executive Session

10 min (8:45) (8:35)

Action: (Fradette)

Motion: (Vote) to move into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h) discussion of matters that involve individual students

Rationale: as required by statute regarding disciplinary actions

- Motion: Mrs. Hawkins motioned to move into Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h) and was seconded.
- Discussion: Mrs. Hawkins, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Hannan, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Wittleder, Mr. Fradette, Dr. Thomason (TCA President), and Mr. Walters (EAO/Acting Board Clerk) were all present during the Executive Session
- Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).

XII. Adjournment (Approx. 8:55 p.m.)

(8:55)(8:48)

- Motion: Mrs. Wittleder motioned to adjourn the meeting and was seconded.
- Discussion: None.
- Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Fradette; Yea // Mr. Hannan; Yea // Mrs. Hawkins; Yea // Mrs. Johnson; Yea // Mrs. Wittleder; Yea // Mr. Palmer; Yea).