

The Classical Academy  
975 Stout Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Regular Meeting  
April 10, 2006

I. Chairman Chris Bender called the open session to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call.

A. Chris Bender led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call. The following Directors were present: Lisa Ruth, Chris Bender, Chris Leland, Clark Miller, Lisa Sutton, Matt Carpenter, and Dick Travis. Also present: Mark Hyatt, President.

III. Spotlight Recognition.

High School

Amanda Hu, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, National Merit Scholarship Winner

Junior High

Ethan Hahn, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Junior Division Physics

Marlena Widman, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Junior Division Microbiology

IV. Comments

A. Audience:

1. Steve Pope related a story about his daughter. He also expressed his concern regarding the Secondary Administration's decision to move about half of the sophomore core classes to the modulars next academic year.

2. Joanne Kaiser expressed her concern regarding the sophomore class moving to the modulars next year, as well. She asked that the Administration consider other alternatives.

B. President and Administration:

1. Mark Hyatt, President, informed the Board that there is a seventeen-person selection committee for the new East Campus principal, with plans for the new principal to be chosen by the first of May. Chris Bender asked that this information get back to the staff at the East Campus. There will be a ceremony on April 19<sup>th</sup> regarding the John J. Irwin School of Excellence award for the secondary school. On the evening of April 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a debate in the gym for candidates interested in replacing Joel Hefley. Mr. Hyatt also discussed having 4 sections of 6<sup>th</sup> grade at North and East, 3 sections at Central.

2. Kevin Collins, Chief Operating Officer, presented the operations update (see attachment). Mr. Collins also gave a preliminary report regarding the most recent parent survey, details of which are in the attachment.
3. Don Stump, Central Elementary Principal, discussed how the PTO and staff are working together at Central campus. They decided to put in a garden, which he felt was a great community activity.
4. Mark Wertheimer, East Elementary Principal, gave a commendation to a student in the President's fitness program who persevered even though he just missed placing. Mr. Wertheimer noted how great it is to see fourth and sixth grade students playing football together.
5. Veronica Varland, North Elementary Principal, reported that it's the time of year for lots of field trips and other activities at North elementary. She mentioned that it was fun to watch students build machines out of "junk." The sixth graders are getting ready to go to the sand dunes, and there is a concert this week.
6. Leesa Waliszewski, Dean of Instructional Philosophy, reported that Julie Caylor and Debbie Lade processed hundreds of CSAP tests and had no major problems. Mrs. Waliszewski wanted the Board to know that, even though juniors and seniors are not taking CSAP tests, there are plenty of activities to keep them busy. She also reported her excitement over curriculum binders that teachers are working on which would allow them to pass on great ideas to other teachers.
7. Dr. Russ Sojourner, Junior High Principal told the Board that for the first time TCA had a very successful showing at the state science fair. The cumulating event of etiquette training is approaching with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dinner dance that parents are sponsoring and doing an excellent job of organizing. In May we will be hosting (as last year) a multi-media character presentation – this year's topic is "bullying."
8. Peter Hilts, High School Principal, is concentrating on working with seniors over the next few weeks with all of the end-of-school activities such as the senior breakfast, graduation, etc. Mr. Hilts read an extensive listing of the universities that are accepting our seniors this fall. Because of the excellent reputation of TCA, the secondary school is getting teaching candidates, not only from our substitute pool, but also from other states.

C. Board:

1. Lisa Sutton thanked Kevin and his team for doing such a great job on this year's parent survey.
2. Chris Leland gave kudos to Dave Khaliqi and Rocky Mountain News for the recent well-articulated article. Dr. Leland asked if it a security concern having electronic signature on TCA e-mails. Mr. Collins said it's purely each person's preference.

## V. Reports

A. Treasurer's Report. Jim Woody presented the General Fund, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Preliminary Month End March 31, 2006, Unaudited; and the Balance Sheet – General Fund, As of March 31, 2006 -- Preliminary. All reports may be seen in the attachment. As requested, Dr. Woody reported on the current status on the auditor selection process. He stated that the Charter stipulates that TCA must use the same auditor as the District, and informed the Board that Swanhorst and Company, LLC, is once again our auditor. Dr. Woody also gave an update regarding filing the IRS Form 990. As of this date there is no definitive response from the IRS. There was discussion on the legal aspects of this situation, with the Board requesting Dr. Woody to present his plan for this at the next meeting.

## B. Approval of Minutes

*Moved by Clark Miller, seconded by Lisa Ruth, to approve the minutes from the previous TCA Board Meeting on March 13, 2006, as written. Roll Call. Approved by majority vote.*

*Chris Bender called for a break at 7:40 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:44 p.m.*

## VI. Agenda Items

*Please note that agenda items were taken out of order from the agenda to facilitate people's schedules.*

1. Budget for 06/07 Fiscal Year. Dr. Jim Woody presented the following documents which may be seen in the attachment: Changes in the 06-07 Budget from the March 8, 2006 Board Meeting Presentation; General Fund, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Forecast 2006-07; All Funds, Statement of Changes in Net Assets, Proposed Budget 06-07; and All Funds, Revised 04/06/06. The 06/07 budget reflects an increase to 20 students per class, grades first through fourth, and policy regarding class size in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. There was discussion regarding the change of class size, from both a philosophical as well as a financial perspective.

*Moved by Lisa Ruth, seconded by Clark Miller, the 06/07 Budget is approved as presented, to include the policy that in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade there would be a permanent cap of 22 with a capped average of 18 per class. Roll call. Approved by unanimous vote.*

2. Latin Curriculum Review. Leesa Waliszewski briefed the Board on departmental review of the junior high Latin program. Vic Snodgrass presented an outline on the "Classical Foundations" proposal, which may be seen in the attachment. Dick Travis commended Leesa Waliszewski and the Lead Team for their use of the new process whereby parents were invited to participate as members of this review committee. However, he suggested that when we advertise for committee members for future review projects we be as clear as possible about the scope of the review. Some parents apparently thought this was a review of the Latin curriculum we use in our existing courses, rather than a review of whether we should continue to require the same Latin courses as in the past.

3. Community Service Policy. Dick Travis discussed how this policy has been used to demonstrate current policy. Should we continue to formulate the thinking in a two-tiered policy, beginning to re-write current policies to meet this methodology? Mr. Travis will present a crafted proposal at the May Board meeting. Mr. Bender asked that anyone with an interest in participating in the preparation of this proposal to contact Mr. Travis. Jim Kretchman also offered his help from a founding family perspective.

*Chris Bender called for a break at 9:51 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:03 p.m.*

4. Math Curriculum Update. This is a second read, follow-up to a lengthy presentation at the March 2006 Board Meeting.

*Moved by Clark Miller, seconded by Matt Carpenter, to accept the math curriculum update as presented in the March 2006 Board Meeting. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote. – See attached.*

5. Board Education. Chris Leland gave a short summary of the presentation that he gave to the Administrative Lead Team based on the book Five Dysfunctions of a Team, by Patrick Lencioni. The author emphasizes the five following areas: the need to build a trust culture, a climate for healthy conflict, ask for 100% commitment, require accountability, and measure results. Details are in the attachment.

6. President's Objectives. Chris Bender recognized that Mark Hyatt had submitted the 10-year financial forecast in accordance with President's Objective #5. There was discussion regarding the document and the Board asked Mr. Hyatt to put more detail into the fundraising side of the plan. The Board also gave Mr. Hyatt guidance on completing his President's Objective #3, 1/5 Report.

VII. Other Business: None.

VIII. Future Agenda Items:

1. IRS Form 990 Plan
2. Fundraising Plan
3. Update on efforts to implement TCA Mission Statement's Analytical Thinking and Passion for Learning

IX. Executive Session:

*Moved by Chris Bender, seconded by Chris Leland, to adjourn to executive session per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f), Personnel and Discipline Matters, at 10:50 p.m. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.*

X. Adjournment:

*Moved by Chris Leland, seconded by Chris Bender, to adjourn at 11:20 p.m. Roll Call.  
Approved by unanimous vote.*



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Chris Bender  
Chairman



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Chris Leland  
Secretary