

The Classical Academy
975 Stout Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
North Campus
Monday, May 12, 2008

- I. Call to Order: Mark Carpenter called the open session at 6:02pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
 - A. Matt Carpenter led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - B. Roll Call. The following Directors were present: Matt Carpenter, Chris Bender and Steve Tomberlin, Clark Miller, Steve Pope, Lisa Sutton, Vance Brown and Jim Kretchman. Also present: Mark Hyatt, President.
- III. Spotlight Recognition

Russ Sojourner recognized 8th grade TCA student, Zack Clemmons, who recently entered an essay competition by Panera Bread. He submitted an essay describing his favorite teacher, Grace Parson. Zack and Grace won the statewide competition for all entrants' grade 6-8. Besides the award plaques, certificates (Grace \$100), savings bonds (Zach \$100) and grants (TCA \$500), Panera would also like to provide a bagel and cream cheese breakfast for all TCA Junior High students and teachers. Congratulations to Zach and Grace!
- IV. Comments
 - A. From the Audience

PE Teachers: Dana Cutts (High School PE), Zoann Holmes (Jr. High), Greg Vance (Elementary PE) presented a proposal for a new auxiliary gym. They each voiced their concerns regarding issues of the North TCA students(K-12) sharing one gym and the added benefits of building a new gym. In the meantime, they are requesting temporary options to the North gym such as; curtains, sports mats, etc.

Matt Carpenter addressed Jeff Najouk's s question regarding the merge of Great Starts Sports with The Classical Institute and will provide more information at the next meeting.

Leslie Griesbecht suggested that a revision or reinforcement needs to take place with the TCA uniform policy. She is concerned with the current ambiguous uniform policy that promotes purchasing uniforms from varying vendors which then promotes varying clothing styles.

Karen Birch commented that she agrees with the PE coaches presentation regarding the current concerns TCA North campus students are experiencing with the sharing of one gym. In addition, she also shared her personal struggles of budgeting for school fees vs. tithing to the Titan Trust and asked whether we can cut back fees in order to be able to give more to the Titan Trust.

Estel Jackson requested an Executive Session with the Board in order to discuss personnel issues regarding her son, Jacob. Executive Session is scheduled for August.
 - B. From Administration

Leesa Waliszewski informed the Board that the Lab school parents were surveyed and a feedback summary for 1st grade and 3rd grade will be provided. She is currently researching logistics to collectively integrate the Art of Learning with the 1st grade East students who reside at North campus next year.

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Veronica concurs with Leesa on collectively integrating the “Art of Learning” with East 1st grade students and announced the TCA Art show results. She also shared that staff is currently planning for next year’s logistics: staffing of teachers, finalizing the curriculum and master schedules, etc. She expressed that the East crisis and change in Language curriculum allowed her staff to work collectively versus individually.

Peter Hilts announced the accomplishments from a TCA 1st year Alumni, Chris, who will graduate from college this year. Chris will hold a Chemical Engineering degree and has proved to be an exemplary citizen. Peter also announced the winnings of TCA’s Track and Soccer teams. In addition, he stated that there has been a higher response rate of 70% for the Titan Trust fundraising. He encouraged the board to attend such events to witness TCA’s Seniors in action.

Russ Sojourner informed the board that the Jr. High students behaved exemplary during their annual Dinner Dance. The Jr. High Student council elections had a great turn out and the meeting for the elects will be coming up soon.

C. From the Board

Steve Pope commented that he attended the Great Colorado Charter League schools conference and will provide information from his notes to share.

Lisa Sutton thanked the Lead Team for their research and preparation for the student’s Art Show exhibit.

Vance Brown stated that he appreciates the work and perseverance Lead Team has shown in “putting out all fires”.

Jim Kretchman expressed the need to be made aware of any concerns the Lead Team may have and would like to incorporate them into the board meetings.

Steve Tomberlin asked about the financial profits from the East modular buildings however, Kevin advised him that TCA “broke about even.”

Chris Bender thanked the Lead Team for their incredible energy as the school year winds to an end.

Moved by Matt Carpenter, seconded by Clark Miller, to adjourn to executive session per C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e) at 6:59p.m., for the purpose of discussing legal and contract issues specific to the East Campus Building at Pikes Peak Community College. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

Matt Carpenter left the board meeting at 7:05p.m. due to an illness. Chris Bender chaired the remainder of the meeting in Matt’s absence.

Moved by Steve Tomberlin, seconded by Vance Brown, to adjourn to public session at 8:18p.m. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

V. Consent Agenda Items

These are items that are for information or for vote but do not require further discussion by the Board or staff at this time. In the event that new information is available since the publication of this agenda, prior to approval of the consent agenda as presented, the board or staff may remove any consent agenda item(s) and move the item(s) to the Discussion Agenda.

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- A. Approval of Minutes :(April 30th)
- B. Financial Report
- C. Operations Update- Attachments: TCA Administration; TCA Special Projects/Initiatives

Moved by Clark Miller, seconded by Steve Tomberlin, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

VI. Discussion Agenda Items

These are specific items that the Board and /or staff would like to discuss and expand upon in greater detail than the materials that have been provided.

- A. Foreign Language Curriculum Review Recommendations: Attachments: French, Latin & Spanish Curriculum Review

Moved by Steve Tomberlin, seconded by Lisa Sutton, to approve Foreign Language Curriculum Review Recommendations. Roll call. Approved by unanimous vote.

Mark Hyatt requested (from April 30th- Special Session: First Read) a board vote on the East student temporary locations for the next school year located at North campus, class sizes increase to a maximum of 22 students for one year, and optional Art of Learning at North for first grade East students.

Moved by Clark Miller, seconded by Steve Tomberlin, to approve the East campus locations for the 08-09 year, as outlined on the Apr. 30th Special session meeting, including increase of class size up to 22 for one year and optional Art of Learning for 1st grade East students residing @ North campus. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

- B. Student Fee Schedule (Secondary Principals)- Handout: Proposed 2008/09 Student Fees Schedule
Item: To present the proposed 08/09 Secondary Fee Schedule
Presenter: Peter Hilts
For: First Read

From the discussion, it was noted that there are no changes or additional fees from the current year.

- C. Endowment Review
Item: To update the Board on the status of the Endowment Fund.
Presenter: Doug Hering
For: Information

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

- D. Auditor Engagement
Item: To advise the Board on the requirement to obtain an auditor.
Presenter: Doug Hering
For: Information

Doug Hering informed the board that TCA will obtain the same auditor company TCA has used for the past 5 years. The Board requested the administration to draft an audit engagement letter for the Chairman's signature.

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- E. Quarterly Review: Attachments: General Fund Prelim April 1-2; Balance and Revenue sheets
Item: To provide a quarterly review of all funds with highlights from the monthly General Fund.
Presenter: Doug Hering
For: Information

Doug Hering provided a quarterly review of all funds highlighting the monthly General Fund.

Handout error: Doug will send a corrected version update and will post on web. The recent Spring Fling fundraiser received the highest level of TCA involvement (60%) to date. A detailed report will be presented next month.

- F. Board Orientation for New Board Members
Item: To discuss orientation process for newly elected and re-elected board members; to have as a working session for (public) conflict resolution.
Presenter: Matt Carpenter
For: Second Read/Vote

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

- G. Board Code of Conduct
Item: To present enhancements to the Board Code of Conduct; to confirm process and procedures of conflict resolution and code of conduct model.
Presenter: Matt Carpenter
For: Vote

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

- H. Board Meeting Schedule & Agenda Item Review
Item: To determine the board meeting schedule and agenda items for academic year 08-09
Presenter: Matt Carpenter
For: Second Read/Vote

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

- I. TCA Core Values Update- Handout: Core Values; Identifying TCA's Core Values

Chris Bender provided information and the concepts about TCA's Core Values proposed changes. (see handouts). A Town Hall meeting would eventually take place (possibly July) to solicit feedback from the TCA community. Once the core value changes are defined, then aligning the board and administration would follow.

Jim Kretchman shared his concern with the amount of change and information this proposal entails and that it does not belong in a small discussion. He suggested seeking stability with current issues first, then revisiting this proposal at a more appropriate time. Perhaps, during summer the committee can plan to roll out next phase in the Fall. The Board and Administration were in agreement.

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J. Succession Planning

Item: To discuss and implement succession procedure in the event of the unexpected.

Presenter: Matt Carpenter and Clark Miller

For: First Read

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

K. Code of Conduct for Leadership Volunteers

Item: To determine and present code of conduct for Leadership Volunteers.

Presenter: Lisa Sutton

For: First Read

After Board discussion and, per Lisa Sutton's recommendation, this topic was deleted and postponed indefinitely.

M. President's Compensation Plan and Objectives

Item: To discuss the process for determining the President's Compensation Plan and Objectives for 2008/09.

Presenter: Matt Carpenter

For: Information

This item was deferred to June's Board meeting.

VII. East Campus Building Update

Mark Hyatt provided an update with the "Letter of Intent" draft for the building on land owned by Pikes Peak Community College. The letter of intent is not binding and will be reviewed by TCA's legal counsel. Kevin Collins informed the board that from a start date of August the build out phase could take up to 15 months.

VIII. Executive Session - per C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f), for the purpose of discussing personnel issues.

Moved by Steve Tomberlin, seconded by Clark Miller to adjourn to executive session, per C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f), for the purpose of discussing personnel issues 10:09p.m.

IX. Future Agenda Items

A. Foreign Language Curriculum Review Recommendations- Vote

B. Board Meeting Schedule & Agenda Item Review- Vote

C. President's Annual Review- End/Vote

D. President's Compensation Plan and Objectives- End/Vote

E. Textbook Review/Approval- Vote

F. Annual Policy Review

X. Adjournment

Moved by, Steve Tomberlin, seconded by Vance Brown to adjourn at 12:20p.m. Roll Call. Approved by unanimous vote.

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Matt Carpenter
Chairman

Chris Bender
Secretary