



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015, 6:00-9:05 P.M.

NORTH CAMPUS – TCA ROOM 2213/2214 (SECONDARY)

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.

MINUTES

Presentation/Question Time/Start Time

- I. **Call to Order** (6:00 pm) 1 min (6:00) (6:00)
 - Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Dr. Woody, Board Chair
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call** 5 min (6:01) (6:01)
 - The following Board members were present Mr. Carter, Mr. Dubois (arrived 6:06), Dr. Harrington (excused), Dr. Jennings, Mr. LaValley, Mr. Ramsdell (arrived 6:27), Dr. Woody, Dr. Sojourner (non-voting member of the Board).
- III. **Approval of Agenda** 5 min (6:06) (6:02)
 - **Motion: Mr. LaValley moved to approve the agenda with the following change and was 2nd:**
 - **IX.C.2. Proposed Board Resolution: Waiver to State Testing; 10 min (See Attachment 1)**
 - Discussion Topics: Nonw
 - **Vote: By roll call vote (4-0) the Board approved the agenda. (Mr. Carter; Yea, Dr. Jennings; Yea, Mr. LaValley; Yea, Dr. Woody, Yea)**
- IV. **Comments from the Audience** (Audience members have 5 minutes to address the Board) 10 min (6:11) (6:04)

(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.
- V. **Celebrating TCA** 10 min (6:21) (6:05)

(East Campus Service Projects, Perfect Score on ACT, TCA HS and CP Ranked Top Ten of high schools in Colorado by Colorado School Grades)

 - Zane Julian-High School Senior- Perfect score of 36 on the ACT taken last April. 1 of 2 students in our district
 - Timson Family- East Family headed up the bandaid project-
 - 450 boxes of bandaids were donated to the Children's Cancer Center- On a fun note, the most popular bandaids (we received the most boxes of) were Marvel, Ninja Turtles, Smurfs, Frozen, and Despicable ME. ☐ We've been using the Christmas bandaids this week and the kids love them!
 - Kindergarten Mitten Tree-Krista Dunn
 - The kindergartners donated mittens and hats to the Springs Rescue Mission. They filled 4 copier paper boxes full of mittens. When the students brought the mittens to school, they were able to decorate a Christmas tree we had in the foyer. The tree was completely covered. In December we were learning about kindness and read a story called The Mitten Tree. It is about an elderly lady who notices children in her town who do not have mittens. She knits mittens for them and puts them in a tree for the children to find.

- TESSA Blankets-Tracy VanCura and students Torah Delaney, Ryan Flaherty, Alex Huerta each presented on how they made the blankets, where they donated them too and how the project impacted them.

VI. **Board Development (CASB Highlights)** 15 min (6:31) (6:16)

Action: Dr. Sojourner

- Dr. Sojourner highlighted the following items from the conference:
 - One of the best conferences for board members to attend (topics geared toward them)
 - All the D20 Board and their Leadership Team attended the conference.
 - There is a potential to get the D20 Board and TCA Board together at this conference.
 - Discussed the hedgehog principal (what makes TCA unique); Covey
 - Big Hairy Aggressive Goal; Covey
 - Needs to have the right people on the bus
 - Leadership is crucial
 - Great leaders (organizations) never rest
 - Character is an important core value
 - Financial Stability is monumental in order to drive into the future
 - State Board of Education emphasized that districts should not be promoting mass opt outs of testing
 - Eric Hall delivered a crisis communications presentation and emphasized these points:
 - In a crisis no comment is not an option
 - Don't be silent in a crisis
 - Coordinate communication that is well thought out (more is better)
 - The Colorado Charter School Conference is from Feb 26-27; contact Bob Swanson to make reservations for you
- Mr. Carter asked the Board to send him ideas on future topics for Board Development

VII. **Report of the President & Cabinet Spotlights** 5 min/5 min (6:46) (6:33)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review progress on President's Goals and highlight cabinet activities (Ops, Academic Services, and Advancement).

- Dr. Sojourner highlighted the following items from his report:
 - Conducted 2 advancement dinner on December 7 and 14 to honor lead donors
 - Explained "Strengthening Our Core" advancement strategy
 - Received 4 lead gifts of \$20,000
 - We are in the middle of our Bond Refinancing process and have met with our representative (Barry Arrington)
 - We are considering using the funds to reduce the debt service through 2038
 - The Scarborough Property sale closed on Jan 27, 2015
 - Dr. Sojourner received the year end summary of TCA form the D20 Liaison that was complimentary of TCA

VIII. **Consent Agenda** 5 min (6:56) (6:45)

Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:

Motion: to accept the Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes: Dec 8 (Swanson)
 - B. Written Reports of the Executive Director and Cabinet
 1. Human Resources (Schulz)
 - a. Matters Relating to Personnel Action
 2. Finance (VanGambleare)
 - a. November Financials
 3. Board Policy Review (Board)
 - a. Recruitment, Appointment, and Evaluation of TCA President
 - C. Board Self Evaluation Data (Woody/Swanson)
 - D. SAC Minutes
 1. CP/CSP Minutes; Oct 7, 2014
 2. JH Minutes; Oct 23, 2014
 3. CP/CSP Minutes; Nov 18, 2014
 4. JH Minutes; Nov 20, 2014
 5. HS Minutes; Nov 20, 2014
- **Motion: Mr. Ramsdell moved to accept the consent agenda and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion: Mr. LaValley wanted to make sure that in the 23 Oct JH minutes that only 2 people attended was correctly stated or if that was a typo.

- **Vote: By roll call vote (6-0) the Board accepted the consent agenda. (Mr. Carter; Yea, Mr. Dubois; Yea, Dr. Jennings; Yea, Mr. LaValley; Yea, Mr. Ramsdell; Yea, Dr. Woody; Yea)**

IX. Discussion Agenda Items

A. Items removed from Consent Agenda

B. Cabinet Level Reports

1. Parent Survey Common School Questions

5 min/5 min (7:01) (6:52)

Action: Jolly

Motion: to approve the parent survey common school questions (Vote) and review the school specific questions (Info)

Rationale: to review the questions for the parent survey questions

- **Motion: Mr. LaValley moved to approve the parent survey common school questions and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics:
 - Parent will have from Feb 2 – Feb 27 to complete the survey
 - At the April and May Board meetings, the results will be reviewed
 - The common school questions were determined by comparing similar questions appearing on each of last year's parent surveys.
 - Each school survey will have 6 common questions with not more than 15 total questions.
- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the common school questions.**

2. School Calendar Review

5 min/15 min (7:11) (6:55)

Action: Jolly

Motion: to approve the 2015-16 School Calendars/1st Read of the 2016-17 School Calendar

Rationale: to review/approve the 15-16 School Calendar (vote) and review the 2016-2017 School Calendar (1st Read)

- **Motion: Mr. LaValley moved to approve the 2015-2016 School Calendars and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics:
 - The calendars meet the requirements set forth by the Board for both the 2015-16 and 2016-17 calendars.
 - District 20 ends later than TCA.
 - TCA starts within 2 days of District 20.
 - Holiday breaks match up with District 20.
 - The 2015-16 Calendars will be revealed to the TCA community tomorrow and the Draft Calendars for 2016-17 will be placed on the web after the February Board meeting
- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the 2015-2016 School Calendars.**

3. Revenue Projection for Next FY

5 min/5 min (7:31) (7:02)

Action: VanGamble

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review the estimated revenue projection for 2015-2016

- By best estimates, we will have 3406 FTE.
- The states Capital Construction Fund grew to \$13 million and we should see an increase in our allotted funds to \$460,000.
- The fiscal year is from 1 Jul to 30 Jun.

Break

10 min (7:41) (7:11)

C. Board Level Reports

Inserted:

Board Waiver to State Testing Resolution:

10 min (7:21)

- **Motion: Mr. Dubois moved to approve the Board Waiver Resolution to State Testing with the following changes and was 2nd:**
 - **Remove the last paragraph**
 - **Edit for spelling/changes to wording**
- Discussion Topics:
 - Based upon the state school Boards recent vote to permit school districts to ask for waivers to delay certain requirements of state testing for this year, the TCA Board is issuing a resolution to request such a waiver
 - This is not an opt out waiver
 - Dr. Hammond (State Education Commissioner) has sent out a letter to the state's Superintendents indicating that the state school Board's vote may not be legal and he will ask the state's attorney general for a ruling

- Dr. Hatchell (District 20 Superintendent) has indicated that he will not ask for a waiver unless it is legal
- There is a Feb 6 deadline to ask for the waiver (Dr. Sojourner to check to see if this is accurate)
- Mr. Miller (TCA Legal Counsel) reviewed the resolution and found that it is accurate and well written and would be acceptable to pursue if the waiver is found to be legal
- It is better for the Board to write the resolution sooner than later as a proactive measure
- Include the resolution in our Board Communication to the TCA community
- **Vote: By roll call vote (6-0) the Board approved the amended Board Waiver Resolution to State Testing. (Mr. Carter; Yea, Mr. Dubois; Yea, Dr. Jennings; Yea, Mr. LaValley; Yea, Mr. Ramsdell; Yea, Dr. Woody; Yea)**

1. Building Corp. Appointment of Director 5 min /5 min (7:51) (8:06)

Action: Bender

Motion: to approve the Building Corp. Board of Directors.

Rationale: to review/approve the Building Corp. Board of Directors

- **Motion: Mr. Ramsdell moved that the TCA Board approve the Building Corp. Board of Directors and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics:
 - Mr. Bender (Building Corp. Chair) presented the new Directors of the Building Corp.

▪ Mr. Bender	Chair
▪ Mrs. Roy	Secretary
▪ Mrs. Mast	Director
▪ Mr. Carpenter	Director
 - Is there a way that we can honor Mr. Mueller/Mrs. Ruth as outgoing Building Corp. Directors? Dr. Woody and Mr. Bender will look into possibilities.
- **Vote: By roll call vote (6-0) the Board approved the Building Corp. Board of Directors. (Mr. Carter; Yea, Mr. Dubois; Yea, Dr. Jennings; Yea, Mr. LaValley; Yea, Mr. Ramsdell; Yea, Dr. Woody; Yea)**

2. Governance Committee Report 5 min/5min (8:01) (8:10)

Action: Woody

Motion: to approve changes to the Board Meetings (BE-TCA) (Vote)

Rationale: to review the progress of the Governance Committee and provide suggested updates to Board policies for approval by the TCA Board

- This item is tabled until the Feb 9 Board meeting to consider the following items:
 - Inputs from other Board members
 - Clarity on terms such as “normally”, what constitutes “one week” vs 7 days, etc.
 - Misspellings
 - Who makes motions? Board members make the motions and 2nds; reword this item
- The Governance Committee will meet before the next Board meeting to address these topics and any other concerns

3. Announcement of Board of Director Vacancies 5 min (8:11) (8:18)

Action: Woody

Motion: to announce the openings for the 2015 Board Election

Rationale: to begin the election process and recruit Board candidates

- Dr. Woody announced that two Board of Director positions were up for election for this years election.
- He encouraged the Board, Cabinet, Principals, and parents to identify potential candidates for the TCA Board
- Make sure the announcement is placed on the front page of the of the web-site and linked to the election policy

4. Adopt a School Report (CS/CSP) 3 min (8:16) (8:23)

Action: Carter (2-3 minutes for a verbal update)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to listen to the school observations of Board Members

- Mr. Carter highlighted his tour of CS/CSP:
 - Met entire staff during a school in-service
 - This was the first time in a long time that a Board member had visited them
 - It is important that Board members make a presence in schools
 - What a truly wonderful group of teachers we have
 - It is evident that we are one group only separated by our campuses

5. Board Training and Board Development Committee Report 5 min /5min (8:19) (8:26)

Action: Carter

Motion: (Info) Board Candidate Search Process

Rationale: to develop a more systematic way to find candidates for the TCA Board

- This year we want to cast a wider net for Board candidates
- Encourage each school (SACs) to recommend candidates to Dr. Sojourner to contact
- Past Board members and Founders can be contacted for their inputs for candidates
- Mr. Carter will conduct a Board candidate orientation prior to the Feb 5 cut off date

D. Board Communication

5 min (8:29) (8:32)

Board Communication Planned

Action: Carter

Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community

- Board Waiver Resolution
- Board Vacancies
- Celebrate TCA
- New Calendars

E. Future Board Agenda Items

1. Student Fee Schedules-Feb 2015 (Board)
2. 990 Review-Feb 2015 (VanGambleare)
3. GOA Update-Feb 2015 (Harrington)
4. Board Self Evaluation Action Plan-Feb 2015
5. 1st Read of Strategic Plan-Mar 2015 (Sojourner)
6. Report on the Effects of Increased Class Sizes in K, 1st and 2nd Grade have had on TCA (Jolly)

X. Executive Session (Final President Evaluation)

30 min (8:34) (8:35)

Pursuant to C.R.S 24-6-402 (4)(f) Personnel matter. (Final President Evaluation)

- **Motion: Mr. LaValley moved to enter executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(f) personnel matter (Final President Evaluation) and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics: None
- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board moved into executive session.**

XI. Adjournment (Approx. 9:05 p.m.)

(9:04) (9:13)

- The Board came out of executive session and adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.



Chris Carter
TCA Board Secretary