



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016, 6:00- 9:26 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.

AGENDA

Presentation/Question Time/Start Time

- I. **Call to Order** (6:00 p.m.) 1 min (6:00) (6:00)
 - Mr. LaValley (TCA Board Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance/Mission/Roll Call** 5 min (6:01) (6:01)
 - Roll call: (Mr. Carter; Here, Left meeting at 7:31 feeling sick //Mr. Dubois; Here // Dr. Harrington; arrived at 6:13 // Dr. Jennings; Here // Mr. LaValley; Here // Mr. Moulton; Here // Mr. Rudder; Here)
- III. **Approval of Agenda** 5 min (6:06) (6:02)
 - **Motion: Mr. Moulton moved to approve the agenda and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion: None
 - **Vote: Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; On the way // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**
- IV. **Comments from the Audience** (Audience members have 5 minutes to address the Board) 5 min (6:11) (6:03)

(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)

 - Mr. Van Eaton was the only audience member to speak to the Board. He highlighted the following areas:
 - He was speaking in support of the Baseball field
 - Baseball field would support other TCA programs
 - Baseball field would be a revenue source for TCA
 - Becomes a safety issue when we send our students (who drive themselves) to practices or games away from TCA
- V. **Celebrate TCA (TCA Leads Committee: TCA vs Cancer Week)** 10 min (6:16) (6:08)

Action: (Harris)
Motion: (Info)
Rationale: to highlight accomplishments of TCA students, staff, or parents

 - We celebrated the successful week-long TCA vs. Cancer initiative organized by our TCA Leads Committee, which includes 13 High School Students who are leaders in Student Council, Serteen, Cheer, Power and Justice, and National Honor Society. By including all 7 TCA schools, we raised over \$8,200 by having class competitions of penny wars, cash for casual days, and a silent auction. The committee presented the check to the American Cancer Society late last week, which will go towards cancer research and prevention. The Board was proud to hear how our student body exemplifies “and give our best to the world in Mind, Body, and Spirit” from TCA’s Creed.
- VI. **Comments from the Board of Directors** 5 min (6:26) (6:14)
 - The Board was intrigued by the dress at the HS dance, needs to keep in mind any changes to next year’s Board meeting schedule, wondered where discarded Raptor stickers were deposited after being turned in
- VII. **Board Development (State Legislative Update)** 10 min (6:31) (6:17)

Action: Miller
Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to inform the Board on legislative issues facing state representatives

- Mr. Miller highlighted the following items during his presentation:
 - Full day kindergarten bills (could change the way PPR is determined or promote full day kindergarten)
 - Changes to state history requirements (identity based)
 - Concurrent enrollment bill (could change October Count process/funding)
 - Testing bills (Relaxation of Federal Testing requirement under ESSA, will need to evaluate total policy)
 - Development of an Ethics Commission to hear complaints against Boards and Board members
 - Deleting 50% requirement for student achievement on public school teacher evaluations based upon student performance
 - Increased accountability facing non-performing schools

VIII. **Report of the President & Cabinet Spotlights**

5 min/10 min (6:41) (6:28)

Action: Sojourner

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to highlight cabinet activities (Pres., Ops, Academic Services, and Advancement)

- Dr. Sojourner highlighted the following items from his report:
 - From a funding raising perspective, December was a good month. 25% more in donations was brought in this year, last year we brought in about \$138,000 and this year it was closer to \$180,000
 - Mr. Tubb and Mr. VanGambleare have been representing TCA at D20's Growth Committee. The Growth Committee will be determining the needs associated with the upcoming D20 Bond Initiative and ultimately make recommendations to the D20 Board on how the money will be distributed
 - TCA has a total of \$37m in needs however, we have \$21m in immediate needs that we expressed to the committee that are our priority one needs (elementary North gym, HS auditorium, 2nd cafeteria/library building, and additional parking areas)
 - Dr. Sojourner will continue to have meetings with Dr. Hatchell to determine what portion of the Bond will be allocated to TCA
 - It will be important to work with the TCA community to communicate the importance of voting for the Bond
- Mr. Rudder brought up concerns about emergency vehicles being able to access the various campuses during car pool
 - TCA does have plans to address the situation at the North campus (for instance, getting rid of the traffic circle, getting two lanes of traffic going out, having a protected left turn signal, etc.) however, it is dependent on the priorities that the city makes, we don't own the property where changes could be made, the preble mouse habitat works against us, there are costs that we may need to bear that need to be negotiated with the city

IX. **Consent Agenda**

5 min (6:56) (6:47)

Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:

Motion: to accept the Consent Agenda (vote)

- A. Minutes: 11 January 2016 (Swanson)
 - B. Written Reports of the President and Cabinet
 - 1. Human Resources (Schulz)
 - a. Matters Relating to Personnel Action
 - 2. Finance (VanGambleare)
 - a. December Financials
 - b. Quarterly Financial Report
 - C. Board Policies
 - 1. Charter School Procedures (Adopted from D20)
- **Mr. Moulton moved to accept the items on the consent agenda and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion: None
 - **Vote: Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

X. **Discussion Agenda Items**

A. **Items removed from Consent Agenda**

B. **Cabinet Level Reports**

1. **Operations Capital Construction Report (Monthly)**

10 min/10 min (7:01) (6:48)

Action: Tubb

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review progress on all TCA capital construction projects, discuss the GMP for the Central Campus, and review projected spending plan

- The Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the Central Project is \$6.825 million
 - Increased scope for a good price
- Start and stop dates for the Central Campus have not changed
- The Board was interested in how the administration determines whether we are doing good (green), average (orange), or bad (red) with respect to being within budget, within scope, within the time frame as the project progresses and is presented to the Board

- No changes to report with respect to the baseball/softball field
- CP Modular
 - We are planning to buy the CP modular (we can recoup our costs within 5 years)

2. Capital Construction Baseball/Softball Field Phase I Vote 10 min/10 min (7:21) (7:22)

Action: Tubb

Motion: (Vote) to approve the baseball/softball Phase I construction project

Rationale: to begin work on the baseball/softball field

- **Motion: Mr. Rudder moved to approve an increase to the overall Capital Construction budget from \$7.9M to \$8.2M, so as to proceed, as shown on previous schedule, with Phase 1 of the baseball/softball field project.**
- Discussion:
 - The Baseball field is being outfitted with terminals to install lights at a future date
 - Discussion arose between the differences between a competition field vs a practice field and associated costs
 - Does this vote also stipulate that the added funds will be taken out of the Endowment (no) The Board will decide which source of funding will be used to support the completion of phase one
 - How are parents stepping up to the plate to generate funds for the baseball field
 - Construction on the baseball field won't start until this summer
- The revised/approved budget and capital construction schedules are the new baselines the Administration is working with
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Nay // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

3. Conflict Resolution Policy 5 min/5 min (7:41) (7:40)

Action: Sojourner

Motion: (1st Read)

Rationale: to review/approve changes to the Conflict Resolution policy

- Historically, 10 years ago TCA did not have a Conflict Resolution Policy
 - Policy introduced dates and times for action steps to ensure prompt response to important situations and incidents in TCA's history
- The new streamlined process is simplified and should be easier to follow

4. Curriculum Review/Text Review Elementary 5 min/5 min (7:51) (8:02)

Action: (Jolly)

Motion: (Vote) to approve changes to the elementary curriculum

Rationale: to review/approve changes to the elementary curriculum

- **Motion: Mr. Rudder moved to approve the changes to the elementary curriculum and was 2nd.**
- Discussion:
 - Elementary English curriculum is literature based; reviewing books for appropriateness at grade levels and variety
 - Last few years foreign language program has been more robust; will look at beefing up grammar in Spanish
 - Discussion on whether to bring back Latin to elementary
 - Student's on IEP's will be looked at individually to determine graduation requirements and waivers
 - Reviewing 3rd grade math to determine appropriate difficulty and scope
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; left meeting due to being sick // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

5. State Assessment Report 10 min/10 min (8:01) (8:17)

Action: Jolly

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to review state testing results

- Mr. Jolly highlighted the following items:
 - There will be some changes next year: 10th and 11th PARCC goes away and 10th grade will take PSAT while 11th grade will take the SAT
 - New baselines on testing will be established given the changes in the tests and the number of opt outs (TCA had a greater average opt out rate than the District or State)
 - PARCC testing: TCA exceeded the average state standards on 31 out of 34 tests and exceeded the district average on 23 out of 34 tests

- The state did concede that there is a difference between taking the test on computer vs. taking tests with pencil and paper (this year we will take all of our test with pencil and paper)
 - We need to look at our math sequencing (District 20 schools may be taking higher levels of math at later grade levels than TCA)
 - Low scores in social studies at TCA is based upon not taking Social Studies during 4th thru 7th grade. We don't intend on changing our curriculum to chase these scores.
- On the ACT test, TCA exceeded all state and district test averages
 - TCA was either 1st or 2nd in the District in all 20 ACT tested areas

Break

10 min (8:21) (7:31)

C. Board Level Reports

1. Announce Board of Director Candidates

5 min (8:31) (8:26)

Action: LaValley

Motion: (Vote to conduct election) to approve conducting the 2016 Board Election

Rationale: to announce the candidates for the TCA Board Election and approve the 2016 Board Election

- Mr. LaValley announced that there were only two people that submitted Board candidate packages for this year's election (Dr. William Jennings and Mrs. Becky VanVleet)
- In accordance with TCA's election policy, the time limit to accept candidate packages is extended to Monday, February 22, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.
- If one more candidates submits a candidate packages, TCA will have an election
- If only two candidates remain that have submitted a candidate package by the deadline, in accordance with TCA's Bylaws, the Board may appoint the two candidates to the Board without holding an election
- At this point in the election process, without the required number of candidates to conduct an election (three candidates) the Board cannot vote on whether to conduct the election

2. Board Budget Review

5 min/5 min (8:36) (8:30)

Action: Moulton

Motion: (1st Read)

Rationale: to review the 2016-17 Board Budget

- Mr. Moulton submitted the Board budget for the Board to review prior to the next Board meeting in March
- There was interest in reviewing the costs for the Board's annual strategic off sight
- The Board believed it was in the purview of the TCA President to determine whether TCA should be/or not to be members of the Colorado League of Charter Schools

3. Determine Action Items from Board Self Evaluation

5 min/5 min (8:46) (8:35)

Action: LaValley

Motion: (Vote) to approve Board Action item list

Rationale: to develop an action plan based upon the results of the Board's Self Evaluation

- Mr. LaValley moved and was 2nd to approve the Board's Action plan with the following amendments:
 - Delete item #2.
 - Rewrite item #3 to say:
 - Review new member training to ensure it is up to date and all new members receive proper training while assuring the TCA Board receives periodic training to assure Directors keep abreast of current educational changes and review of proper governance practices and procedures.

- Discussion: The Board wanted to ensure it was periodically given reviews on current governance practices and legislative changes.

- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; left meeting due to being sick // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

4. Create a Board Committee to Review TCA President Evaluation

5 min/5 min (8:56) (8:46)

Action: LaValley

Motion: (Vote) to form a temporary Board committee to review the Presidential Evaluation process and make recommendations to the Board.

Rationale: to review the process the Board uses to evaluate the TCA President

- **Motion: Mr. LaValley moved and was 2nd to create a temporary committee of the TCA Board to review the process to evaluate the TCA President within nine months and report back to the TCA Board with suggestions to improve the process. The Chair of the committee will be Mr. Dubois. Other members of the committee will be Mr. LaValley, Mr. Rudder, Dr. Sojourner, Ms. Schulz, and Mr. Swanson.**

- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; left meeting due to being sick // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

D. **Board Communication** 5 min (9:06) (8:50)

Action: Secretary

Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community

- Capital Construction
- Celebrate TCA
- Assessment Report

E. **Future Board Agenda Items** 5 min (9:11) (8:52)

1. Core Values Review, Mar, Governance Committee
2. Communication with Board Policy, Mar, Governance Committee
3. Board Agreement, Mar, Governance Committee
4. District Purchase Services Approval, Mar, Tubb
5. Board Budget Vote, Mar, Moulton
6. Board Candidate Video Presentations, Mar, Board Candidates
7. Budget Projection Report (5 Year), Mar, VanGambleare
8. Internal Financial Controls Report, Mar, VanGambleare
9. Quarterly FAC Report (Auditor Selection), Mar, VanGambleare
10. Curriculum Review/Text Review Vote (Secondary), Mar, Jolly
11. Review 990, Mar, VanGambleare

F. **Executive Session** 10 min (9:16) (8:54)

Action: LaValley

Motion: to move into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(f) personnel matters,

President's End of Year Evaluation Discussion

Rationale: to provide the TCA President an opportunity to review/discuss his evaluation with the TCA Board

- **Motion: Mr. Rudder moved to move into executive session pursuant to C.R.S 24-6-402 (4)(f) personnel matters, President's End of Year Evaluation Discussion and was 2nd.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; left meeting due to being sick // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**

XI. **Adjournment** (Approx. 9:26 p.m.) (9:26) (9:15)

- Motion: Dr. Harrington moved to adjourn the meeting and was 2nd.
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; left meeting due to being sick // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Harrington; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea)**



Chris Carter
Board Secretary