



# THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012, 5:30-10:30 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

- I. Call to Order (5:30p.m.)
  - Board members present: Mr. Cameron, Mr. Carter, Dr. Leland, Mr. Mast, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Pope, Dr. Woody.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call Est. Time: 5 min
- III. Comments from the Audience Est. Time: 5 min
  - Kelly Cameron shared her thoughts about College Pathways and TCA North Secondary interactions related to involvement in activities and impacts on the community. Overall, Mrs. Cameron was concerned that CP diffuses the culture at TCA North Secondary.
  - Shawn O'Toole shared his thoughts on why teachers should be allowed to vote in board of director elections even if they do not have children enrolled at TCA. He requested more clarity regarding current policy and recommended that the TCA Board review and consider changing the policy.
- IV. Consent Agenda Est. Time: 5 min
  - a. Minutes: Feb 13
  - b. Jan Financials
  - c. Ops Report
  - d. Field Trip Update (Traveling Costs)
    - Mr. Cameron stated that he appreciated the information, asked a couple clarifying questions, and pointed out that there is a related open task to provide a field trip philosophy draft document.
  - e. Student Parent Feedback
  - f. Approval of Matters Relating to Personnel Actions
  - g. Dash Board Power Point
  - h. College Pathways & TCA North Secondary Shared Activities
    - Mr. Carter requested that item 'h' be pulled from the Consent Agenda.
    - Motion to "Approve Consent Agenda with exception of moving item 'h' to Discussion Agenda was made by Mr. Carter with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Mr. Mast. Motion passed unanimously with voice vote.
- V. Discussion Agenda Items
  - a. TCA Board Candidate Presentations Est. Time: 35 min
    - i. 7 TCA Board Candidates have 5 Minute Presentations
    - ii. Presenter: Candidates For: Information
      - The seven TCA Board Candidates each gave a five minute presentation to the board and audience.
      - The presentations were videotaped for posting on the TCA website.
      - A short Q & A followed the candidate presentations. Candidates presented their thoughts on how to infuse a character program in our schools.

- Several board members thanked the candidates for running for the board positions.

b. Open Forum

Est. Time: 15 min

- i. College Pathways
- ii. Presenter: Dr. Leland For: Information

- Dr. Leland informed the audience that this time to people to share ideas/thoughts with the board, but is not intended to circumvent the normal channels of communication nor the normal conflict resolution channels.
- Donna Arnt, parent of CP 7th grade student, shared that she found the CP teachers provide good feedback to the students and are very responsive, thoughtful, and approachable. She thanked TCA for providing and supporting College Pathways.
- MaryAnn Floyd shared that she had researched additional information on CHSA since she last spoke to the board. She presented several questions along with her thoughts related to CP possibly having its own sports programs and related topics. She expressed that CP students really want the opportunity to participate in TCA HS sports because of common view of Core Values and feels that even if it meant that some teams have to compete at a higher CHSA level that this might help provide unity across CP and TCA HS.
- Billy Ramsdell shared that all of his questions were answered related to our sports, interacting with college students, etc. at the CP Parent information night. He expressed appreciation that the board and administration were wrestling with these topics. Mr. Ramsdell said their family had to make a tough decision between having a traditional high school experience for their children and a non-traditional one through CP. He said they were given clear and complete information while attending parent nights to make an educated decision.
- Kari Learned encouraged TCA to work together and to be good stewards. She mentioned that their family has been very happy with College Pathways. She expressed that CP and TCA HS students, parents, and teachers share the same values.

c. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Build-Out

Est. Time: 15 min

- i. Review design/construction, cost, and special interest items
- ii. Footprint
- iii. Presenter: Kevin Collins/Tom Elder/Eric Swanson For: Information

- Mr. Swanson (Elder Construction) provided a status update on the 1st floor construction project including the following: Received project approval from Regional; several security measures are included in the project; floor grinding is cost upgrade, but will be very durable for many years. Mr. Swanson noted that a lot of attention is being shown towards getting the best acoustical tiles for the choir and band rooms. Contractors are highly attuned to the school schedule and make as little noise as possible while school is in session.
- Mr. Collins explained that the current 6000 sqft office space will be covered by space in main building and modulars. Everything is expected to fit without needing additional offsite admin office space.

d. Preliminary Annual Budget for AY 2012-2013 (Recurring)

Est. Time: 15 min

- i. Anticipatory Look at Next Year's Budget
- ii. Presenter: Mark VanGambleare

- Mr. VanGambleare updated the board on the climate of state education budget discussions, including a best estimate of the PPF revenue of \$6050 for 2012-13, which is down \$87 from \$6110 2011-12.
- A few other highlights were: College Pathways FTE enrollment is projected to be 422, compared to 395 for current year. Cottage School enrollment is estimated to be 270 students next year, which is a conservative number as this can be difficult to predict. Health premiums and PERA costs to TCA will be increasing next year. Last year our accident claims went up. No matter what company we use it does not look pretty.

e. TCA Board Training Module Discussion

Est. Time: 15 min

- i. Next steps pertaining to Board Professional Development
- ii. Presenter: Dr. Woody For: Discussion

- Dr. Woody led the board in discussion of highlights from five board training modules (Strategic Planning; Board Member Conduct; Selecting Reviewing & Supporting the Administrator; Promoting the Vision and Mission; and Accountability/Program Assessment). All the training modules are on-line at boardtrainingmodules.org. The Board agreed there was significant value in going through the training modules.
- The Board wants to review if we are using our School Accountability Committee to their fullest potential. Do the SACs have clear expectations, parameters, and avenues to feedback information to the Board? Need to ensure TCA SAC's live up to Colorado legislative requirements.
- ACTION: Mr. Cameron to add SAC to the "Pain Points" list

- The following five board training modules (were assigned for review prior to the April 9th board meeting: Board Structure and Responsibilities; Board officer Roles and Responsibilities; Charter School Finance; Board Financial Oversight; Capital Improvements.

f. College Pathways & TCA North Secondary Shared Activities (moved from consent agenda)

- The Board reviewed the extracurricular activities guidelines between CP and TCA HS students. These guidelines were developed after thoughtful discussions between Mr. Wright and Mr. DiPretore. There are places to share and nurture students from both campuses as they share the same values although their campuses and experiences are distinct.
- CP students want to attend events in a safe environment, and when they have a large enough group, they may develop their own activities. CP has already started to develop some of its own programs, e.g. the 8th grade dinner dance on April 20.
- Board members discussed what role the board should play in this matter and what guidance the board can provide to administration, including how to apply the Core Values. Dr. Bohn suggested that the board needs to state whether College Pathways is carrying out the Core Values.

g. Board External Relationships

Est. Time: 15 min

- i. Colorado League of Charter Schools
- ii. Board Field Trips
- iii. Presenter: Dr. Leland

For: Discussion

- Membership in the Colorado League of Charter Schools (CLCS) costs \$4.50 a student. This would cost us about \$15K for annual membership. Membership in these types of organization can indicate a certain level of support from TCA. Attending events sponsored by CLCS can help develop connections and build other external relationships at the state level. CLCS is also a lobbying group that could be of service to TCA related to concerns about legislative issues.
- The Board is looking at visiting several other Colorado Charter Schools, including attending their board meetings. Field trips give a chance to build external relationships outside our own community, allow the Board to see different schools, and learn more as a Board.

h. Break (Approx. 7:35 pm)

Est. Time: 10 min

VI. Executive Session (Approx. 7:45)

Est Time: 90 min

- a. Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b & f) for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, and to receive legal advice on specific legal questions. To discuss TCA President's Role and performance, and to provide feedback to TCA President.

- 9:15pm Motion to move into Exec Session

VII. Future Agenda Items and Meetings

Est. Time: 5 min

Future Board Meeting Schedules and Agenda Items

Est. Time: 10 min

Confirm next meeting dates and discuss any known agenda items  
Presenter: Board Chair

- a. Open Forum Topic: TBD—Apr
- b. Development and Communication Review (Information)—Apr—Jan Stump
- c. Current Year Budget Revision (Recurring)—Apr—Mark VanGambleare
- d. 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Build Out Update (Information)—April—Kevin Collins
- e. TCA Board Training Modules Discussion—April—Dr. Woody
- f. Announce Results of the TCA Board of Directors Election—April—Dr. Leland/Tom Weston
- g. Final Annual Budget AY 2012-2013 (Recurring)—April—Mark VanGambleare
- h. President's Annual Review (Begin-Recurring)—April—Dr. Leland
- i. Board Meeting Schedule and Agenda Item Review (Recurring)—April—Dr. Bohn
- j. Planned Regular Board Meeting dates for 2011-12 school year
  - i. Apr 9<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>
- k. Planned Special Board Governance focused meeting dates for 2011-12 school year
  - i. Mar 19<sup>th</sup>, and May 21<sup>st</sup>
  - ii. Mar 19 (Board Governance /Strategic Plan), April (TBD), May 21 (TBD)
- l. Planned Board Retreat 2012-2013 school year

i. July 27 and 28 2012

XIII. Adjournment (Approx.. 9:35 p.m.)

- Meeting adjourned at 1:55 a.m.