



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2014, 6:30-10:00 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

- I. Call to Order (6:30 p.m.)
 - The Board Chair (Dr. Woody) called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call 5 min
 - Attendance: The following Board members were present: Mr. Carter, Mr. Dubois, Dr. Harrington, Mr. LaValley, Dr. Woody, and Dr. Sojourner (non-voting member of the Board). Mr. Ramsdell was absent.
- III. Approval of Agenda 5 min
 - **Motion: Dr. Harrington moved to accept the agenda and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Where minutes should be placed in the agenda (Consent or regular Agenda Item)
 - How items on the minutes should be removed for discussion
 - **Vote: By a voice count (4 yeas) and (1 nay) the Board approved the agenda.**
- IV. Comments from the Audience (Audience members have 5 minutes to address the Board) 10 min

(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 (Golf Tournament, 5K Run) 10 min
 - The Board recognized the great work that went into planning and conducting the TCA Golf Tournament (Mr. Gravell, Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. McIntyre, Mrs. Weeks, and Mrs. Holien) and 5K run (Mr. LaValley, Mr. Dubito, Mrs. Purvis, Mrs. Harris, and Mrs. Holien).
 - 114 golfers participated in the golf tournament and 178 runners took part in the 5K run.
 - The Golf Tournament raised \$7,000 and the 5K run earned \$2,000)
- VI. Farewell to Dr. Cameron 5 min
 - The Board thanked Dr. Cameron for his service as a cultural crusader.
 - He was recognized for his leadership in the search committee for the new TCA President.
 - Dr. Cameron was proud to serve and hopes TCA continues to instill values into its students that will provide them a strong foundation as a virtuous citizen in our country.
- VII. Board Vote on New Board Member 5 min

Action: Board

Motion: to approve new Board member to fill the current vacant seat on the Board

Rationale: to fill the vacant seat on the TCA Board of Directors

 - **Motion: Dr. Harrington moved to affirm Dr. William Jennings appointment to the TCA Board of Directors to fill the vacancy left by Dr. Cameron's resignation from the TCA Board of Directors for health reasons and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - The Board thanked Sheilagh Carpenter for being one of the two finalists in the search for a new Board member.
 - **Vote: By unanimous roll call vote, the Board approved the motion: (Mr. Carter, YEA; Mr. Dubois, YEA, Dr. Harrington, YEA; Mr. LaValley, YEA; Dr. Woody, YEA)**

- VIII. Break 5 min
- The Board took a break from 7:00-7:12 pm.
- IX. Board Development (Courage to Teach) 15 min
Action: Simpson, Galvin, Brown
- Mr. Galvin led a discussion about “idea centered” approach to learning that TCA embraces
 - The “subject” of study should be the star of the discussion not the teacher or the students
 - We should be exploring the bigger ideas behind subjects; patriotism in history, mathematics in the real world, using TCA Core Values in discussions
 - Discussion Topics
 - How do you know this is happening across all classrooms? (By observation and listening to the discussions)
- X. Report of the President & Cabinet Spotlights 5 min /5 min
Motion: to receive the report
Rationale: to review progress on President’s Goals and highlight cabinet activities (HR, Ops, Academic Services, Finance, and Advancement).
- **Mr. LaValley moved to receive the report and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Refinancing TCA Bonds
 - Sale of Scarborough Property
 - Still a need to fundraise
 - Mr. Stump moving to North Elementary to replace the Mrs. O’Donnell
 - We are actively searching for a new Central Principal with the goal of hiring a replacement by the end of the month
 - The Senate recommends disbanding
 - Providing the Board with a prioritized list of capital construction expenditures by Oct Board meeting
 - Process for determining the list is important
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
- XI. Consent Agenda 5 min
Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:
Motion: to accept the Consent Agenda
- Minutes: Aug 11/Aug 20/Sept 4 (Swanson)
 - Written Reports of the Executive Director and Cabinet
 - Human Resources (Schulz)
 - Matters Relating to Personnel Action
 - Board Policy Review
 - Site Based Management (ABB-TCA)
 - Board Evaluation (BC-TCA, incorporated in the Board Agreement)
 - Board Decision Making (BEC-TCA)
 - Internal Financial Controls (DIC-TCA)
 - Minutes
 - Senate Minutes, August 25, 2014
 - HS SAC Minutes, August 28, 2014
 - Motion: Mr. Carter moved to remove the Aug 11 and Sept 4 minutes, Site Based Management and Board Decision Making from the consent agenda for discussion and accept the remainder of the consent agenda.**
 - Discussion Topics: None
 - Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
- XII. Discussion Agenda Items
- Items removed from Consent Agenda
 - **Motion: Dr. Harrington move to amend / clarify the Aug 11 and Sep 4 minutes as follows:**
 - Aug 11 Minutes:
 - The Aug 11 minutes state that the Board will get a legal opinion as to the legality of signing the Board Agreement. We still need to do that. Dr. Sojourner will track it down.
 - Note, in minutes we no longer record who 2nd’s a motion only that there was a 2nd.
 - Sep 4 Minutes:
 - Note that Mr. Sparks is the TCA Legal Counsel under the Office of Brad Miller.
 - Note that Ms. Parrot is also the Legal Counsel for Building Corp.
 - Discussion Topics: None
 - Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
 - Motion: Mr. Dubois moved to have the Governance Committee review the Site Based Management Policy and return to the Board with recommendations and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Determine what other guidance may be required

- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
- **Motion: Dr. Woody moved to have the Governance Committee review the Board Decision Making Policy and return to the board with recommendations and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics: None
- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**

B. Cabinet Level Reports

1. FAC Quarterly Report and Proposed TCA Board Endowment Policy 5 min/5 min
Action: Woody
Motion: to receive the report and 1st read of the proposed endowment policy
Rationale: to review the endowment fund
 - **Motion: Dr. Harrington moved to receive the FAC report and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Exhausting the wait list and its effect on budget
 - Advertising for open seats
 - TCA is not behind the budget that we forecasted
 - Revision to Endowment Policy
 - Grant of Authority (GOA) allowance for litigation category
 - Audit report should be out in Oct 2014
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote the Board approve the motion.**
2. Grant of Authority to Include Attorney Authorization 5 min/5 min
Action: VanGampleare
Motion: to approve the grant of authority as amended
Rationale: to approve changes to the grant of authority
 - **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to table approval of the GOA until the October Board meeting and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Clarify who on the TCA Board and in the Administration may authorize use of legal counsel
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
3. Disposition of Annual Giving (Stewardship Report) 5 min/ 5 min
Action: Sojourner
Motion: to receive the report (Info)
Rationale: to review the Annual Giving campaign amount and distribution of funds
 - **Motion: Dr. Harrington moved to receive the Stewardship Report and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - The stewardship report will be posted on the web
 - Levels of participation are up but total dollars dropped
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approve the motion.**
 - The Board took a break from 8:28 to 8:33 pm.
4. TCAP Report/Common Core Update 10 min/5 min
Action: Jolly
Motion: to receive the report (Info)
Rationale: to review the results of the TCAP testing
 - **Motion: Dr. Woody moved to receive the report and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - TCA one again performed well on the TCAP tests
 - CMAS scores for science have not been released
 - Newsweek Magazine ranked our high school in the top 500 in the nation; #229
 - Common Core has allowed us to increase our computer resources by buying additional lap tops and desktops at a cost of about \$270,000
 - All legislative attempts to derail common core testing have failed
 - It is anticipated that the common core testing scores will be low across the state based upon the new standards
 - Opting out of testing is not an option for TCA
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
5. HR Annual Report 5 min/5 min
Action: Schulz
Motion: to receive the report (Info)
Rationale: to review the HR
 - **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to receive the report and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics:

- Class size increases in K, 1, and 2 allowed us to make substantial increases to teacher salaries (7% on average)
 - Paid returning staff \$350 bonus based upon 1.0 FTE
 - Slight increase in departing staff but well within the averages of other schools/districts around TCA (Reasons: other employment in education, relocation, family reasons)
 - We have a very good package of health benefits for our staff
 - More awareness of head strikes in gym/outdoors
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
6. Scarborough Property Sale 5 min/ 5 min
Action: VanGamble
Motion: to approve the purchase agreement for the sale of the Scarborough Property
Rationale: to review and vote on the purchase agreement for the sale of the Scarborough Property
- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to ratify the purchase agreement for the sale of TCA’s Scarborough property.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - Mike Cook represented TCA on the sale of the property.
 - **Vote: By a role call vote, the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter, YEA; Mr. Dubois, YEA; Dr. Harrington, YEA; Mr. LaValley, ABSTAIN; Dr. Woody, YEA)**
- C. Board Policy Review
1. Board Agreement Changes 10 min/10 min
Action: Carter
Motion: 1st Read
Rationale: to review changes to the Board Agreement
- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to amend the Board Agreement by replacing item 14 with 15 (see read ahead) and correct any typos and any grammatical errors.**
 - Discussion Topics:
 - If you have item 15 you don’t need item 14.
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
2. Board Job Description Policy Review 5 min/5 min
Action: Woody
Motion: 1st Read
Rationale: to review Board Job Descriptions
- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to have the Board Governance Committee review the Board Job Description and Board Meeting Policy and return to the Board with recommendations and was 2nd.**
 - Discussion Topics: None
 - **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**
3. Board Meeting Policy Review 5 min/5 min
Action: Woody
Motion: 1st Read
Rationale: to provide guidance for Board meetings and the agenda setting process for the 2014-2015
- Motion: see Item C.3.
 - Discussion Topics: None
 - Vote: see Item C.3.
- D. Board Communication 5 min
Board Communication Planned
Action: Carter
Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community
- Bond refinancing/Sale of Scarborough Property/Annual Fund
 - TCAP results
 - Dr. Jennings appointment to the TCA Board
 - Seat openings
 - Assignment (Adopt a School) of TCA Board members to each TCA school
- E. Future Board Agenda Items
1. Student Fee Schedules-Feb 2015
 2. Vote on Board Agreement, Job Description, and Board Meeting Policy Changes-Oct 2014
 3. Review Conflict Resolution Policy-Nov 2014
 4. End of Year Financial Review (Previous FY)-Oct 2014
 5. July/August Financials-Oct 2014
 6. Sub-committee Outlines (Governance, Training, FAC)-Oct 2014
 7. Board Working Session (Sub-committees and Board communication)-Oct 2014
- Discussion Topics:

- Rules for conducting meetings (Possible Governance Committee Topics)
 - Debate issues
 - Raise Points
 - Fairness
 - Actions to be taken

XIII. Adjournment (Approx. 10:00 p.m.)

- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to adjourn and was 2nd.**
- Discussion Topics: None
- **Vote: By unanimous voice vote, the Board approved the motion.**



Chris Carter
TCA Board Secretary