



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017, 5:45-9:09 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 | 1 min (5:45) 5:45 |
| II. Pledge of Allegiance/Mission/Roll Call | 5 min (5:46) 5:46 |
| • Roll call: (Mr. Carter; Here // Mr. Dubois; Here//Dr. Jennings; Here // Mr. LaValley; Here // Mr. Moulton; Here // Mr. Rudder; Here // Mrs. Van Vleet; Here) A quorum was present. | |
| III. Approval of Agenda | 5 min (5:51) 5:47 |
| • Motion: Mr. Moulton moved to approve the agenda with the following amendments and was seconded: | |
| ○ Move Item VII. Celebrate TCA to after Item IV. Board Election Meet the Candidates | |
| ○ Add item XII.C.3. Discussion of possible violation of Board Agreement by a Board Member | |
| • Discussion: None | |
| • <u>Vote: By a roll call vote of 4-3 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Nay // Mr. LaValley; Nay // Mr. Moulton; Nay // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)</u> | |
| IV. Board Election Meet the Candidates | 15 min (5:56) 5:51 |
| Action: (Board Candidates) | |
| Motion: (Info) | |
| Rationale: to meet and ask questions of the Board Election Candidates | |
| • Dr. Baker, Mr. Buckhouse, and Mrs. Goin (Board Election Candidates) were present to answer questions from the audience. | |
| V. Comments from the Audience (Audience members have 5 minutes to address the Board) | 5 min (6:11) 6:25 |
| (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) | |
| • Dr. Lori Salgado spoke in favor of the steps the Health and Wellness Task Force is taking to help curb student suicides as well as urging a long-term vision for the future. | |
| • She also stressed the need for immediate tangible support for students after students get back from Spring Break. | |
| VI. Comments from the Board of Directors | 3 min (6:16) 6:18 |
| • Mr. Dubois requested more time to review the process concerning the appointment to the Board of Directors | |
| ○ He wished to halt or stop the process based on the following: | |
| ▪ Process not fair to parents | |
| ▪ Transparency concerns | |
| ▪ Not providing candidate evaluation results | |
| ▪ TCA has been effective for 20 years under its current Board election process, why is there a need to change? | |
| • Mr. Carter took to heart the comments associated with the Health and Wellness Task Force from Dr. Salgado | |
| • Mr. LaValley supported the appointment process of a Board member; objective and transparent | |
| • Dr. Jennings supported the process for appointing a Board member; that it was reasonable and transparent | |
| ○ Stressed that Board members should support the decisions made by the majority of the Board | |
| • Mr. Moulton supported the process to appoint a Board member | |
| ○ Mr. Moulton was the Chair of the Committee tasked to develop the process to appoint a Board member | |
| ○ The committee followed the direction of the Board | |
| ○ There was a great measure of transparency with respect to the committee's actions | |
| ○ The committee reported back to the Board regularly to get feedback and further direction | |

- The committee was tasked to provide the names of two candidates (from a list of 5) to the Board to interview; the committee provided the names of the two candidates that best fit the criteria developed by the committee and approved by the Board
- Mr. Rudder commented on that it was great to see kids out on the baseball field
 - He also stated that we should follow standards of collegiality as we feel our way through the process of appointing a new Board member; we should use a measure of common sense as we proceed
- Mrs. Van Vleet expressed a quote to summarize the efforts of the Board: “When the tide the rises, all the boats rise.”

VII. Celebrate TCA (High School Scholastic Art Winners) 5 min (6:19) 6:10

Action: (Harris)

Motion: (Info)

Rationale: to highlight accomplishments of TCA students, staff, and parents

- We celebrated four TCA High School students recognized by the Scholastic Art Awards of Colorado. Over 5,300 original works of art were submitted to regionals by Colorado students with approximately 7% being selected for awards. Our winners were:
 - Anna Kemper, Sophomore, Gold Key Winner for her drawing/illustration Angled Vision
 - Kit Cameron, Senior, Silver Key Winner for his painting The Obsession
 - Dillon Rawlings, Junior, Silver Key Winner for his drawing/illustration Up in Smoke
 - Kaitlin Walters, Sophomore, Silver Key Winner for her drawing/illustration Awaiting

VIII. Board Interview of Appointed Board Candidates 60 min (6:24) 6:30

Action: (Jennings/Miller)

Motion: (Vote)

Rationale: to review and select a Board Appointed member to the TCA Board

- Mr. Rich Bennett and Mrs. Peggy Littleton were interview by the Board and answered individual questions as well as 5 general questions asked by the board:
 - What is your history and experience with TCA?
 - What are your feelings towards TCA’s Core Values?
 - What makes TCA distinctive in the community it serves?
 - In what way can your skill set help TCA?
 - What goals do you bring to TCA as a Board member?

Break 7:18

Break 7:44

- The Board discussed the qualifications of each of the candidates generally in these categories before making a motion to appoint either Mr. Bennett or Mrs. Littleton:
 - Both candidates are highly qualified
 - Each has a unique set of skills that would help TCA
 - Long term vs short term skills needed by TCA
 - Various Board members have known one or both of the candidates for as long as 20 years
 - Reiterated doubts as to the necessity of having an appointed Board member

- **Motion: Mr. Moulton moved that the candidates the BMAC provided to the Board are both appropriate and qualified candidates to be appointed to the Board and was seconded.**

- Discussion: None

- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Nay // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

- **Motion: Mr. Mouton moved to appoint Rich Bennett as the Board’s designated appointed Board member consistent with TCA’s Bylaws and Policies.**

- Discussion: It was recommended to replace Mr. Rich Bennett’s name in the original motion with Mrs. Peggy Littleton.

- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to amend the original motion to: to appoint Peggy Littleton as the Board’s designated appointed Board member consistent with TCA’s Bylaws and Polices and was seconded.**

- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Nay // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

- **Revised Motion: Mr. LaValley moved to appoint Peggy Littleton as the Board’s designated appointed Board member consistent with TCA’s Bylaws and Policies and was seconded.**

- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 5-2 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Nay // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Nay // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

IX. Report of the President & Cabinet Spotlights 5 min/10 min (7:24) 7:46

Motion: (Info)

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

- Dr. Sojourner highlighted the following:
 - State of the school addressed these items (We do incredibly well in all areas)
 - Academic Achievement

- Core Values
- Facilities
- Financial Stability
- Parent Thoughts
- Staff Thoughts
- Focus on Character
 - Making the book “A Gift of Failure” a foundational book at TCA
 - All staff will be receiving training on this book
 - All incoming kindergarten parents will receive this book
 - This book could change the trajectory of TCA
 - TCA Health and Wellness Task Force is tied to the book as well as Dr. Poland
 - We asked the staff why does the world need TCA?
 - Character education focus
 - Live good lives
 - Students will change the world
- Health care costs for TCA will increase; due to a year filled with multiple severe unforeseen illnesses

X. **Consent Agenda**

2 min (7:39) 7:55

Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:

Motion: to file the Consent Agenda (vote)

- A. Finance January Financials (VanGampleare)
- B. Revenue Projection/Student Count Estimate (VanGampleare)
- C. Internal Financial Control Report (VanGampleare)
- D. SAC Minutes
 1. CP/CSP; Jan 31, 2017
 2. Central Elementary; Feb 6, 2017
 3. North Elementary; Feb 7, 2017

- **Motion: Dr. Jennings moved to file the consent agenda and was seconded.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

XI. **Minutes: Feb 13, 2017**

3 min (7:41) 7:56

Action: (Swanson)

Motion: (Vote) to approve the minutes for Feb 13, 2017

Rationale: to review and approve the minutes

- **Motion: Dr. Jennings moved to accept the minutes with the following changes and was seconded.**
 - **Item XI.B.2. Amend the following statement from “Dr. Jennings would like to hear more at a later date concerning additional funding to support the college preparatory nature of TCA” to “Dr. Jennings would welcome an additional SSS presentation as outlined in the final slide. Additionally, he is interested in learning about the financial aspects of SPED.”**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

XII. **Discussion Agenda Items**

A. **Items removed from Consent Agenda**

B. **Cabinet Level Reports**

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

15 min/15 min (7:44) 7:57

Action: (Tubb)

Motion: (Vote) to approve preliminary bond project budgets for remaining bond dollars

Rationale: to make preliminary allocations of the remaining \$1.64M of bond funding

- Mr. Tubb highlighted the following items from his report:
 - The multiuse field is in use; practices and games
 - Central campus is steadily moving into its new facilities
 - Looking at a revision to the current capital construction budget for the D20 bond projects
- **Motion: The Capital Construction Committee moved that the Board approve a revised budget of \$14m for the North Elementary Gymnasium/Cafeteria and the North Campus Auditorium/Secondary Commons project.**
- Discussion:
 - There is an additional \$1.64m of unallocated funds
 - Additional funds to help support the auditorium
 - Revision of the budget provides for extra savings in the future based upon rising costs and not having the contractors coming back again
 - We are working towards a desired end state based upon the funding we have

- Administration (in the future) could go into 3rd floor rooms currently occupied by five high school classrooms which would move downstairs
 - Retrofit costs of the high school (library, administration rooms, etc.) are not included in the current budget
 - **Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**
- 2. District Purchase Services Approval** 2 min/3 min (8:14) 8:22
- Action: (Tubb)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: to review TCA's District Service purchases
- Mr. Tubb reviewed the items TCA purchases from ASD20
 - This is a midyear tally of our expenses
 - These expenses are determined through our Charter agreement that we sign in June each year
- 3. Health and Wellness Task Force** 10 min/10 min (8:19) 8:23
- Action: (Sojourner)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: to review Task Force Recommendations
- Mr. Jolly read from a prepared text (Attachment 1) that gives a very detailed analysis of the situation and recommendations from the Task Force.
 - We are living in an unprecedented time
 - It is heartbreaking to know students are committing suicide at such alarming numbers
 - Dr. Poland recommended creating a School Task Force to help determine solutions
 - One of the recommendations of the Task Force is to move the Health and Wellness Course from an elective to a graduation requirement
 - Board members asked if there was a way parents could take the class
 - The class has been a graduation requirement at CP for 8 years and no one has complained about it
 - Students have said it changed their lives
 - Since it has been an elective at the HS, no one has complained about it
 - Board members asked what the costs of this would be
 - Not all Board members convinced of the following:
 - Parent buy in
 - Enough communication about course has been delivered to parents
 - Who will be teaching the course (experienced vs inexperienced teacher)
 - Is the course being based upon the recent occurrences at TCA and ASD20
 - No, the course's curriculum has been around before the last two years
 - One use of Titan Teams would be to discuss suicide prevention;
 - Would not monopolize time; maybe every other week
 - Could there be something done at the elementary grades
 - This discussion laid the foundation for the additional dialogue in regards to making the Health and Wellness course a graduation requirement for the traditional HS and the subsequent vote.

Break 9:05

- 4. Curriculum Review/Text Review (Secondary)** 5 min/ 5 min (8:39) 9:10
- Action: (Jolly/Galvin)
 Motion: (Vote Health and Wellness Course)/ (1st Read English Curriculum)
 Rationale: to review changes to the secondary curriculum including Health and Wellness Course
- Mr. Galvin reviewed the changes to the English Curriculum and highlighted the following items:
 - Discussed the writing review
 - Developing writing guides
 - Discussed the literature review
 - Reviewing reading materials to add to the master list of books (short stories, poems, books, etc.)
 - **Motion: Mrs. Van Vleet moved that the Health and Wellness Course (currently an elective course in the traditional HS) be required as a secondary graduation requirement (in the traditional HS) by the end of the 10th grade beginning with the class of 2021 and was seconded.**
 - Discussion:
 - Dr. Jennings read from a prepared text (Attachment 2) that gives a very detailed analysis of the reasons for concern when considering making the Health and Wellness course a required graduation requirement in the traditional HS

- The Board had thoughts on reasons for and against adding this course as a graduation requirement:
 - For
 - (March vs April Decision) If you are going to add the course this year, need to budget for teacher, books, etc. and change student schedules (has a ripple effect throughout the high school)
 - Not reactionary; we talked about doing this two years ago
 - We are more than an educational school we are building citizens that are well balanced emotionally (part of a good citizen) in mind, body, and spirit
 - We do need a deeper look into ourselves; clarity is important
 - Adding a health and wellness course only affect 2% of the entire course work
 - It is not a knee jerk reaction; CP has had this course as a graduation requirement for 8 years
 - No one has complained about the course either at CP (required) or the HS (elective)
 - Against
 - Is there an immediacy for the course; or should we pause to catch our breath and take a closer look at the problem
 - Is this a course that meets TCA's long term thinking with regards to core values
 - Viewed as a light skills course; at the loss of a course elective that is more college preparatory
 - Who will be teaching the course (experienced vs inexperienced teacher)
 - Teacher training requirements for the course
 - Should we also be thinking about other classes to add like science and math
 - Reduces the freedom of choice
 - Matching more and more of ASD20 graduation requirements
 - Parents should decide
 - Concern of ID imaging and what type of discussions may ensue
 - Better communication is required to inform the parents
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 5-2 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Nay // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Nay // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

C. Board Level Reports

1. Grant of Authority

3 min/2 min (8:49) 9:55

Action: (LaValley)

Motion: (Vote) to approve the new grant of authority policy

Rationale: to review and approve a new grant of authority policy

- **Mr. LaValley on behalf of the Governance Committee moved to approve the new Grant of Authority policy (GOA).**
- Discussion:
 - The policy provides the Chair, President, Committee Chairs and Board members a process to access TCA's legal counsel.
 - Changes to the GOA fundamentally change the recommendations of a previous committee designated to assess the GOA.
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-1 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Nay // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

2. Board Budget

3 min/2 min (8:54) 10:11

Action: (Moulton)

Motion: (Vote)

Rationale: to review the Board's budget for the 2017-2018 school year

- **Mr. Moulton moved to approve the Board Budget for the 2017-2018 school year and was seconded.**
- Discussion: It is important that Board members set aside time to attend conferences that provide valuable information.
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley: Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

3. Discussion of possible violation of Board Agreement by a Board Member

- **Motion: Mr. Dubois moved that Dr. Jennings had violated the Board Agreement (9/14/15) under Items 13, 15, 18, 20, and 21 (based upon an e-mail Dr. Jennings had sent to the Board) but there was no second. Since there was no second, there was no further discussion or vote.**

D. Board Communication

5 min (8:59) **10:13**

Action: Secretary

Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community and to update the Board on e-mail traffic and distribution

- Health and Wellness
- Additional Money for Facilities
- Celebrate TCA
- Appointment of Mrs. Littleton to Board of Directors

E. Closing Comments from the Board (Colorado Charter School Conference Lessons Learned) 5 min (9:04)

10:16

- Mrs. Van Vleet ask that we adhere to camaraderie on the Board and is excited to be on the Board at TCA
- Mr. Rudder thanked Hayden Cerman (CP student) for attending the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have on the worth of the Health and Wellness course
- Mr. Moulton was confident that the Board was functioning properly as a Board
- Dr. Jennings supported the Board's transition from pure elected to one appointed position
- Mr. LaValley expressed that technology will have an impact on education in the future, ESSA and Fed Gov may not be friendly to charter schools, CLCS membership is important
- Mr. Carter has sent all of the e-mails he has received at Talk2TCABoard; he received a complementary e-mail about TCA's administration from CDE

F. Future Board Agenda Items

1. **Announce Board of Director Election Results, Apr, LaValley/Weston, Info**
2. **Budget Projection Report (5 Year), Apr, VanGambleare, Info**
3. **Approve Next Year's Board Meeting Schedule, Apr, LaValley, Vote**
4. **Approve Board Strategic Calendar, Apr, LaValley, Vote**
5. **Student Fee Schedule, Apr, Jolly, 1st Read**
6. ****Annual Staff Climate Survey, Apr, Schulz, Info**
7. **Curriculum Review/Text Review (High School), Apr, Jolly, Vote**
8. ****5 Year Plan, Apr, VanGambleare, Info**
9. **Naming Buildings, Apr**
10. **Advancement Philosophy, Apr**
11. **Quarterly FAC Report, Apr, Moulton, Info**
12. **July Board Retreat, Apr, LaValley**

XIII. Adjournment (Approx. 9:09 p.m.)

(9:09) **10:18**

- **Motion: Mr. Carter moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 7-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mr. Carter; Yea // Mr. Dubois; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Mr. LaValley; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

Attachments:

- 1) Mr. Jolly's Health and Wellness Task Force Prepared Remarks
- 2) Dr. Jenning's Health and Wellness Course Prepared Remarks



Chris Carter
Board Secretary

Note: Items highlight with an (**) are tied to the Strategic Plan and deliverables by the Administration to the Board