



THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(OPEN TO THE PUBLIC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2017, 6:00-8:08 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) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chair (Mr. Moulton) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. | |
| II. | Pledge of Allegiance/Mission/Roll Call | 2 min (6:01) (6:01) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll call: (Dr. Baker; Absent // Mrs. Goin; Here // Dr. Jennings; Here (Called In) // Ms. Littleton; Here // Mr. Moulton; Here // Mr. Rudder; Here // Mrs. Van Vleet; Here) A quorum was present. | |
| III. | Approval of Agenda | 2 min (6:03) (6:03) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion: Mr. Rudder moved to approve the agenda and was seconded.• Discussion: None• <u>Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)</u> | |
| IV. | Comments from the Audience (Audience members have 5 minutes to address the Board)
(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) | 5 min (6:05) (6:03) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no comments from the audience. | |
| V. | Celebrate TCA: Central Elementary Letters to First Responders | 5 min (6:10) (6:04) |
| | Action: (Harris)
Motion: (Info)
Rationale: to highlight TCA community accomplishments (TCA students, staff, parents, and community members) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We celebrated Central Elementary Students who have been writing encouraging notes to the community's First Responders.• Several 6th Grade Titan Leaders shared the importance of recognizing the people who help others.• From only a few grade levels thus far, Central has collected over 900 letters, which will be presented to police, fire, military, and hospital representatives. Holding true to A Titan's Creed, these students are truly giving their best to the world. | |
| VI. | Comments from the Board of Directors | 5 min (6:15) (6:08) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Rudder commented on the CASB keynote speaker and the unbelievable circumstances she had to overcome as a principal in a rough school in Philadelphia. She helped instill hope and love in her kids to turn the school around.• Mrs. Goin suggested the board could help clean up after a board meeting by taking their chairs back.• Mrs. VanVleet thanked Mr. Weston for his thorough and complimentary annual report about TCA to ASD20.• Ms. Littleton introduced her Mom who had been a teacher in Colorado for 15 years. Expressed doubts about the sustainability of PERA. Stated that the County Commissioners had struck down a potentially bad law for children in El Paso County; Needle Exchange Program. Quoted Pres. Reagan: Good things happen when no one cares who gets the credit.• Mr. Moulton appreciated Mr. Weston's positive report to the ASD20 Board about TCA. | |
| VII. | Board Development (CASB Lessons Learned) | 10 min (6:20) (6:13) |
| | Action: (Sojourner/Board Participants)
Motion: (Info)
Rationale: to review current legislative initiatives/activities at the state and provide Board training | |

- Dr. Sojourner encouraged the Board to attend the CASB conference each year. He attended breakout session on finance and the Claire Davis Act.
- Mr. Rudder expressed how much he was impressed by the principal from inner city Philadelphia (CASB keynote speaker) and her intentional efforts to ensure her school expresses love for each and every one of her kids. Her school asks the same tough questions both to the teachers and to the students to get a variety of views. Takes courage to reach out to kids to solve the schools' problems. Mr. Rudder stressed the importance of being an excellent listener.
- Mrs. Goin attended a breakout session about high impact family strategies for student learning. There is data to support the impact the family has in shaping/developing student learning.
- Mrs. VanVleet attended a breakout session about building teamwork on school boards. She commented on the donut theory: the donut ring represents what we have, should concentrate on, and be thankful for, while, the hole reminds us not to worry about the things we don't have. Boards', as a general rule, should strive to continue to grow (respect for one another, knowledge, etc.,)
- Ms. Littleton expressed the importance of letting students know that they are loved.

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

10 min/5 min (6:30) (6:22)

Motion: (Info)

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

- Dr. Sojourner highlighted the following items from his report:
 - Revised letter of commitment sent to parents and the need to emphasize its importance more than once (historically parents signed it once when their children came in as kindergartners)
 - Emphasized the great report Mr. Weston (ASD20 Liaison) wrote about TCA and our excellence in Board unity, Finance, Operations, and Academic Services.

IX. **Consent Agenda**

3 min (6:45) (6:35)

Board Directed items to be removed from Consent Agenda:

Motion: (Vote) to accept the Consent Agenda

- A. Finance (VanGambleare)
 1. October Financials (VanGambleare)
- B. SAC Minutes
 1. East Elementary, November 13, 2017
 2. CSP-CP, November 14, 2017
- C. Chief Executive Officer/Succession Plan
- D. Updated TCA Board Strategic Calendar

- **Motion: Mrs. Littleton moved to accept the consent agenda with the following changes and was seconded:**
 - **Dr. Jennings asked to remove the Chief Executive Officer /Succession Plan to correct a spelling error.**
 - **Mrs. Goin asked to remove the Board Strategic Calendar to move the Board's Self Evaluation from November to a later date.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

X. **Minutes: November 13, 2017**

2 min (6:48) (6:37)

Action: (Swanson)

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

Rationale: to provide a record of the Board meeting for files

- **Motion: Mr. Moulton moved to accept the minutes with the following change:**
 - **Ms. Littleton did not leave at 7:53 pm; that was carried forward from the October minutes by mistake. She was present for the entire November meeting and votes.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

XI. **Discussion Agenda Items**

A. **Items removed from Consent Agenda**

1. **Chief Executive Officer/Succession Plan** (6:38)
 - **Motion: Mr. Moulton moved to change the spelling of "roll" to "role" in the policy.**
 - Discussion: None
 - **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**
2. **Updated Strategic Calendar**
 - **Motion: Mrs. Goin moved to change the time frame of the Board's Self Evaluation from November to April.**
 - Discussion: Moving the self evaluation from November to April will give new Board members more time/experience as a sitting Board member to better answer the questions.

- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

B. Cabinet Level Reports

1. **Operations Capital Construction Report (Monthly)** 5 min/5 min (6:50) (6:43)
 Action: (Tubb)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: to review progress on all TCA capital construction projects
 - Overall, we have been very fortunate with the favorable winter weather we have had thus far; we have lost a few days due to high winds, but are still on schedule to complete the project in August 2018
 - The precast concrete walls of both the gym and performing arts center are in place and the steel structure of the commons and cafeteria are being erected
 - We have spent about \$10,000 of the \$200,000 allocated for contingency issues at this point (very minimal at this stage in the construction process)
2. **Parent Survey Plan** 5 min/5 min (7:00) (6:51)
 Action: (Jolly)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: to review the questions/process of the parent survey
 - Mr. Jolly reviewed the general nature of the parent survey; it has seven universal questions that all parents answer and individual questions that are specific to each of TCA's distinct schools
 - This will be the third year that we have used the same seven universal questions which will help us track any trends.
 - SACs have helped develop the school specific questions.
3. **New Course Approvals** 10 min/5 min (7:10) (7:05)
 Action: (Jolly)
 Motion: (1st Read)
 Rationale: to review and approve new courses added to the TCA curriculum
 - Mr. Galvin discussed the reasons for adding the following courses to TCA's catalog of courses (Note: Adding a course to the catalog does not mean it will be offered next year or any particular year)
 - Critical Thinking Class at College Pathways
 - Environmental Science
 - Advanced Quantitative Reasoning
 - AP Psychology
 - Mr. Galvin also proposed that the Speech and Debate course be offered as a yearlong or semester course

C. Board Level Reports

1. **Election Policy** 2 min/2min (7:25) (7:27)
 Action: (Moulton)
 Motion: (Vote) to approve the changes to the TCA Election Policy
 Rationale: to review and amend the Election Policy
 - **Motion: Ms. Littleton moved to approve the changes to the TCA Election Policy.**
 - Discussion: None
 - **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**
2. **Annual Board Self Evaluation/Results of Annual Eval** 5 min/5 min (7:29) (7:29)
 Action: (Moulton/Swanson)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: to review the results of the Board Self Evaluation
 - Overall the Board's Self Evaluation was very positive and encouraging; an improvement from last year.
 - Mr. Moulton will review the results and propose steps to further the development of the Board
3. **Adopt a School Report** 14 min (7:39) (7:43)
 Action: (Board)
 Motion: (Info)
 Rationale: provide an opportunity for the Board to comment on their adopted schools interaction
 - Generally speaking Board members emphasized the following about the schools they visited:
 - Impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of school leadership and teachers
 - Important to determine ways and means to retain our best teachers
 - Fascinated by the dedication and involvement of SAC's and PTO's
 - Importance of continuing to appreciate our teachers
 - Attended various events at each school and marveled at the student engagement and performances

D. Board Communication

5 min (7:53) (7:55)

Action: (Secretary)

Rationale: to develop and approve of communication update to community

- **Celebrate TCA**
- **Construction Update**
- **Parent Survey**

E. Future Board Agenda Items

5 min (7:58) (7:57)

1. School Calendar Review/Approval, Jan (Vote), Jolly
2. TCA Building Corp (Appoint Director), Jan (Vote), Moulton/Bender
3. New Course Approvals, Jan (Vote), Jolly
4. Announce Board of Director Vacancies, Jan (Info), Moulton
5. Board Evaluation Action Plan, Jan (Discussion), Moulton
6. Bylaw Review, Jan (1st Read), Governance Committee
7. Recruitment, Appointment, Evaluation of TCA President, Jan, Governance Committee
8. Future Board Meeting Topics, Moulton
 - The Board discussed adding a topic about the amount of homework assigned at TCA as well as a discussion about understanding the changing face of a college education/requirements

F. Comments from the Board of Directors

5 min (8:03) (8:03)

- **None.**

XII. Adjournment (Approx. 8:08 p.m.)

(8:08) (8:04)

- **Motion: Mr. Moulton moved to adjourn the meeting.**
- Discussion: None
- **Vote: By a roll call vote of 6-0 the Board approved the motion. (Mrs. Goin; Yea // Dr. Jennings; Yea // Ms. Littleton; Yea // Mr. Moulton; Yea // Mr. Rudder; Yea // Mrs. Van Vleet; Yea)**

Dr. Paul Baker
TCA Board Secretary