

TACONY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

6201 Keystone Street
Philadelphia, PA 19135

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION

ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO STAY AT HOME ORDER BY THE GOVERNOR

DATE & TIME

MAY 19, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Agenda

SECTION I: CALL TO ORDER

Opening Colloquy

This meeting of the Tacony Academy Charter School Board of Trustees is hereby called to Order. The time is 6:24 p.m. My name is Barbara L. Saunders. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

As we know, Governor Wolf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has declared a state of emergency in response to the global Coronavirus pandemic. In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the school community, this meeting is being held via teleconference. This is a public meeting that was properly advertised in the Philadelphia Daily News, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act. The public notice included instructions for how the public could participate in tonight's meeting.

All members of the public are welcome to sit and listen to the Board of Trustees conduct its business tonight. Members of the public who have registered with the Administrative Office to participate in public comment by 5:00 p.m. on the day before this scheduled meeting may participate in public comment. At this time, I would ask that the executive administration submit the list of commenters to our legal counsel. Comments will be limited to three minutes unless the Board decides to grant additional time.

At this time, I will ask that Roll Call be taken.

A. Roll Call

Board Members Present:	By Invitation: Non-Board Members:
Barbara L. Saunders Anita Vega-Kaiser Sandra Farmer Dr. Ronald Whitaker Lionel S. Archer, Jr.	Thomas Scheid Ryan Strasko Jessica Harron Ashley Redfearn Scott Kramer Peter Costa Dean Krebs, Esq. Jessica Bassett
Board Members Absent: Jen Ragen	

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on April 21, 2021, the Board of Trustees met in Executive Session for the following purposes under 65 P.S. § 708:

(x) Discuss Confidential Matters. To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law, including matters related to the initiation and conduct of investigations of possible or certain violations of the law and quasi-judicial deliberations.

I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on May 19, 2021, the Board of Trustees met in Executive Session for the following purposes under 65 P.S. § 708:

(x) Certain Employee Issues. To discuss any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the agency, or former public officer or employee, provided, however, that the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected may request, in writing, that the matter or matters be discussed at an open meeting. The agency's decision to discuss such matters in Executive Session shall not serve to adversely affect the due process rights granted by law, including those granted by Title 2 (relating to administrative law and procedure).

(x) Discuss Confidential Matters. To review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of

information or confidentiality protected by law, including matters related to the initiation and conduct of investigations of possible or certain violations of the law and quasi-judicial deliberations.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION:

R210519.01 Approval of the May 19, 2021 Agenda

ANITA VEGA-
KAISER

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the May 19, 2021 Agenda.

SECOND:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

SANDRA FARMER

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

D. Approval of Minutes

MOTION:

R210519.02 Minutes of the April 21, 2021 Meeting

SANDRA
FARMER

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School.

SECOND:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

LIONEL ARCHER

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

SECTION II: REPORTS

A. Community Comment

None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

B. Tacony Academy Charter School CEO

- a. *Mr. Thomas Scheid, Chief Executive Officer of Tacony Academy Charter School*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the May 2021 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Discussed teacher/staff appreciation week with the Board;*

- iii. *Shared with the Board data related to enrollment, SPR, and attendance;*
- iv. *Provided the Board an update on the charter renewal process, including an upcoming meeting with CSO and the submission of a Letter of Intent to renew the school's charter;*
- v. *Informed the Board of current vacancies;*
- vi. *Informed the Board that PSSA testing had begun;*
- vii. *Expressed to the Board that, thanks to Mr. Ryan Strasko, the school would be eligible for an Amazon Future Engineering grant;*
- viii. *Provided the Board Tesla Foundation partnership updates;*
- ix. *Informed the Board of recent professional development updates;*
- x. *Informed the Board of the numerous AP exams available to students;*
- xi. *Informed the Board of a potential partnership with the Northeast Philadelphia Development Corporation;*
- xii. *Shared with the Board the school store where the school community can purchase various items in support of the school;*
- xiii. *Provided the Board updates concerning facilities, including a request to hold a Board meeting on May 27th to approve moving forward with playground and windows project;*
- xiv. *Informed the Board of upcoming graduation, which will be livestreamed.*

C. American Paradigm Schools

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn, Interim Chief Executive Officer of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the May 2021 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Expressed her devotion to being held accountable and looks forward to working in partnership with TACS; expressed that if there are ever any concerns, to please bring them to her attention;*
 - iii. *Informed the Board of on-going CEO collaborations;*
 - iv. *Informed the Board of a recent Science Leadership Application submission;*
 - v. *Informed the Board of efforts make for political engagements, including potentially using TACS as a vaccine clinic;*
 - vi. *Expressed collaborations with the renewal process;*
- b. *Ms. Barbara Saunders:*
 - i. *Indicated that all schools in APS's network have expressed support for Ms. Redfearn and requested that APS's title be CEO, not just interim CEO.*

D. General Counsel

- a. *Dean Krebs, Esq., Sand & Sidel, P.C.*
 - i. *Informed the Board that there will be a collaborative effort to assist the Board in preparations for the upcoming interview with CSO;*
 - ii. *Expressed appreciation to the Board, APS, and the school administration for completing the financial interest forms.*

DR. RONALD WHITAKER LEFT THE MEETING AT 6:51PM

E. Business Controller

- a. *Mr. Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the April 2021 financial reports, previously disseminated to the Board*
 - ii. *Informed the Board that TACS was paid for 190 SPED students, which was above the budget;*
 - iii. *Informed the Board that the school had \$5.5M in cash, reflecting 125 days of operation;*
 - iv. *In reviewing the P&L report with the Board, noted that there was approximately \$14.8M in revenue, reflecting approximately \$800k ahead of budget; noted there were no major issues; and anticipated a surplus due to cost savings associated with COVID; and*
 - v. *In answering questions from the Board, discussed ways money can be set aside.*
- b. *Mr. Scheid: Answered a Board question, noting that some Approved Private Schools are still remote while others are in person.*

SECTION III: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

LIONEL ARCHER

SECOND:

ANITA VEGA-
KAISER

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

R210519.03 Report of the Business Controller

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School accepts the Financial Report of the business controller and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>P. Costa</i>	<i>As discussed above in his report</i>

MOTION:
 SANDRA FARMER
 SECOND:
 ANITA VEGA- KAISER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R210519.04 Approval of 2021-22 School Year Budget

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School accepts the 2021-22 School Year Budget, as presented.

ROLL CALL

Barbara L. Saunders - *aye*
 Jen Ragen - *absent*
 Anita Vega-Kaiser - *aye*
 Sandra Farmer - *aye*
 Dr. Ronald Whitaker - *absent*
 Lionel S. Archer, Jr. - *aye*

MOTION:
 SANDRA FARMER
 SECOND:
 LIONEL ARCHER
 VOTE:
 PASS
 FAIL

R210519.05 Uniform Human Resources Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School ratifies the Human Resources changes, modifications, and additions, as presented.

HIRES/RATE CHANGE		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jenna Wong (rate change)	School Nurse ES	5/1/21
Vannesa Green (new hire)	Administrative Assistant High School 12 months	6/1/21
Tiffany Cruz Mendez (new hire)	COVID Safety and Health Coordinator ES/HS	8/15/21
Solivette M Calderon (new hire)	Instructional Assistant	5/24/21
Gregg Tyndall Jr (new hire)	Summer Maintenance Help	5/24/21

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Nicole Pica (resignation)	HS Biology Teacher	6/30/21
Ckrisen Milfort (resignation)	4 th Grade Teacher	6/30/21

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General discussion
T. Scheid	Informed the Board of reasons for resignations

MOTION:

ANITA VEGA-
KAISER

SECOND:

SANDRA
FARMER

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

R210519.06 Uniform Professional Services Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Professional Services Proposal/s and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CEO, business controller, and general counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of those contract/s based upon these Professional Services Proposal/s;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effect this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Davidson School (Elwyn)	\$313/day/student	Extended School Year Two (2) students
Delta School	\$170/date or \$4,250/summer program	Extended School Year One (1) student

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOOT

R210519.07 Uniform Purchases Resolution

RESOLVED, that the Purchase Proposal/s and associated reports listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CEO, business controller, and general counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of those contract/s based upon these Purchase Proposal/s;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President is authorized to execute any document or delegate any task necessary to effect this resolution.

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
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None	None
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MOTION:

R210519.08. Approval of 2021-22 Board Meeting Calendar

SANDRA FARMER

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves of the 2021-22 Board Meeting Calendar of Tacony Academy Charter School, as presented.

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

[] FAIL

MOTION:

R210519.09. Approval of Flexible Instruction Day Program

SANDRA FARMER

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Flexible Instructional Day Program, as presented.

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>T. Scheid</i>	<i>Discussed with the Board that the purpose of this resolution is to provide flexible instruction days and that, upon approval, TACS would submit an application to PDE for approval</i>

[] FAIL

MOTION:

R210519.10. Approval of COVID-19 Bonus

SANDRA FARMER

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School applauds the perseverance of Tacony Academy Charter School employees during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves of a bonus in the amount of net \$500.00 to all employees of Tacony Academy Charter School.

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>Discussed that \$500 would be distributed at end of the school year with a possibility that the Board would approve \$1000 at a later point to show appreciation to employees who returned to TACS for 2021-22 SY.</i> <i>Noted that all employees are eligible</i>
<i>T. Scheid</i>	<i>Noted that all employees carried their weight during COVID</i>

MOTION:

SANDRA
FARMER

SECOND:

ANITA VEGA-
KAISER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R210519.11. Election of Board Treasurer

WHEREAS, Paragraph 7.1. of the Amended and Restated By-laws of Tacony Academy Charter School (“TACS”) requires TACS to have certain Officers, including a Treasurer.

WHEREAS, Paragraph 7.2. of the Amended and Restate By-laws of TACS directs that, when a vacancy exists concerning an Officer, an Officer may be elected at any special or regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to fill that vacancy for the remainder of the term.

WHEREAS, TACS currently has a vacancy for Treasurer, the remainder of the current term of which is set to expire on June 30, 2021.

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of TACS hereby elects Mr. Lionel Archer as Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of TACS, effective May 19, 2021, for the remainder of the current term, in accordance with Paragraph 7.2 of the TACS By-laws.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>B. Saunders</i>	<i>Nominated Lionel Archer</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>D. Krebs</i>	<i>Advised Board on procedure to nominate Officers</i>

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: JUNE 16, 2021

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:20 P.M.

MOTION:

AVK

SECOND:

SF

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

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