

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

JUNE 16, 2021

**6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**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 6:34 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**

<b>Board Members Present:</b>	<b>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</b>
Barbara L. Saunders Jen Ragen Sandra Farmer Dr. Ronald Whitaker Lionel S. Archer, Jr.	Thomas Scheid Stephanie Felder  Scott Kramer  Peter Costa  Dean Krebs, Esq. David Annecharico, Esq.
<b>Board Members Absent:</b> Anita Vega-Kaiser	

**B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS**

*I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting that on June 16, 2021, the Board of Trustees met in Executive Session for the following purposes under 65 Pa.C.S. § 708:*

*(x) Consultation with Professional Advisor or Attorney. To consult with its attorney or other professional advisor regarding information or strategy in connection with litigation or with issues on which identifiable complaints are expected to be filed. Specifically, in the matter of Jean Wallace v. Tacony Academy Charter School et al., PCCP No. 200500268.*

*(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:  
 SANDRA FARMER  
 SECOND:  
 LIONEL ARCHER  
 VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**R210616.01 Approval of the June 16, 2021 Agenda**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the June 16, 2021 Agenda.

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

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

## D. Approval of Minutes

MOTION:

### R210616.02 Minutes of the May 27, 2021 Meeting

LIONEL ARCHER

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School.

SECOND:

RONALD  
WHITAKER

VOTE:

[ X ] PASS

[ ] FAIL

#### *Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

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

## 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 June 2021 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board.*
  - ii. *Discussed with the Board the ongoing DEI initiative, including the implementation of certain social justice standards;*
  - iii. *Discussed with the board the enrollment and attendance data;*
  - iv. *Discussed with the Board the summer programs offered by TACS;*
  - v. *Informed the Board that high school courses would be provided during the Summer;*
  - vi. *Informed the Board that he would share the DEI framework with the Board and that the school's DEI coordinator was recently admitted into Cabrini University's DEI program.*

### C. American Paradigm Schools

- a. *Mr. Scott Kramer—Chief Talent Officer of American Paradigm Schools*
  - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the June 2021 APS report, previously discussed with the Board.*

- ii. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the DEI statement of APS;
- iii. Shared with the Board the efforts made towards CEO collaborations and PR efforts;
- iv. Informed the Board that all APS schools were involved in the Pennsylvania Science Leadership Network. Mr. Scheid further commented that PDE has been slow with science updates but everything is leading up to the Next Generation Science Standards and that PDE is asking schools to participating in its creation; Mr. Todd Smith is the point of contact for TACS during this process;
- v. Informed the Board that there would be a June 22<sup>nd</sup> vaccine town hall information series;
- vi. Shared with the Board staffing updates, including multiple hires for the 2021-22 SY;
- vii. Indicated the efforts made to create partnerships with Lincoln University to establish a relationship similar to Cabrini University;
- viii. Shared with the Board tuition reimbursement data of school staff;
- ix. Shared data with the Board regarding employees taking FMLA;
- x. Informed the Board that the school is using the data platform EdInsight to ensure quick access to a wide range of information.

#### **D. General Counsel**

- a. None

#### **E. Business Controller**

- a. Mr. Peter Costa—Santilli & Thomson, LLC
  - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the SDP rate changes;
  - ii. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the May 2021 financial reports, previously disseminated to the Board.
  - iii. Informed the Board that the financial reports reflected good enrollment.
  - iv. In reviewing the P&L, informed the Board that, as of May 2021, revenue was ~\$16M; the school had spent ~\$15M; the school was ahead on bills; there was a \$263,281 positive variance; and noted that nothing stood out regarding line items;
  - v. Informed the Board that their independent auditor, St. Clair, had been bought out by a different auditing firm though the personnel who would be reviewing TACS remained the same and their rates remained comparable to prior years.
  - vi. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the Fund Balance resolution on the Agenda, indicating this was an annual

*resolution and that, while charter schools are not required under the relevant statute to have a certain fund balance, certain amounts are set aside as a precaution.*

**SECTION III: NEW BUSINESS**

**A. RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION:  
SANDRA FARMER  
SECOND:  
JEN RAGEN  
VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**R210616.03 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</i>

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

**R210616.04 Approval of Fund Balance**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School designates estimated ending fund balance for the year ended June 30, 2021 as follows:

Designated for Working Capital/ School Performance	\$3,200,000
Designated for Future PSERS Contribution	\$300,000
Available for Appropriation	\$900,000
Designated for Non Liquid Assets	\$800,000
Total Fund Balance	<b><u>\$5,200,000</u></b>

*Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:*

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

MOTION:  
SANDRA FARMER  
SECOND:  
JEN RAGEN

**R210616.05 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.

VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

<b>HIRES/RATE CHANGE</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
Regina Lowry (new hire)	Instructional Assistant	8/22/21
Kevin Ozimkiewicz (new hire)	Summer Maintenance	6/11/21
Regina E. Lowry (new hire)	Classroom Aide (ES)	8/23/21
Kevin Gold (new hire)	Family and Student Liaison (HS)	7/5/21

<b>TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

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

MOTION:  
 RONALD WHITAKER  
 SECOND:  
 SANDRA FARMER  
 VOTE:  
 PASS  
 FAIL

**R210616.06 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.

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Comment: Terms and Conditions</b>
R&A Cleaning	\$29,500/month  Cost includes COVID related services: (1) Disinfect High Touch Areas: \$2,200 (2) Daytime Cleaners: \$6,000	Cleaning Services  5 days/week
Valley Forge Educational	\$68,500/student	Approved Private School

Services/Vanguard School		One (1) student
Maschio's Food Service	See Proposed Contract	FSMC Food Service 1-Year Renewal
Y.A.L.E.	\$75,306.00 / SY / Student	Approved Private School One (1) Student
Elwyn	\$313/per diem/student	Extended School Year Two (2) Students
Green Tree School	\$262.34/per diem/student	Extended School Year One (1) Student
Delta School	\$4,250/student	Extended School Year One (1) Student
Valley Day School	\$2,100/student	Extended School Year Two (2) Students
Fairwold Academy	\$5,083/student	Extended School Year Two (2) Student

***Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:***

<b><i>Who</i></b>	<b><i>What</i></b>
<i>S. Kramer</i>	<i>Requested DEI initiative language in R&amp;A contract, which Board agreed. Also requested for Maschio, however, D. Krebs advised, and P. Costa agreed, that this is a rigid contract that may not be possible to be amended without causing delays.</i>
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>

MOOT

**R210616.07 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
None	None	None

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

Who	What
None	None

MOTION:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

**R210616.08 Safety and Security Report**

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby ratifies the June 16, 2021 Executive Session to Review the Safety and Security report, as presented

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

Who	What
Board	General discussion

MOTION:

JEN RAGEN

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

**R210616.09 Confidential Settlement Agreement**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby accepts the conditions of settlement for the matter of Jean Wallace v. Tacony Academy Charter School, Todd Smith, Thomas Scheid, American Paradigm Schools and Gerald L. Santilli, PCCP No. 200500268 as presented;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Board President and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the terms and conditions of such settlement in accordance with the presented conditions of settlement; and

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

**Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:**

Who	What
Board	General discussion

**B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**



+ Ms. BARBARA SAUNDERS EXPRESSED HER APPRECIATION TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY FOR THE GRADUATION, AS WELL AS ADOPTING TO ZOOM OVER THE PAST YEAR. EXPRESSED SHE LOOKED FORWARD TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 18, 2021

**ADJOURNMENT AT 7:17 P.M.**

MOTION:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

PASS  
 FAIL

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