

TACONY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
6201 KEYSTONE STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19135

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

LOCATION:
ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

DATE & TIME:
DECEMBER 21, 2022
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 6:09 p.m. My name is Barbara L. Saunders. I am the President of this Board of Trustees, and I will facilitate this meeting.

In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the school community from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting is being held via teleconference. This is a public meeting that was properly noticed in the Philadelphia Daily News and 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 General 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 Jennifer Ragen Anita Vega-Kaiser Sandra Farmer Dr. Ronald Whitaker Lionel S. Archer, Jr.	Naimah Wimberly Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer Michael Thomson Peter Costa Dean Krebs, Esq.
Board Members Absent: Dr. Ronald Whitaker	

B. DISCLOSURE: EXECUTIVE SESSION BY BARBARA L. SAUNDERS

I would like to state, for purposes of the Minutes of this meeting, that the Board of Trustees did not meet in Executive Session prior to this meeting

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: JENNIFER RAGEN SECOND: SANDRA FARMER VOTE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASS <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL	<p>R221221.01 Approval of the December 21, 2022 Agenda</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the December 21, 2022 Agenda.</p> <p><i>Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>Who</i></th> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>What</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Board</i></td> <td><i>General discussion</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>				
<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>				

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: JENNIFER RAGEN SECOND: SANDRA FARMER VOTE: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASS <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL	<p>R221221.02 Minutes of the November 16, 2022 Meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School.</p> <p><i>Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>Who</i></th> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>What</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Board</i></td> <td><i>General discussion</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Board</i>	<i>General discussion</i>
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SECTION II: REPORTS

A. COMMUNITY COMMENT

Community Comment Colloquy (General Counsel)

Good evening. My name is Dean Krebs, and I am with Sand & Saidel, P.C., General Counsel to the Tacony Academy Charter School Board of Trustees. Will you please state your name for our records?

You will have three minutes to address the Board of Trustees. Any documents or communications with which you might supplement your comment should be submitted to me. I will keep the time and notify the Board when three minutes have elapsed.

This Board may choose not to comment, question, or respond in any way to your public comment. I will begin the time now.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
<i>Ms. Bonnie Day</i>	<i>Parent of a TACS student expressed concern of transparency at the school; shared recent events that allegedly occurred as examples; and requested greater communication between TACS and school community.</i>
<i>Mr. Christopher Keogh</i>	<i>Parent of a TACS student expressed concern of transparency at the school; and requested greater communication between TACS and school community.</i>
<i>Ms. Tracy Blake</i>	<i>Parent of TACS student reiterated and agreed with comments made by Ms. Day.</i>
<i>Ms. Elsa Martinez</i>	<i>Parent of a TACS student expressed concern of transparency at the school; requested greater communication between TACS and school community; and greater involvement of school administrators.</i>
<i>Ms. Stephanie Simmons</i>	<i>Parent of TACS student reiterated and agreed with comments made by other parents.</i>
<i>Mr. Jim Walker</i>	<i>Parent of TACS student reiterated and agreed with comments made by other parents.</i>
<i>Ms. Donna Simon</i>	<i>Parent of TACS student reiterated and agreed with comments made by other parents. Noted that greater communication could mitigate erroneous gossip.</i>

B. TACONY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL CEO

- a. *Ms. Naimah Wimberly—CEO of Tacony Academy Charter School*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the December 2022 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Shared and discussed with the Board the attendance data;*
 - iii. *Provided the Board an athletic update, including an upcoming pep rally for 2022 Middle School JV Girls Basketball;*
 - iv. *Informed the Board of recent Caring School Community food drive event with Philabundance;*

- v. *Informed the Board that Athletic participation was up 20% from last year; and*
- vi. *Updated the Board on recent Caring School Community events.*
- b. *Mr. Todd Smith—K-8 Assistant Principal*
 - i. *Shared with the Board recent STEM Hip-Hop Science Show at the Met;*
 - ii. *Shared with the Board the 3 phases with Insectarium;*
 - iii. *Informed the Board that Joe Woes, award winning cartoonist, visited the school; and*
 - iv. *Discussed with the Board the upcoming Trauma Informed training.*
- c. *Mr. Ryan Strasko—K-8 Principal*
 - i. *Shared with the Board recent Gloria Dei holiday performance;*
 - ii. *Informed the Board of the first concert since COVID, with concert and orchestra;*
 - iii. *Shared with the Board MTSS meetings and learning walks that are occurring;*
 - iv. *Shared with the Board recent field trips and school events; and*
 - v. *Shared with the Board PD events.*
- d. *Ms. Briana Kates—K-8 Assistant Principal*
 - i. *Shared with the Board the recent Investiture Ceremony; and*
 - ii. *Shared with the Board the Fall Harvest dance.*

C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn—CEO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Shared with the Board DEI mission statement with the Board;*
 - ii. *Shared recent attendance at League of 1789; and*
 - iii. *Updated the Board on facility projects.*
- b. *Mr. Scott Kramer—CTO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Updated the Board on certification process and recruiting events*
- c. *Ms. Kristine Magargee—CAO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Updated the Board on data team efforts; and*
 - ii. *Updated the Board on Caring School Community.*

D. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

- a. *Mr. Peter Costa—Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the November 2022 financial reports;*
 - ii. *Informed the Board that the audit has been completed and will be posted soon;*
 - iii. *Informed the Board that the school has retained its triple BBB+ rating;*
 - iv. *Informed the Board that the school is in sound financial shape;*
 - v. *Highlighted that the budgeted showed all positive variances;*
 - vi. *Shared with the Board ESSER II & III expenditures*
- b. *Ms. Naimah Wimberly*
 - i. *In response to Board questions, shared with the Board the services being provided by Insectarium.*

E. GENERAL COUNSEL

- a. *None*

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

R221221.03 Report of the Business Controller

JENNIFER RAGEN

RESOLVED, 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.

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

PASS

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

FAIL

MOTION:

R221221.04 Human Resources Resolution

JENNIFER RAGEN

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

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:

HIRES / RETURN TO SERVICE / POSITION CHANGE		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE
None	None	None

PASS

FAIL

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lindsey Esposito (resignation)	7 th /8 th Grade Science Teacher	1/20/23
Karen Hainsworth (resignation)	7 th Grade ELA Teacher	1/20/23
Jenna Sullivan (LOA)	2 nd Grade Teacher	11/28/22 – 2/27/23

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOTION:

R221221.05 Professional Services Contract/s Resolution

JENNIFER RAGEN

RESOLVED, the Professional Services Contract/s and associated report/s listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate contract/s for the professional services described below;

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

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

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
Freepoint	\$0.091541/kWh	Electricity provider for 1330 Rhawn St. Lowest Rate Term: 48 months
Marathon	\$0.0872/kWh	Electricity provider for 6201 Keystone St. Lowest Rate Term: 48 months

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General discussion

MOOT

R221221.06 Purchase Contract/s Resolution

RESOLVED, the Purchase Contract/s and associated report/s listed below are hereby accepted and ratified;

FURTHER RESOLVED, the CEO, Business Controller, and General Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to negotiate terms and conditions for the Purchase Contract/s described below;

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

Contractor	Amount	Comment: Terms and Conditions
None	None	None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
None	None

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: JANUARY 18, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:47 P.M.

MOTION:

JENNIFER RAGEN

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL