

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:
JANUARY 18, 2023
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 6:04 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

<p>Board Members Present:</p> <p>Barbara L. Saunders Jennifer Ragen Anita Vega-Kaiser Sandra Farmer Dr. Ronald Whitaker Lionel S. Archer, Jr.</p> <p>Board Members Absent:</p>	<p>By Invitation: Non-Board Members:</p> <p>Naimah Wimberly Dr. Kwanza-Waters</p> <p>Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer</p> <p>Peter Costa</p> <p>Dean Krebs, Esq.</p>
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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

<p>MOTION:</p> <p>JENNIFER RAGEN</p> <p>SECOND:</p> <p>SANDRA FARMER</p> <p>VOTE:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> FAIL</p>	<p>R230118.01 Approval of the January 18, 2023 Agenda</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the January 18, 2023 Agenda.</p> <p><i>Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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

<p>MOTION:</p> <p>LIONEL ARCHER</p> <p>SECOND:</p> <p>JENNIFER RAGEN</p> <p>VOTE:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> FAIL</p>	<p>R230118.02 Minutes of the December 21, 2022 Meeting</p> <p>RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the December 21, 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%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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

None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
None	None

B. TACONY ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL CEO

- a. Ms. Naimah Wimberly, CEO of Tacony Academy Charter School
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the January 2023 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;
 - ii. Expressed that TACS desires open dialogue and shared steps taken by the school to increase positive relationships;
 - iii. Informed the Board of professional development regarding social and emotional learning, trauma informed instruction, and de-escalation;
 - iv. Informed the Board of facility updated;
 - v. Shared with the Board attendance data;
 - vi. Shared with the Board recent Caring School Community events
- b. Dr. Kwanza Waters, Principal of Tacony Academy Charter School;
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the January 2023 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;
 - ii. Informed the Board that there was full compliance with uniforms;
 - iii. Discussed with the Board increase classroom engagement after banning cell phones;
 - iv. Shared with the Board attendance/truancy elimination initiatives;
 - v. Discussed with the Board recent DEIB training;
 - vi. Discussed with the Board data team efforts, noting Saturday School, Kaplan SAT training, and After-School tutoring keystones;
 - vii. Shared career conversation with WHYYY;
 - viii. Discussed lecture on Civil Rights movement at National Constitution Center; and
 - ix. Shared with the Board the dangers of vaping.

C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

- a. Ms. Ashley Redfearn, CEO of American Paradigm Schools
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the January 2023 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board; and
 - ii. Informed the Board that TACS was recently featured by the Tesla Foundation.
- b. Mr. Scott Kramer, Chief Talent Officer of American Paradigm Schools
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the January 2023 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board;
 - ii. Informed the Board that APS has implemented a “Little Free Library”;
 - iii. Discussed with the Board EAP program; and

- iv. Discussed with the Board community outreach clubs.
- c. Ms. Kristine Magargee, Chief Academic Officer of American Paradigm Schools
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the January 2023 APS report, previously disseminated to the Board; and
 - ii. Reviewed and discussed updates regarding ELA Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

D. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

- a. Mr. Peter Costa, Santilli & Thomson, LLC
 - i. Reviewed and discussed with the Board the December 2022 financials;
 - ii. Expressed that the financials looked good;
 - iii. Informed the Board that TACS may want to consider refinancing its bonds as it could save money.

E. GENERAL COUNSEL

- a. Dean Krebs, Esq.
 - i. Informed the Board of the importance of attendance goals/tools that were discussed that it directly impacts how SDP evaluates the schools;
 - ii. Informed the Board that SOFI would be distributed soon.

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R230118.03 Report of the Business Controller

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.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOTION:

JENNIFER RAGEN

SECOND:

SANDRA FARMER

VOTE:

R230118.04 Human Resources Resolution

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

HIRES / RETURN TO SERVICE/ POSITION CHANGE/RATE CHANGE		
NAME	TITLE	START DATE

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

Vanessa Green (rate change)	Admin. Assistant – HS	1/2/23
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TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Nimar Nurse-Cumberbatch (terminated)	NTA – HS	1/12/23

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

Who	What
Board	General discussion

MOTION:

ANITA
VEGA-
KAISER

SECOND:

RONALD
WHITAKER

VOTE:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

R230118.05 Professional Services Contract/s Resolution

RESOLVED, the Professional Services 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 contract/s for the professional services 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
Aspire Educational Services, Inc.	Psycho-Educational Evaluations (Initial) - \$1,250.00 Psycho-Educational Re-evaluations (Re-evaluation) - \$1,250.00 Independent educational evaluation (IEE) - \$4,000 Expedited Evaluation - \$250.00 Risk Assessment - \$600.00 Classroom Observation / Case Consultation / IEP Meetings / Hourly Rate (No Call/No Show) - \$175.00/hr Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) & Positive Behavior Support Plans – Board Certified Behavioral Analysts /	Staffing Services

	Licensed Behavior Specialists - \$1,050.00	
	Case Consultation / IEP Meetings - \$150.00/hr	
	Speech Pathologist - \$85.00/hr	
	Occupational Therapist - \$80.00/hr	
	Physical Therapist - \$80.00/hr	
	School Nurse - \$65.00/hr	
	School Counselor / Mental Health Counselor - \$60.00/hr	
	Special Education Teacher - \$47.00/hr	
	General Education Teacher - \$45.00/hr	
	Long Term Substitute - \$37.00/hr	
	PCA/1-1 - \$26.00/hr	
	PCA/RBT with 40-hour training - \$29.00/hr	
	Paraprofessional - \$30.00/hr	

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

MOOT

R230118.06 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:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>

<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
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B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT BOARD MEETING: FEBRUARY 15, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:04 P.M.

MOTION:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

ANITA VEGA-KAISER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

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