

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:
FEBRUARY 15, 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 6:06 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 Lionel S. Archer, Jr.	Naimah Wimberly Ryan Strasko Ashley Redfearn Kristine Magargee Scott Kramer
Board Members Absent: Dr. Ronald Whitaker	Michael Thomson Peter Costa Eric Strauss Dean Krebs, Esq.

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:
 PASS
 FAIL

R230215.01 Approval of the February 15, 2023 Agenda

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the February 15, 2023 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:
LIONEL ARCHER
SECOND:
ANITA VEGA-KAISER
VOTE:

R230215.02 Minutes of the January 18, 2023 Meeting

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby approves the Minutes of the January 18, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School.

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

[X] PASS

[] FAIL

<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. *Ms. Naimah Wimberly—CEO of Memphis Street Academy Charter School*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2023 CEO report, previously disseminated to the Board;*
 - ii. *Reviewed and discussed facility matters with the Board;*
 - iii. *Shared attendance/enrollment data with the Board*
 - iv. *Noted upcoming Black History Month assembly*
 - v. *Answered Board question about Insectarium, including that it is a one-time fee;*
 - vi. *Informed the Board about Cooking Club; and*
 - vii. *Discussed recent student athletic participation.*
- b. *Mr. Ryan Strasko—Principal of Memphis Street Academy Charter School*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2023 CEO report; and*
 - ii. *Shared with the Board recent school events, including 100 day’s of school and Insectarium.*

C. AMERICAN PARADIGM SCHOOLS CEO

- a. *Ms. Ashley Redfearn—CEO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2023 APS report;*
 - ii. *Informed the Board of recent PR efforts done by APS.*
- b. *Mr. Scott Kramer—CTO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2023 APS report;*
 - ii. *Shared employment compliance updates with the Board;*
 - iii. *Discussed proposed EAP program; and*
 - iv. *Discussed recruitment events*
- c. *Ms. Kristine Magargee—CAO of American Paradigm Schools*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the February 2023 APS report; and*
 - ii. *Shared data team updates with the Board.*

D. BUSINESS CONTROLLER

- a. *Mr. Eric Strauss—WithumSmith+Brown, P.C.*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the Board the 2021 Form 990, previously disseminated to the Board; and*
 - ii. *Noted that 990 reflects numbers from Audit*
- b. *Mr. Peter Costa—Santilli & Thomson, LLC*
 - i. *Reviewed and discussed with the board the January 2023 financials report;*

- ii. Noted no material issues and highlighted positive variances; and
- iii. Noted ongoing discussion about refinancing bonds.

E. GENERAL COUNSEL

- a. Dean Krebs, Esq.
 - i. Reminded the Board of SOFI obligations;
 - ii. Informed the Board of recent court decision on Pennsylvania constitution education clause.

SECTION III: OLD BUSINESS

NONE

SECTION IV: NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

MOTION:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

JENNIFER RAGEN

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R230215.03 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:

SANDRA FARMER

SECOND:

JENNIFER RAGEN

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

R230215.04 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
Elizabeth Green (new hire)	NTA – HS	1/30/23

TERMINATIONS / RESIGNATIONS / LOA		
NAME	TITLE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jermaine Miles (resignation)	Music Teacher - ES	1/25/23

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>
<i>N. Wimberly</i>	<i>Discussed HR changes with the Board</i>

R230215.05 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
None	None	None

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

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

R230215.06 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>

MOTION:

R230215.07 Approval of 2021 Form 990

SANDRA FARMER

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Tacony Academy Charter School hereby ratifies and accepts the 2021 Form 990 as presented.

SECOND:

JENNIFER RAGEN

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

VOTE:

PASS

Notes of Discussion / Advance Regulatory and Financial Comment:

FAIL

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

ROLL CALL

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

B. DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ADJOURNMENT AT 7:11 P.M.

MOTION:

ANITA VEGA-KAISER

SECOND:

LIONEL ARCHER

VOTE:

PASS

FAIL

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