

**The Accelerated School Community of Schools
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
January 31, 2012 – Main Office Conference Room**

Minutes

Attending in person: E. Johnson, L. Rabinowitz, J. Quinn, M. Lopez,
S. Slovacek, and M. Torres (arrived at 10:14 a.m.)

Attending via teleconference: P. Morrison, T. Stockton and M. Winston

Absent: C. Oppenheim

Representatives & Guests: J. Williams, J. Hernandez, K. Dominguez, D. Borovay,
J. McElwee and S. Dunn

Staff: K. Van Hala and P. Cartin

1. **Call to order** – Mr. Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
2. **Motion to approve the agenda:** (5-0) – Moved and seconded (E. Johnson / S. Slovacek)
3. **Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of 6/28/2011** (5-0) – Moved and seconded (S. Slovacek / M. Lopez) **and the regular meeting minutes of 12/6/2011** with one correction: the minutes do not reflect who was absent (J. Quinn, M. Lopez and C. Oppenheim were not in attendance – minutes will be updated accordingly) – Moved and seconded (S. Slovacek / M. Lopez)
4. **Public comments** – One parent expressed thanks and appreciation for Mr. Hernandez always helping out the parents as part of his CEO position. She also expressed thanks for the main office staff; everyone there is always very helpful.
5. **Board President’s Report** – Mr. Johnson reviewed the ACES site development report. A handout was distributed and displayed on screen showing the status of the current design. Gkkworks is the constructor. The Farmer Bros. property was under contract to purchase for building the parking lot. We successfully submitted an augmentation grant to LAUSD by their deadline. We anticipate the augmentation grant to be awarded sometime in April or May. The competitive selection of the construction manager at-risk has been narrowed down to three general management contractors. The CM At-Risk performs the public bidding process and the school holds the contract. This project remains under very tight time constraints. We have selected our environmental consultants, a geotechnical and soils firm, and have initiated a Phase II environmental assessment scan on the Meadows property. Gkkworks has been selected tentatively as the construction management At-Risk provider, which minimizes the risk of us missing our deadlines.

The Farmer Bros. property is designed for a parking structure. Completion will happen within about three months of commencing. After the parking lot is completed, the ACES building construction process will begin. The new ACES building will have a nominal capacity of 468 students, which fits with our existing educational program. The project construction budget has stayed on track at \$21 million. It has about 38,700 square feet with 960 square feet for each 1st – 6th grade classroom. Our fundraising team can help put us into the gold/platinum level in order to raise funds for an environmentally sound LEED project. We will fundraise for three major areas: green design, technology, and P.E./arts program enhancements.

Motion to ratify gkkworks as the primary construction agency and At Risk provider for the ACES construction project (6-0) – Moved and seconded (S. Slovacek / L. Rabinowitz)

6. **CEO Report:** 1) Mr. David Borovay, a senior Certified Public Accountant, was introduced as our Interim Chief Financial Officer. We are very that happy with the work he has already provided as a Financial Consultant during the month of January. 2.) The 19th Annual California Charter School Association (CCSA) conference happening on 2/27 – 3/1/12 will be attended by Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Williams, Mr. Johnson, and our two principals Mr. Reading and Ms. Raudry. The 2/28 Board meeting will need to be rescheduled. Items to address at the next Board meeting include the Annual meeting elections, revising the TAS bylaws, a review of all of the metrics and a sunshine of our UTLA proposals.
7. **Development Update:** Mr. Johnson noted that “confidential – not for distribution” does not need to be listed on the Development meeting materials since all open session items will be shared with the public. Ms. Dunn and Ms. McElwee have completed interviews with all of the Board members and will also interview two teachers within the next two weeks. The Fact Sheet and Strategic Messages sheets are provided to use when addressing questions from the public about TAS. These messages emphasize our track record and show how we are still working to meet the needs of the community. Univision filmed a Spanish language segment at ACES and the interview went really well; a DVD is forthcoming. Regarding the Communications Recommendations sheets, the most important is the branding issue: are we “The Accelerated School,” or is it “TAS;” how are we linked and how are we branded? A Board ad-hock subcommittee will convene within the next two weeks to address the branding issue with members including Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Williams, Ms. Dominguez, Mr. Lopez, Dr. Quinn, and Mr. Rabinowitz. Mr. Johnson will follow up with Mr. Morrison to see if he would also like to volunteer. Also, a brochure needs to be created that will tell The Accelerated School story in a compelling way to share with the media, our donors and the public.

Mr. Williams reported that TAS students will be going to the premier of “The Lorax” movie on February 19th. We have also been selected to be involved in a Lorax garden project and will call a staff meeting together in early February to discuss the details.

8. **Adjourned to closed session** – Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting to closed session in the main office conference room at 12:00 p.m. pursuant to CA government code sections 54956.8 and 54957.6.
9. **Reconvened Open Session** – Mr. Johnson called the open session meeting back to order at 1:30 p.m. announcing that actions were taken in closed session. **Motion to approve the Farmer Bros. purchase contract real property acquisition (6-0)** – Moved and seconded (E. Johnson / L. Rabinowitz). **Motion to approve the public employee appointment: Mr. David Borovay as the Chief Financial Officer for TAS (6-0)** – Moved and seconded (E. Johnson / L. Rabinowitz).
10. **Meeting adjourned** – 1:40 p.m.