



THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time

Friday, September 25, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Location

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Members Present:

L. Rabinowitz, P. Morrison, E. Espinoza, L. Picus, E. Weiss, S. Yetter and B. Yost

Board Members Absent: J. Ward

Representatives Present:

G. Lee-Chang, R. French, L. Lugo, M. Watson, A. Ortiz, V. Shih, T. Nizetich, C. Reyes, A. Dominguez, F. Reading, R. Hoang, K. Clerx, B. Montoya, B. Canosa-Carr, A. Robles, and J. Williams.

Guest Speakers: None.

Guest Present: W. Strumpfer and R. Griffin

AGENDA

1. Meeting Called to Order: President Rabinowitz called the meeting at 10:02 AM.

2. Agenda: Approved. Unanimously 7-0 with Roll Call Votes:

- a. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
- b. Peter Morrison-approve
- c. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve
- d. Larry Picus-approve
- e. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
- f. Scott Yetter-approve
- g. Binti Yost-approve

3. Special Board Meeting Minutes-September 17, 2020:

Approved. Unanimously 7-0 with Roll Call Votes:

- a. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
- b. Peter Morrison-approve
- c. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve
- d. Larry Picus-approve
- e. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
- f. Scott Yetter-approve
- g. Binti Yost-approve

PUBLIC COMMENTS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS

(submitted via email: boardmeetingpubliccomments@accelerated.org)

Legal Counsel Wayne Strumpfer read public comments 1-6.

1. **Yadira Ramos** – A TAS parent and former employee commented TAS should reinstate Hilda Rodriguez-Guzman, and one nurse at TAS is not enough.
2. **Mike Hawk** – Commented TAS' so-called evaluation of a predator that is protected by the board of Accelerated Schools are a bunch of tone-deaf racist. The Board would much rather put the lives of the students, parents, staff, and community at risk solely to protect a predator.
3. **Anonymous (unsigned email)** – Commented BS comes from the board members, and board members should resign immediately. Board members are Trump loving racists running a corrupt corporate charter school, are draining resources from legit public schools and Board President Rabinowitz is a white privileged supreme racist.
4. **Anonymous (unsigned email)** – Commented for Leonard Rabinowitz to stop lying, you are a racist MAGA Trumpster and despise people of color especially, children with disabilities.
5. **Anonymous (unsigned email)** – Commented he can't wait to head over to your houses for a nice wake up call. I am sure Beverly Hills and Pacific Palisades will appreciate a protest at your doorsteps.
6. **Anonymous (unsigned email)** – Commented he is sick of the negative comments about TAS and the board members.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

4. President Rabinowitz commented members of the board welcomes participation from the public and when making comments to please use appropriate language and consider that there may be students listening to the board meetings. He is proud of teachers, staff and executives during this COVID time and thanks them for an incredible job with school participation.

President Rabinowitz also mentioned TAS has received gifts of over \$30 million dollars from the private sector, and of that \$20 million was received from Annenberg, himself, and Wells

Fargo. President Rabinowitz will follow-up with legal counsel to ensure TAS can list the names of the private donations. Wells Fargo donated millions of dollars because they believed in Johnathan Williams as a leader and educator, Johnathan also brought in a half million-dollar gift in land (adjacent to the school).

CEO'S REPORT

5. CEO Grace Lee-Chang introduced employee additions and promotions: Francis Reading, promoted to Director of Elementary Education; Kimberly Clerx, Principal of TAS; Burgandie Montoya, Director of College and Career Readiness.

CONSENT ITEMS: Motioned LR/SY. No public comments.

- a. **Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan**
- b. **Fiscal Year 2019-20 LAUSD Unaudited Actuals:**
Vincent Shih and Ryan Griffin provided a brief summary of updates on year end reconciliation items.
- c. **2020-21 School Budget:** Removed, bring back item for October board meeting.
- d. **Title I Local Education Agency (LEA) Parent Policy for ACES, TAS & WAHS**
- e. **Title I Local Education Agency (LEA) Parent Compact for ACES, TAS & WAHS**
- f. **Title IX Policy for ACES, TAS & WAHS**
Items a,b, d,e, and f: Approved. Unanimously 7-0 with Roll Call Votes:
 - i. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
 - ii. Peter Morrison-approve
 - iii. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve
 - iv. Larry Picus-approve
 - v. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
 - vi. Scott Yetter-approve
 - vii. Binti Yost-approve

Item c removed from agenda.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:

- g. **WAHS Graduation and College Entrance Data from 2019-2020:**
Principal Rosie Hoang presented class of 2020 student data, the WAHS Drive-thru Graduation Ceremony slides and the inspiring story (via Spectrum News 1) of WAHS' student Nancy Navarro a first-generation college student. Principal Hoang thanked staff for their tremendous amount of help with the graduation and indicated that WAHS has a 95% graduation rate.
- h. **Update on Board Goal #1-Accelerating Student Learning:**
CEO Grace Lee-Chang, Director of Elementary Education Francis Reading, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Lenita Lugo, Director of Secondary Education Bobby Canosa-Carr and Director of Human Resources Rob French presented the adopted Goals 1-4 of how TAS defines success:

TAS has shown growth by adopting and adhering to growth models, organizational action steps, higher standards, enhancing college and career services, curriculum and instruction and high-quality talent... TAS' goals are aligned with the visions of the organization.

PUBLIC COMMENTS on CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no public comments.

CLOSED SESSION: 10:36 AM

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION: 12:37 PM.

During Closed Session, Board Members voted 7-0 to provide the CEO with a bonus of \$10,000 for 2019-20 school year.

ADJOURN MEETING: Meeting adjourned at 12:38 PM. Motioned LP/PM.

6. Unanimously 7-0 with Roll Call Votes:
- a. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
 - b. Peter Morrison-approve
 - c. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve
 - d. Larry Picus-approve
 - e. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
 - f. Scott Yetter-approve
 - g. Binti Yost-approve