



THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time

Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 10:00 AM

Location

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**Board Members Present:**

L. Rabinowitz, P. Morrison, B. Yost, L. Picus, E. Weiss, S. Yetter, E. Espinosa (arrived @ 10:20) and J. Ward (arrived @ 10:15).

Board Members Absent: None.

Representatives Present:

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

Guest Speakers: None.

Guest Present: W. Strumpfer and R. Griffin

AGENDA

Meeting Called to Order: President Rabinowitz called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Agenda: Approved. Motioned LP/EW. Unanimously 6-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Peter Morrison-approve
3. Binti Yost-approve
4. Larry Picus-approve
5. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
6. Scott Yetter-approve

Board Meeting Minutes-February 25, 2021: Approved. Motioned LP/SY. Unanimously 6-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Peter Morrison-approve
3. Binti Yost-approve
4. Larry Picus-approve
5. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
6. Scott Yetter-approve

PUBLIC COMMENTS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS

(submitted via email: boardmeetingpubliccomments@accelerated.org)

Lenita Lugo read public comments.

1. **Anonymous (unsigned email)** – TAS Teacher shared a positive message with Board Members and TAS Administration expressing sincere gratitude for all that TAS and Board Members have done for teachers; appreciates the opportunity to work at TAS and in our community. Your generosity is truly appreciated!
2. **Jessica Harrington** – TAS Teacher shared some positive remarks happening within our organization. I am proud of the work our UTLA Representatives, alongside Rob and Vincent has put into creating the safest and most academically rigorous conditions for students to return to on -site learning. But as we shift our focus back to bargaining our contract for next year, I am urging the Board to swiftly reach an agreement that preserves and expand on the high standards of working conditions competitive compensation that teachers have come to expect. Together, we can make TAS the best place to learn and work.
3. **Janyce Collins** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
4. **Darcy Segura** – TAS Veteran Teacher and a TAS parent. Comments 2-18 are the same.
5. **Maria Corona** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
6. **German Gallardo** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
7. **Alex Collie-Hartman** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
8. **Audrie Cervantes** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
9. **Amanda Martinez** – 15-year Veteran TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
10. **Charles Benimoff** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
11. **Florin Pal** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
12. **Justin Sison** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
13. **Simone Barclay** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
14. **Hugo Espinoza** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
15. **Kurt Belbin** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
16. **Kayla Kohn** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
17. **Jannel Navarro** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.
18. **Fred Le** – TAS Teacher. Comments 2-18 are the same.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

President Rabinowitz thanked board members for positively changing lives for our students and community through their dedication and service, acknowledged the 2019-20 Annual Financial Audit findings, noted that the Finance Committee has discussed the Audit Report and is making reconciliations and a plan for improvements.

Upon review of TAS Bylaws, the Board Members Terms of Office are automatically extended, therefore Board Member Lawrence O. Picus and Elisabeth Weiss are automatically extended. In December 2021, we will have a formal reinstatement for trustees.

President Rabinowitz also commented on his tour of the campus along with CEO, Grace Lee-Chang and the Director of Facilities, Tom Nizetich prior to TAS Re-Entry.

CEO'S REPORT

CEO provided updates on the following:

1. TAS's School Re-Entry and On-Site Instruction – Board of Trustees received updates on our on-site attendance, COVID-19 testing program and highlights of our on-site academic program including how we are maximizing outdoor facilities with technology.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, CEO and Director of HR recognized 3 TAS Staff and Faculty for "See the Need, Fill the Need" award.

2. Academic Tutoring – Board of Trustees received updates on academic incentive and academic tutoring program along with attendance data and success data.
3. Reviewed Draft Board Meeting Calendar for 2021-2022.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:

1. **Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2020 and Audit Committee Meeting Report and Discussion** – CFO Vincent Shih presented findings, recommendations, and discussed solutions and plan implementation. Board of Trustees reviewed the Audit Committee's action steps and internal processes that were implemented as a result of the audit finding.
2. **LAUSD's Charter School Division's Notice to Cure-Recurring Audit Findings: April 12, 2021** – CFO Vincent Shih presented LAUSD's Notice to Cure along with steps to remedy. Board Members reviewed and discussed necessary steps to implement.
3. **Financial Statements for January, February and March 2021**- Guest presenter Ryan Griffin from ExED and CFO Vincent Shih presented financial updates as posted.
4. **LAUSD 2nd Interim Financials for 2020-2021** – CFO Vincent Shih presented as posted.

5. **Preliminary 2021-2022 Budget** – CFO Vincent Shih presented as posted. Board of Trustees discussed updates to financials including enrollment projections, anticipated ADA and future round of CARES funding and how that would impact budget in 2021-22.
 6. **Presentation on Fiscal Policy & Procedures-revised April 29, 202** – CFO Vincent Shih presented updates to Fiscal Policy & Procedures and necessary changes.
 7. **Update on LAUSD Annual Oversight Visit for ACES, TAS & WAHS** – Board of Trustees received an update and summaries for ACES, TAS & WAHS Annual Oversight Report.
 8. **Academic Calendar for 2021-2022** – Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Lenita Lugo presented the Academic Calendar for 2021-22 as posted.
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CONSENT ITEMS: No public comments.

1. TAS Board Approval of Audit Committee Meeting Minutes March 18, 2021 approving Independent Auditor’s Report and Financial Statements for Year Ended June 30, 2020
2. Approval of Financial Statements: January, February, and March 2021
3. Approval the LAUSD 2nd Interim Financials for 2020-21
4. Approval of TAS Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan for 2021-22
5. Approval of TAS Fiscal Policy and Procedures revised April 29, 2021
6. Academic Calendar 2021-2022
7. Board Meeting Calendar 2021-2022

All items Approved. Motioned PM/EW. Unanimously 7-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
 2. Peter Morrison-approve
 3. Binti Yost-approve
 4. Larry Picus-approve
 5. Elisabeth Weiss-approve
 6. Scott Yetter-approve
 7. John Ward-approve
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PUBLIC COMMENTS on CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN to CLOSED SESSION: 11:48 AM.

Leonard Rabinowitz left the Board meeting at 12:35 PM.

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION: 12:40 PM. There were no public comments.

No action taken in Open Session.

ADJOURN MEETING: Meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM.