



## THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

### Board Meeting Minutes

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**Date and Time**

Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 10:00 AM

**Location**

Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

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

L. Rabinowitz, B. Yost, L. Picus, S. Yetter, and E. Espinosa

**Board Members Absent:** J. Ward, P. Morrison

**Representatives Present:**

G. Lee-Chang, R. French, L. Lugo, M. Watson, A. Ortiz, V. Shih, T. Nizetich, C. Reyes, A. Dominguez and A. Robles.

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**Guest Speakers:** None.

**Guest Present:** W. Strumpfer, O. Yee and R. Griffin

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**AGENDA**

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

**Agenda:** Approved. Motioned SY/BY. Unanimously 5-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Binti Yost-approve
3. Larry Picus-approve
4. Scott Yetter-approve
5. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve

**Board Meeting Minutes-April 29, 2021:** Approved. Motioned LP/SY. Unanimously 5-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Binti Yost-approve
3. Larry Picus-approve
4. Scott Yetter-approve
5. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

(submitted via email: [boardmeetingpubliccomments@accelerated.org](mailto:boardmeetingpubliccomments@accelerated.org))

No public comments.

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**BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

President Rabinowitz recognized the difficulty teachers have faced this year, and on behalf of the Board of Trustees, profoundly appreciates every TAS Teachers, every year. He thanked teachers for their commitment to our student and community. President Rabinowitz announced that our goal is to attract, retain, and reward our excellent teachers. President Rabinowitz indicated merit based pay should not be the basis of teacher's compensation, rather an additional component of compensation and we are looking at ways to provide more compensation.

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**CEO'S REPORT**

1. Local Control Accountability Plan-Stakeholder Survey Results

CEO Grace Lee-Chang thanked the TAS Foundation members for their continued support, especially with scholarships for Middle School students who participated in Math tutoring improved as result. She thanked TAS staff for their hard work.

CEO shared LCAP Stakeholder Survey Results via PowerPoint Presentation including Staff, Student, Parent Highlights and along with Staff, Student, and Parents Think Abouts. She summarized new and improved services for 2021-22 as a result of stakeholder input. Board Members provided input and feedback on LCAP Stakeholder Survey Results.

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**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

1. Finance Committee Meeting Report

CFO Vincent Shih presented the budget and discussions from the Finance Committee. Finance Committee Chair, Larry Picus shared the high level discussions from the Finance Committee on enrollment; operating deficit and operating surplus.

Final Preliminary Budget for ACES, TAS, WAHS will be approved at the June 17, 2021 Board Meeting.

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**STAFF PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:**

2. Local Control Accountability Plan-Information Only
  3. Preliminary Budgets for ACES, TAS & WAHS 2021-2022.
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**CONSENT ITEMS:** Motioned SY/LP. No public comments.

1. Financial Statements: April 2021 - **Removed**
2. Preliminary Budgets: ACES, TAS & WAHS 2021-22
3. Contract for Student Tutoring Services: Encorps
4. Contract for Community Center Expansion-Talimar Systems Furnishings

Item 1 was taken off of Consent. Items 2, 3 & 4 were Approved on consent. Unanimously 5-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Binti Yost-approve
3. Larry Picus-approve
4. Scott Yetter-approve
5. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT ITEMS:**

Lenita Lugo read the Consent Items Comments.

1. **Luz Rodriguez** – TAS Teacher expressed that she loves teaching at TAS because this is the neighborhood she grew up in and continues to live in. The current bargaining proposal performance base pay is not something that I'm thrilled about. It's not something that works. On the contrary, it contributes to even more stress and negativity for all (not just the teachers but also the students and staff). Additionally, the current contract isn't even competitive with the surrounding schools. Our school, students, my neighborhood, need a stable, nurturing school community and a responsive and vigorous education program. This can only be achieved by retaining and developing highly qualified teachers who are invested in our school and community and have intimate knowledge and experience with our schools' education programs.
  - Pay teachers competitive wages and benefits.
  - Give teachers a role and voice in the direction of the school.
  - Provide meaningful opportunities for teachers to grow creatively and professionally.

We must bargain for a fair contract that reflects these values.
2. **Darcy Segura** – TAS Veteran Teacher and Parent expressed. I was very disappointed to receive bargaining updates from our union committee these past two weeks. To hear that merit pay was proposed, roundly rejected and proposed again was disheartening and, to be frank, disrespectful. When we adopted our "Step on the Accelerator" motto, we were told over and over that we as a school community would be focusing on Hattie's research and narrowing our focus to the TOP effect sizes. Merit pay has an incredibly LOW effect size on student achievement. If we truly are going to be a research based school, then we need to focus on the effects that bring us the most "bang for the buck." To waste TWO bargaining sessions on something that has been disproven by research is backwards and so disrespectful to all the work that we have put in these past two years. Many of my colleagues are upset and are looking for other schools to work at next year! We want to attract and retain teachers, not push them away. We need to keep and develop our teachers so they are invested in our school community and have a deep understanding of our educational programs. Merit pay is NOT the answer.
3. **Kari Rivera** – TAS Veteran Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar:
  - Pay teachers competitive wages and benefits.

- Give teachers a role and a voice in the direction of the school.
  - Provide meaningful opportunities for teachers to grow creatively and professionally.
4. **Kurt Belbin** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  5. **Alex Collie Hartman** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  6. **Vern Benard** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  7. **Jannel Navarro** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  8. **Irvin Chapa** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  9. **Liliana Magana** – 15-year Veteran TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  10. **Jessica Harrington** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  11. **Charles Benimoff** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  12. **Maria Corona** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  13. **Denise Aleman** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  14. **Danny Miller** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  15. **Nicholle Hamilton** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  16. **Kayla Kohn** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  17. **Fred Le** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  18. **Maricela Solorzano** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  19. **Gabriela Galicia** - TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  20. **Vanessa Gonzalez** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  21. **Janyce Collins** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  22. **Reyna Spainhour** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  23. **Elizabeth Barba** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  24. **Francisco Aquino** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  25. **Ana Nieves** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  26. **Nestor Alas** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  27. **Diana Aguilar** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
  28. **Jacqueline Hernandez** – TAS Teacher. Comments 1-28 are similar.
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**ADJOURN to CLOSED SESSION:** 11:35 AM.

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**RECONVENE OPEN SESSION:** 12:52 PM. There were no public comments.

No action taken in Closed Session

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**ADJOURN MEETING:** Meeting adjourned at 12:53 PM. Motioned SY/LP.

Unanimously 5-0 with Roll Call Votes:

1. Leonard Rabinowitz-approve
2. Binti Yost-approve
3. Larry Picus-approve
4. Scott Yetter-approve
5. Elizabeth Espinosa-approve