

THOMAS ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2022

3:00 pm

via Zoom

Call to Order

Chairman Owen Robinson called the meeting to order.

Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Sharon Connor called the roll. A quorum was present. Members attending via Zoom were, Owen Robinson, Dave Wyatt, Julie Wolfe, Woody Weddington, Patricia Medlin, and Dr. Len Holmes. Board member Christy Hopkins was absent. Staff in attendance were, Interim President Ray Cockrell, Principal Cathy Gantz, CFO Daniel Nolan and Sharon Connor, Executive Office Administrator.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Robinson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for a moment of silence for President Ricky Creech and his family following his tragic death on July 16th.

Reading of the Mission and Vision Statement

Members read aloud the TA Mission and Vision statement.

Consider and Approve Current Agenda

Patricia Medlin made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Second Dave Wyatt. Motion carried.

Consider and Approve Minutes from Last Month

Patricia Medlin made a motion to approve the May 10th minutes as presented. Second Woody Weddington. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Chairman Robinson opened the floor to the public for comments and feedback. There were none.

Director of Education/Principal Report – Cathy Gantz

- Student enrollment increased from 70 to 72; Community students 52, residential students 20.
- Teachers participated in professional development on the Waccamaw Way through Thrive Gainesville.
- Forty boys and girls attended the Take Charge Program and US Elite Summer Basketball with former NBA player Jerrod Mustaff, and Life Skills Camp during the week of June 13th – 17th.
- Residential students participated in a culinary program this summer, which is a United Way Grant funded program.
- Eight new hires included EC teacher, HS Math, MS Science, and HS Science, HS Social Studies.
- A School Resource Officer (SRO) for the 22-23 school year was hired and is in training.
- Grace Cobb was hired as Administrative Assistant
- Valencia Escobar has been hired as the ROTC instructor.

- An Intercom system was installed for the MS and HS. Board member Patricia Medlin asked that a list of teachers and their ethnicity be sent to members.
- Dr. Gantz reviewed to the TSQR Strategic Plan for 22-23 and the 20-day data tracker for August 31st.
- The IPG Grant budget was approved, and \$317,000 was received this year.
- Applying for additional grants and waiting on approval.
- Teacher workdays will be August 22nd – 26th.
- Ice Cream Social will be held on August 25th.
- First day for students will be August 29th.
- Open House will take place on September 1st.
- Whiteville Rotary had a display on Rotary Interact Club and Columbus County Teen Court (Sept. 13th from 5-7 pm).
- Electives being offered at TA are CTE for Dog Handling, Broadcasting/Drama, Positive Behavior Intervention System
- Basketball and cheerleading tryouts will take place on September 13th.
- Had a successful Shelter in Place drill at TA, and staff debriefed after the Drill to discuss how to make better.
- School Implementation Team meetings take place on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 2:45 pm.

Members discussed the drop in enrollment from last year, and Dr. Gantz reported she is working with the Chief Branding Officer on advertisement, attending job fairs, etc. for Thomas Academy. Dr. Gantz will also meet with the LW Fire Chief to discuss a partnership between them and Thomas Academy.

Recommendations/Action Items

Dr. Gantz reported there were no recommendations or action items at this time.

Following discussion on the Agenda and having executive session, Julie Wolfe amended the motion to approve the agenda, and move the financial report after the Director of Education report, and move Public Adjournment before the Executive Closed Session. Dave Wyatt second. Motion carried. The agenda change will be made on the October meeting agenda.

Financial Report – Daniel Nolan, CFO

Mr. Nolan referred to the BGHNC Income Statement for Thomas Academy and reviewed revenue and expenses for the month of August.

Mr. Nolan referred to the Acadia NorthStar Budget Report noting the year-to-date net surplus was \$7,553.78.

Mr. Nolan stated he would need Chairman Robinson's signature on the current Budget.

Following the financial report, Interim President Ray Cockrell stated he had a personnel matter he needed to share with the Committee.

Public Adjournment

Julie Wolfe made a motion to adjourn the public portion of the meeting and go into executive session. Second Patricia Medlin. Motion carried.

A personnel issue was reported by Interim President Ray Cockrell and is in the process of being addressed.

Board Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Patricia Medlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second Dave Wyatt. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 pm.