



TA Board of Directors Meeting 02/11/2025

Call to Order

- Dave Wyatt welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

Roll Call to Establish Quorum

- Shannon Britt called the roll.
- Present were: Dave Wyatt, Julie Wolfe, Pat Medlin, Christy Hopkins, Racheal Winger, Mike Reed, and Terri Duncan
- Absent were: Woody Weddington
- Staff present were: Cathy Gantz, Thomas Academy Principal, Marc Murphy, BGH CEO, Janice Toporek, BGH CFO, and Shannon Britt, Thomas Academy Office and Data Manager
- Parent(s) present were: None.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Dave Wyatt led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of the Vision

- Dave Wyatt read the TA Vision and Mission Statement.

Consider and Approve Current Agenda

- Pat Medlin moved to approve the agenda. Mike Reed seconded and the motion passed.

Consider and Approve Minutes for Last Month.

- Pat Medlin moved to approve the minutes from January 14th 2024. Julie Wolfe seconded and the motion passed

Public Comments

- No public comments.

Director of Education/Principal Report- Dr. Cathy Gantz

◆ Student Enrollment:

- Target Enrollment: eighty-five
- Current Student Enrollment: sixty-five
- Community Students: forty-one
- Residential Students: twenty-four

Students enrolled by grade level	Residential	Community
6th	3	1
7th	3	5
8th	3	8
9th	4	12
10th	5	5
11th	3	4
12th	2	7

Potential Graduates for June 2025-9-12th graders

Thomas Academy Graduates for June 2024-14-12th graders, 60.9% graduation rate compared to 85% for 2022-2023

◆ Student Activities:

- TA's 11th and 12th grade students are enjoying SCC's Soil Science and Transportation Technology classes.
- Girls and Boys Basketball games continue this month. Girls and boys scores thus far: Girls 3/4 and Boys 7/5
- Fire Drill, February 7th, MS 46 secs and HS 54 secs. Great job to teachers and students!
- Lockdown Drill, March 6th at 1:00 pm.
- The Thomas Academy is working toward Teaching Family Accreditation.

◆ Professional Development:

- Raleigh Triangle International will continue to partner with Thomas Academy through June 2025 as we transition to blended classes adding grades 3-5. Please refer to 30-60-90 working draft plan. A book study continues: Teaching with Poverty and Equity in Mind, Eric Jenson. Please see the attachment: What does equity look like at TA?
- Active Shooter, Relias Training is available to TA Faculty and Staff and must be completed by March 4th prior to the Lockdown Drill on March 6th.

- School Improvement Team (SIT) meetings are scheduled on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from 1:30-3:00 pm. February meetings are: Wednesday, February 12th and 26th.

◆ **Academic Report:**

- The next truancy court will be on February 14th. We continue to monitor student tardiness and absences closely.
- The first and second NC Check-in Benchmark Assessments for Middle School and High School are complete. The next NC Check-in benchmarks will be during the dates 02/25-02/27.
- The Teaching Family Model continues to be implemented by the faculty and staff of TA. TA Behavioral referrals October 2023: 11 In-school suspensions and 7 Out-of-school suspensions as compared to October 2024: 0 In-school suspensions and 7 Out-of-school suspensions. In 2023, there were more behaviors related issues with only 2 being contraband issues. Most of these behaviors were class disruptions, peer conflict, and physical aggressions. Seventy-one percent of OSS in 2024 were due to contraband coupled with vaping. There was one incident of aggression.

◆ **Student/School Success:**

- New scoreboards for the gym were installed on January 22nd.
- Thomas Academy has a new Assistant Principal, Mr. James Woods and a new Behavior Specialist, Ms. Olivia Woods. We also have a new substitute teacher, Mr. Chad Smith. We have two new van drivers, Mr. Chad Smith and Mr. Matt Hardie.
- We are in the process of interviewing for a ROTC Instructor. A tentative interview will take place on: February 12th.

◆ **Upcoming:**

- Raleigh Triangle International will meet with us twice a month as we unroll our transition plan (30,60, 90 day) and pilot a 6/7 grade blended unit of study.
- Planning parent nights based on Bright Arrow parent survey results.
- Senior Night during half-time at a home basketball game on Tuesday, February 11th.
- Yearbook and Senior pictures TBD.
- Scholarship Student Opportunities, February 13th at 10:00 am, Library /Media Center.
- February 17th, Student Holiday and Random Acts of Kindness Day. Wear Blue for Kindness!
- Conclusion of book study, February 19th, 2025, 1:30-3:00 pm.

- College visits, Spring 2025 TBD.
- Lake Waccamaw Lions Club will coordinate eye screening for all TA students. Date February 20th.
- On February 20th, 2025, Middle School students will take a field trip to the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher.
- The next NC Check-in benchmarks will be during the dates 02/25-02/27.
- Second semester informal and formal observations.
- MTSS and SIT Meetings.
- Monthly fire drills (February 7th).
- Lockdown Drills (March 6th).
- ACT for 11th grade will be on March 12th.
- March 17th, Report Cards.
- A Title IV grant will provide a music activity (Pink Slips on March 28th) and an art activity (TBD).
- The Office of Charter Schools' TA site visit will be on April 16th from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. This visit will include the following: 1.- A parent group of 4; 2.- A teacher group of 4; 3.- TA's Board of Directors; and 4.- the Administrative team including the school leader.
- TA Prom will be on Thursday evening, April 17th, 6:00-9:00 pm, Location: Gymnasium, Theme: Disney Royalty
- TA Assembly to highlight seniors, May 22nd, at 1:00 pm, gymnasium.
- Awards Ceremonies, May 28th, 6:00-8:00 pm.
- TA Senior Breakfast and graduation practice, June 6th.
- TA Graduation, Saturday, June 7th.

◆ **Action Items:**

- TA Board of Directors' vote for a three o'clock or four o'clock meeting time.
 - Julie Wolfe moves to have the TA Board Meetings start at 4 PM. Pat Medlin Seconds and the motion passed.
- Parent/Student Handbook: IV. Promotion/Retention in regard to Attendance Policy, X.b. Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and 504 Plans, and XIX Appendices: F. Parental Rights and Responsibilities in Special Education Notice of procedural Safeguards (Please see highlighted additions).
 - Pat Medlin moves to approve the additions to the Parent/Student Handbook. Mike Reid seconds and the motion passed.
- 2024-25 Summer Program Plan.
 - Pat Medlin moves that there will be no TA Summer Program. Racheal Winger seconds and the motion passed.

◆ **Attachments/Requests:**

- 30-60-90 Day Transition Draft Plan.
- What does Equity look like at TA?

◆ **Financials**

- Janice Toporek reviewed the Financial Report that had been provided to the members and a copy of the financial report will be attached.

◆ **Public Adjournment**

- Julie Wolfe moved to adjourn the public meeting. Pat Medlin seconded and the motion passed at 5:00 PM.

◆ **Closed Adjournment**

- Pat Medlin moved to adjourn the closed meeting. Racheal Winger seconded and the motion passed at 5:27 PM.

Thomas Academy Board Director Signature

Date