



**MPTCS Board of Trustees**  
**Rev. Vincent Rouse | Chairman**  
**P: 973.621.0060 • F: 973.621.2453**  
**vrouse@mptcs.org**

**Marion P. Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees Meeting**

September 27, 2021 | 6:00 PM ET

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87205682710?pwd=dWh4bE5qWCtkWk9PcThPSWdLbVZZUT09>

**1. CALL TO ORDER – Open Public Meetings Act - 6:19**

A. The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (“Act”) was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Marion P Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees has caused notice of this meeting to be advertised by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on the MPTCS website, in the office of the Clerk of the City of Newark, and was published in the Star-Ledger in July 2021.

**2. ROLL CALL**

A. The following individuals are voting members of the Board:

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Vincent Rouse	x		Julio Valdivieso	x	
Dashay Carter	x		Allan Boomer	x	
Jason Denard	x		LaSonya Nevius	x	
Briana Gilchrist	x				
Dr. Princess Towe	x				

Non-Voting Board Members Present	
Elijah Griffiths (Interim Board Secretary/Administrator)	Tina Jalloh(Board Attorney)



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**3. BOARD MINUTES**

1. Approval of Board Minutes July 26, 2021

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard	X	X				LaSonya Nevius	XX	X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe		X									

2. Approval of Agenda : Approve of Agenda August 23, 2021

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		X				Julio Valdivieso	X	X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard	XX	X				LaSonya Nevius		X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe		X									



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**4. CHAIRMAN UPDATE**

**Discussion:**

- Are there any grades we did not meet criteria for testing? (A. Boomer) | Kindergarten is where we are light. We have more seats. NPS has a lot of open seats which is slowing down traction. Additionally, 10th grade is also light. (A. Mincy)
- How are we managing children in classrooms that are understaffed? (A. Boomer) | Scheduling adjustments. (A. Mincy)

**5. 2021-09-27-A: Approval of the August Board Secretary Report**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	x	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard		x				LaSonya Nevius	xx	x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**6. 2021-09-27-B: Approval of September Bill List & August Treasurer's Report**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	xx	x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter		x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard		x				LaSonya Nevius	x	x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									



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**7. 2021-089-27-C: Personnel: New Hires, Resignations, Leave of Absence(s) and Terminations**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	x	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	xx	x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**8. 2021-09-27-D: Revision to the Adoption of the Evaluation Frameworks (personnel)**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	xx	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	x	x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**9. 2021-09-27-E: Modification of Frontline Evaluation Agreement (personnel)**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	xx	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	x	x				LaSonya Nevius		x			



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Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**Discussion:**

- What is the modification? (J. Valdivieso) | Just in the price from 2011-2013, an additional charge for the framework. The terms and agreements of the contract are exactly the same. (C. Abbeleo)

**10. 2021-09-27-F: Modification to TD Bank Account Signers**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	x	x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	xx	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard		x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**11. 2021-09-27-G: Perkins 20-21, Perkins 21-22, and DOE Preschool/Charter School Security 21-22**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter	x	x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard		x				LaSonya Nevius	xx	x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**Discussion:**

- Question on the dates/academic year(s) - is that because we did not spend? (J. Denard) | Yes (A.Mincy)



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**12. 2021-09-27-H: Employee Stipend Pay for PAC and Steam After Care Programs**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	XX	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard		X				LaSonya Nevius	X	X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe		X									

**13. 2021-09-27-I: CollegeBoard Readiness and Success Agreement SY 21-22**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	XX	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard		X				LaSonya Nevius		X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe	X	X									

**14. 2021-09-27-J: DocuSign Agreement (9/2021 - 9/2024)**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	X	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard		X				LaSonya Nevius	XX	X			



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Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**15. 2021-09-27-K: Modification to Industrial Bank Account Signers**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter		x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	x	x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe	xx	x									

**16. 2021-09-27-L: DWC Security Services SY 21-22**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse		x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter		x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	xx	x				LaSonya Nevius	x	x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**Discussion:**

- We are extending for 1-months to put in the RFP process. Shouldn't take longer than 2-weeks however, wanted to ensure we were ready for a safe school opening on 8/30 (A. Mincy).



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**17. 2021-09-27-M: Link It Agreement SY 21-22**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	XX	x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter		x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard	x	x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe		x									

**Discussion:**

- This will be awesome as explained during the committee meeting. Super awesome! (J. Denard)

**18. 2021-09-27-N: HMH Aleks Agreement SY 21-22**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	XX	x				Julio Valdivieso		x			
Dashay Carter		x				Allan Boomer		x			
Jason Denard		x				LaSonya Nevius		x			
Briana Gilchrist		x									
Dr. Princess Towe	x	x									

**Discussion:**

- What services are being offered? (A. Boomer) | Aleks is an intervention based program for mathematics grade 9-12. Diagnostic testing, we can pinpoint weaknesses and develop improvement plans. (C. Abbeleo)





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**19. 2021-09-27-O: State Interscholastic Athletic Assoc. (NJSIAA) Membership Acquisition for HS**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	XX	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard	X	X				LaSonya Nevius		X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe		X									

**Discussion:**

- Just invite us to the games! (J. Denard)
- Are we just now joining? (J. Valdivieso) | Yes! It's a big deal. (J. Denard)
- Any ideas on the schools we're going to be playing now? (B. Gilchrist) | I will turnkey schedule once available. (A.Mincy)

**20. 2021-09-27-P: Modifications to 21-22 School Calendar**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	X	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter	XX	X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard		X				LaSonya Nevius		X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe		X									

**Discussion:**

- Anything significant? (J. Valdivieso) | Even swap for Juneteenth, day after President's holiday/3-day weekend. (C. Abbeleo)
- Thank you for Juneteenth (B. Gilchrist)



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**21. 2021-09-27-O: STEAM Academy Field Trips**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse *	X	X				Julio Valdivieso		X			
Dashay Carter		X				Allan Boomer		X			
Jason Denard		X				LaSonya Nevius		X			
Briana Gilchrist		X									
Dr. Princess Towe **	XX	X									

**Discussion:**

- How are kids chosen? (J. Valdivieso) | These are for the life skills classroom students. Built on scholars being independent in the program. (L. Finn-Bruce)
- The district is being safe with field trips and I trust the administration/teachers will do all to make sure our scholars/staff are safe. (D. Carter)

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**7. CLOSED SESSION -**

**8. CLOSING REMARKS FROM BOARD CHAIR:**

Thank you to all for your hard work and dedication to the village. Have a great evening!

**9. MOTION TO ADJOURN 7: 39 PM ET**

**Respectfully submitted at: 9/27/2021**

**Submitted by: Elijah D. Griffiths**