



**Minutes of Scheduled Board Meeting  
June 24, 2019**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair V. Rouse called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm

**II. ROLL CALL & GOVERNANCE UPDATE**

Misha Simmonds, Interim Chief School Administrator and Board Secretary, conducted a roll call of members present:

1. Voting Members (9)
  - a. David Blount
  - b. Greg Collins
  - c. Michelle Jones
  - d. Reginald Petty
  - e. Vincent Rouse
  - f. Khaatim Sherrer El (arrived at 6:20)
  - g. Brianna Gilchrist
  - h. Craig Rogers
  - i. Tyisha Kidd
2. Non-Voting Members
  - a. Robert Gregory, Superintendent
  - b. Misha Simmonds, Interim Chief School Administrator & Board Secretary

A quorum was confirmed for the meeting.

Mr. Simmonds congratulated most board members for completing their online training, and reminded the remaining three again they needed to complete before the June 30 deadline.

The proposed new schedule for board meetings for 2019-2020 was also discussed.

**III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the May 18, 2019 meeting were adopted.

**Moved:**  **Second:**  **Approved: Unanimous.**

**IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Agenda for the meeting was adopted with the change in order so that the resolutions would be presented and approved prior to the Closed Session.

**Moved:**  **Second:**  **Approved: Unanimous.**

**V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM**

- Parent Margaret Nelson raised concerns about excessive use of substitutes at the high school, especially in math, and the questions it raises about grading. She also spoke about concerns about changes to security.
- Parent Eileen Dempsey urged the board to find a way to retain current security guards at PAC who are part of the culture. She is also concerned about the impact of the merger of SELECT with PAC.
- Parent Felicia Reed described how her high school child was bullied and jumped.
- Mr. Gregory asked all three to leave their contact information with his assistant so he could follow up.

## VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- A. Superintendent/CEO Report
  - a. The presentation started with announcements including the approval for Perkins Funding for the high school and for the Disney Musicals in Schools program for PAC.
  - b. The Superintendent then discussed how MPTCS was being reorganized next year to better support scholars, including the addition of the deep academic support team from BRICK and more instructional, cultural, and operational leaders at each school.
  - c. He also explained how data would be used to build a culture of continuous improvement with a weekly cycle of data driven instruction.
  - d. Student culture and support will be strengthened by a common, research-based approach.
  - e. Finally each school will significantly expand in-school and after school co-curricular offerings to make school more attractive and engaging for students.
- B. ICSA Report (M. Simmonds)
  - a. The Enrollment Team took advantage of the second NJDOE enrollment count in May to increase approved enrollment for the current year by 42.6 students who were not approved in time last fall. This is expected to recover over \$500,000 in previously lost revenue. The Enrollment Team also continues to register new students and reverify existing students for the upcoming year.
  - b. Leases have been revised for approval to provide funds necessary for Friends to operate and do maintenance (the original intent but only currently in place at South 7th Street)
  - c. BRICK has prepared RFP for security for approval so service can be secured for the 2020-21 school year.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance Committee (M. Simmonds)
  - a. The Finance Committee reviewed the attached Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month of April 2019 and the attached SBA Report for the month of May 2019 and recommends both for approval.
  - b. The Finance Committee reviewed the attached Bills and Claims Report for the month of June 2019 and recommends for approval.
  - c. The Finance Committee recommends for approval updating bank signatures to replace separating staff with their new counterparts.
  - d. The Finance Committee recommends reappointing Chris Lessard as School Treasurer, and appointing Carrieann Zielinski (BRICK) as new SBA effective July 1.
  - e. The Finance Committee reviewed the attached contracts and recommends for approval
  - f. The Finance Committee reviewed our new allocations for ESSA for 2019-2020 and recommends applying with the attached transfers and refusals:
  - g. The Finance Committee reviewed our new allocations for IDEA (Special Education Grant) for SY 2019-2020 and recommends applying.
  - h. The Finance Committee recommends renewing membership in the NJ Schools Insurance Group.
  - i. The Finance Committee recommends approval of a revised budget that incorporates the Brick agreement and model, new grant allocations and new rent amounts. It has a \$184K surplus in addition to a \$895K reserve and achieves 60% allocation for instruction.

- j. Brick, Friends, and the School have agreed to recommend that the Board approve that Friends of Marion P. Thomas Charter School enter into agreement with RBC Capital Markets to underwrite refinancing of our 125 Sussex Avenue facility, including securing \$8M for a new gym facilities. If approved, the process would start this week and is expected to be complete by Thanksgiving.
- B. Personnel Committee (M. Weidman)
    - a. Update was presented on progress filling vacancies.
    - b. New Hires, separations, and leaves were reviewed.
    - c. The comprehensive equity plan was reviewed.
  - C. Academic Committee (Michelle Jones) - no report
  - D. Legal updates (T. Jalloh) - no report
  - E. Alumni Committee (B. Gilchrist)-no report
  - F. Parent Committee (C. Rogers) - no report

### VIII. CHAIRMAN REPORT (Rouse)

- A. The Chair thanked everyone for a great year and reminded everyone to be back and ready to go on August 2.

### XII. RESOLUTIONS (Numbered 6-19-X)

#### GOVERNANCE/POLICY

- 1. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School accepts the resignation of the following Board Members, effective July 1, 2019:
  - a. Greg Collins
  - b. Lesley Leslie
  - c. David Blount

#### Approved (Unanimous)

- 2. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following returning Board Members and terms effective July 1, 2019:

<u>#</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Professional Affiliation</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
1	Pastor Vincent Rouse	Pastor, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church; Executive, Newark Housing Authority	June 2020
2	Rev. Ronald Slaughter	Pastor, St. James AME Church	June 2020
3	Reginald Petty	Self-Employed	<b>June 2022</b>
4	Joi Taylor-Dean	Attorney, CEO, Richmond MTA	<b>June 2022</b>
5	Khaatim Sherrer El	Founder, Results Driven Consulting, LLC	<b>June 2022</b>
6	Brianna Gilchrist	National Alliance for Public Charter Schools	June 2021
7	Tyisha Kidd	Self-Employed; Consultant	June 2020
8	Craig Rogers	Parent	June 2020
9	Michelle Jones	Ridgewood Public Schools	June 2020

**Approved (Unanimous)**

3. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School appoints the following new Board Members for a three year term,, to be sworn in at the next board meeting:
  - a. Dr. Tia Morris - Director of Teacher For America
  - b. Dr. Nichelle Bowes - Dean of Relay Graduate School
  - c. Lincoln Farquharson- Director of Early College Programs at Rutgers Newark.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

4. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School appoints the following committees members effective immediately and for the entire 2019-2020 School Year:

<b>Committee Name</b>	<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Staff Members</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	Vincent Rouse Khaatim Sherrer El Michelle Jones Briana Gilchrist	Robert Gregory Chaleeta Hines
<b>Finance Committee</b>	Reginald Petty Khaatim Sherrer El	Greg Collins
<b>Personnel Committee</b>	Craig Rogers Vincent Rouse	Mindy Weidman
<b>Academic Committee</b>	Michele Jones Khaatim Sherrer El	Robert Gregory Chris Perpich
<b>Alumni Committee</b>	Briana Gilchrist	Michele Griffin
<b>Parent Committee</b>	Tyisha Kidd Craig Rogers	Tish Johnson

**Approved (Unanimous)**

5. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following board meeting schedule for the 2019-2020 school year:

*All meetings at 6pm at MPTCHS-CPA unless otherwise noted*

Monday, August 12, 2019	Monday, January 27, 2020
Monday, September 23, 2019	Monday, February 24, 2020
Monday, October 28, 2019	Monday, March 23, 2020
Monday, November 25, 2019	Monday, April 27, 2020
Monday, December 16, 2019	May Board Retreat (TBD)
	Monday, June 22, 2020

**Approved (Unanimous)**

**FINANCE**

6. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Treasurer of School Monies Report for the months of April 2019 and May 2019.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

7. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached School Business Administrator Report for the month of May 2019.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

8. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Bills and Claims Report for the month of June 2019 for \$3,118,000.76.\_\_\_\_\_

**Approved (Unanimous)\_\_\_\_\_**

9. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the closing of the following bank accounts

Bank Accounts	Required # for checks	Required # for wires	Signer 1	Signer 2	Signer 3	Signer 4
<b>Wells Fargo Bank:</b>						
"4471" Operating Account	3	2	Greg Collins	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Misha Simmonds
"7800" Payroll Account	3	2	Greg Collins	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Misha Simmonds
"7965" Enterprise Account	3	2	Greg Collins	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Misha Simmonds
"7826" PTO Account	3	2	Greg Collins	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Misha Simmonds
<b>TD Bank:</b>						
"4058" SELECT School Activity Account	2			Gamble	Salek	Misha Simmonds

**Approved (Unanimous)**

10. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School resolves to approve the following revised signatories for our bank accounts:

Bank Accounts	Required # for checks	Required # for wires	Signer 1	Signer 2	Signer 3	Signer 4
<b>City National Bank:</b>						
"0242" Operating Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"3815" Grant Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"0250" Payroll Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"0269" Enterprise Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"9843" New Jersey Dept of ED-Escrow	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"0983" Money Market Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
<b>TD Bank:</b>						
"2322" Payroll Agency Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"2330" Summerpay Account	3	2	<b>Vincent Rouse*</b>	Reginald Petty	Robert Gregory	Greg Collins
"3770" PAC Student Activity Account	2			G. Hamilton	K. Rankin	<b>Greg Collins*</b>
"4032" Arts Program Account	2			<b>J. Dennard*</b>	Robert Gregory	<b>Greg Collins*</b>
"4040" STEAM School Activity Account	2			Finn-Bruce	Johora Moore	<b>Greg Collins*</b>
"4115" HS Student Activity Account	2			<b>J. Dennard*</b>	P. Shankar	<b>Greg Collins*</b>
"6173" Culinary Club	2			<b>J. Dennard*</b>	M. Speight	<b>Greg Collins*</b>

**Approved (Unanimous)**

11. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following appointments, effective July 1, 2019:

- a. School Treasurer: Christopher Lessard
- b. School Business Administrator: Carriann Zielinski

**Approved (Unanimous)**

12. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached contracts:

Vendor	Services	Term	Amount
Brett DiNovi & Associates, L.L.C	Behavioral/Educational Consultation	7/1/2019-6/30/2020	Clinical Associate \$55/hour Behavior Consult \$125/hour
Johnston Law Firm	Legal Counsel	7/1/2019-6/30/2020	Principals: \$275/hour Associates: \$235/hour Paralegal: \$155/hour
Chris Lessard	Treasurer of School Monies	7/1/2019-6/30/2020	Monthly Treasurer's Report: \$408 per reported month

**Approved (Unanimous)**

13. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached amendment to the sublease of the school facility at 534 Clinton Ave. with Achieve Community Charter School.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

14. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached sublease of the school facility at 88-108 Shipman Street with Newark Educators Community Charter School.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

15. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached amendments to the leases with Friends of Marion P. Thomas Charter School for the school facilities at 534 Clinton Avenue, 88-108 Shipman Street, 28 Burnet Street, and 125 Sussex Avenue. **Approved (Unanimous)**

16. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School hereby resolves on 6/24/2019 not to apply for the following funds allocated under the ESEA Consolidated for the Title III (\$4,287) for Fiscal Year 2020. **Approved (Unanimous)**

17. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School on 06/24/2019 hereby authorizes the submission of the ESEA application for Fiscal Year 2020, and accepts the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval of the FY 2020 ESEA Application, in the following amounts:

	Title I-A	Title I Reallocated	Title I SIA Part A	Title II-A	Title III	Title III Immigrant	Title IV Part A
Public Allocation	942,952	27,005	163,000	100,622	4,287	5,427	56,252
Refusal of Funds					-4,287		
Transfer From Title II-A	100,622			-100,622			
Transfer From Title IV Part A	56,252						-56,252
<b>Total Available</b>	<b>1,099,826</b>	<b>27,005</b>	<b>163,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,427</b>	<b>0</b>

**Approved (Unanimous)**

18. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School on 06/24/2019 hereby authorizes the submission of the IDEA application for Fiscal Year 2019, and accepts the grant award of the funds upon subsequent approval of the FY 2020 IDEA application, in the following amounts:

- Preschool: \$6,068
- Basic: \$344,295

**Approved (Unanimous)**

19. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached resolution to renew membership in the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

20. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Request for Proposal (RFP) for security services for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

21. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached revised budget for the 2019-2020 school year.

**Approved (Unanimous)**

22. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves that Friends of Marion P. Thomas Charter School enter into agreement with RBC Capital Markets to underwrite refinancing of our 125 Sussex Avenue facility.

**HUMAN**

**RESOURCES**

23. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following New and Updated Hires for the 2019-2020 School Year:

Name	Title	Position	Location	Salary	Pension	Effective Date	10 or 12 Month	Type
Lidia Dos Santos	Vice Principal	VP CTE/VPA	HS	100,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12-month	New Hire
Adam Druckman	Teacher	Teacher	STEAM	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Adeel Ahmed	Teacher	Math Teacher	STEAM	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Lorchessa Paul	Teacher	Science Teacher	STEAM	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Shikhana Mcknight	Teacher	Pre-K	PAC	67,984	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Cariesha Black	Teacher	Teacher	STEAM	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Tonya Sims	Teacher	Teacher	STEAM	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Bria Styles	Teacher	Teacher	PAC	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Ilesha Brooks-Walker	Teacher	Teacher	PAC	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Wayne Stackhouse	Vice Principal	VP Culture	HS	120,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12-month	New Hire
Kang Huh	Teacher	Teacher	PAC	56,650	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Pramod Shankar	Vice Principal	VP of Operations	HS		TPAF	July 1, 2019	12-month	Title Change
Kurvin Rankin	Dean of Culture	Dean of Culture	PAC	80,000	Pers	July 1, 2019	12-month	Salary Update
Genique Hamilton	Principal	Principal	PAC	130,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12-month	Salary Update
Diane Romano	Teacher	SPED Teacher	HS	60,000	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5-month	New Hire
Kelly Antonakus	Vice Principal	VP ELA/Hum	HS	108,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12-month	New Hire
Aleta Bess	Teacher	SPED Teacher	STEAM	57,825	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire

Ashley Thomas	TNT	TNT	STEAM	45,833	PERS	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire
Lindley Bell	Teacher	Science Teacher	HS	68,000	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire
Nathalie Casco	Teacher	TNT (3)	PAC	51,333	Pers	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire
Jessica Alfaro	Teacher	K-6	PAC	58,054	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire
Vanessa Nedrick	Teacher	Teacher	STEAM	64,013	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire
Jasmine Hardesty	Vice Principal	VP Math/Sci 4-8	PAC	96,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12 months	New Hire
Briana Dismukes	School Ops Mgr	School Ops Mgr	STEAM	95,000	PERS	July 1, 2019	12 months	New Hire
Melanie Hinds	Vice Principal	VP K-4 Math	PAC	116,000	TPAF	July 1, 2019	12 months	New Hire
Charity Lee	Teacher	SS Teacher	HS	70,000	TPAF	August 19, 2019	10.5 month	New Hire

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

24. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following separations for the 2018-2019 School Year:

Last Name	First Name	Position	Status	Effective Date
Abrahams	Shannon	Assistant Facilities Manager	Resignation	6/30/2019
Columna	Henry	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
O'Connell	Lauren	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Bradley	Brianna	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Jean-Baptiste	Joshua	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Crosby	Charles	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Einstein	Julie	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Abdul-Quddus	Summiyah	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Assise	Kelly	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019
Samatha	Rollins	Teacher	Resignation	6/28/2019

**Approved (Unanimous)**

25. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following Leaves of Absence - New and Updated:

**Leaves of Absence (new and updated)**

Last Name	First Name	Position	Type of Leave	Leave Date	Return Date
Sims	Stevana	Social Worker	Sick	4/29/2019	5/13/2019
Haynes	James	Security	Administrative	4/9/19	5/1/2019
Rivera	Vernetta	Business Office Coordinator	Sick Leave	1/29/2019	5/20/19
Fasching	Megan	Teacher	Maternity	11/5/2018	6/3/19*
Shuman	James	Teacher	Sick Leave	12/17/2018	6/30/2019
Breheney	Deanna	Teacher, Select Academy	Maternity	2/25/2019	6/10/2019
Ferrer	Angela	ES Teacher	Maternity	5/13/2019	8/2019



Williams	Vivica	Dean of Students	Maternity	5/29/2019	8/2019
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**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

26. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following staff eligible for Worker's Compensation:

**Workers' Compensation**

Month	Last Name	First Name	Position	Loss Time	Location
June 2019	Moore	Clement	Custodian	65	SELECT Academy
June 2019	Carr	Jeff	Teacher	48	HS
June 2019	Haynes	James	Security	6	HS

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

27. The Board of Trustees amends the following Reduction in Force:

Last Name	First Name	Position	Salary	Location	Effective Date
Simmonds	Misha	Interim Chief School Administrator	\$150,000	Central Office	July 16, 2019

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

28. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following appointments effective July 1, 2019:

Last Name	First Name	Position
Gamble	John	Affirmative Action Officer
Gamble	John	Title IX Coordinator
Brown	Anna	504 Officer

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

29. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School appoints the following people to the Affirmative Action Team:

Last Name	First Name
Gamble	John
Brown	Anna
Fletcher	Michael
Taylor	Jeanette
Iwe	Sienna

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

30. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School authorizes the Affirmative Action Team to conduct the comprehensive needs assessment and develop the Comprehensive Equity Plan as needed.

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

31. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the submission of the 2019-2022 Comprehensive Equity Plan.

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)**

32. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves tuition reimbursement per policy to the following staff members in the following amounts
  - a. Leslie Thomas: \$550
  - b. Taiesha Womack-Clark: \$1049

**Approved (Unanimous-Petty Abstained)  
OTHER**

33. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves following Statements of Assurance for the 2018-2019 School Year, to be submitted by June 30, 2019:

- a. Security Drill
- b. Lead Testing

**Approved (Moved by Collins, Seconded by Blount, Unanimous)**

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board went into Executive Session at 7:36.

**Moved:Collins Second: Petty. Approved: Unanimous.**

The board came out of Executive session at 8:00pm

**Moved:Blount; Second: Collins; Approved: Unanimous.**

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The board adjourned at 8:02 PM

**Moved: Collins; Second: Blount. Approved: Unanimous.**

Prepared by: Misha Simmonds