



**Minutes of Scheduled Board Meeting
April 15, 2019**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair V. Rouse called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

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

1. Voting Members (6)
 - a. David Blount
 - b. Greg Collins
 - c. Vincent Rouse
 - d. Khaatim Sherrer El
 - e. Brianna Gilchrist (phone)
 - f. Craig Rogers (phone)
2. Non-Voting Members
 - a. Robert Gregory, Superintendent
 - b. Misha Simmonds, Interim Chief School Administrator & Board Secretary
 - c. Bernice Jalloh, Board Attorney
3. Other staff members
 - a. Michael Fletcher, Director of HR
 - b. Michele Griffin, Chief Community Engagement Officer
4. Village Organizations
 - a. Rev. Ince, Executive Director, Friends of Marion P. Thomas

A quorum was confirmed for the meeting.

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The minutes from the March 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.**

VIII. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

- No one stepped forward with public comment.

VIV. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report (R. Gregory)

a. Village Forward Presentation

- i. Quick Updates
- ii. Lighthouse Goals
- iii. Strategic Priorities April 2019-September 2019

1. Reorganize school- based and central office teams to ensure our scholar and educators have greater resources and support to address their immediate needs.
2. Implement rigorous, coherent, culturally relevant curriculum while offering more visual-performing arts and career-technical education, curricular and co-curricular opportunities.
3. Create school-wide- data driven and responsive Student Support Teams and Adult Advocate Networks where scholars develop the socio-emotional skills needed to prosper in the future.
4. Leverage vast resources prevalent in Newark's Educational Eco-system, and that of the Village, to create strategic partnerships that enhance and improve our scholar's educational experience.
5. Revise and create policies and board governance structures to ensure our resources, policies, and practices support the acceleration of scholar achievement.

iv. Discussion/Next Steps

B. ICS Report (M. Simmonds)

a. Enrollment

- i. Newark Enrolls Matches for 2019-2020 were released:
 1. We hit or came close to most of our targets EXCEPT for grade 9 high school, where our total enrollment is now projected at 120.
 2. The tuition reserve in the 19-20 Budget accounted for this shortfall.

ii. Calendars

1. The current SY18-19 Calendar has been revised to add one more day to compensate for snow days and ensure school is held for 190 days.
2. The SY19-20 Calendar has been drafted for approval

iii. Facilities

1. Sublease negotiations for Shipman and rent amount re-negotiation for Clinton are still in progress.
2. Burnet Renovations are progressing. The playground and additional gates are moving forward, but there has been some new challenges with the auditorium renovation

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance Committee (M. Simmonds)

- a. The 2019-2020 Budget approved at the last board meeting was submitted on time.
- b. The full application for the credit line increase to \$1,000,000 has been submitted to City National Bank, including the aforementioned budget with projected cash flow.

- c. The attached Board Secretary Report for March 2019 has been reviewed and we are now up-to-date. There are no issues to report.
 - d. The attached Treasurer's Report for February 2019 has been reviewed. There are no issues to report.
 - e. The attached Bills and Claims List for April 2019 is for **\$2,984,202.42**. It includes retroactive salary payments for union covered employees (based on the new collective bargaining agreement, to be approved tonight) to be paid on the April 30 paycheck.
 - f. The attached Form 990 for 2017 Calendar Year have been reviewed. There are no issues to report.
 - g. The attached Engagement Letter was reviewed and the Committee recommends we re-appoint Galleros Robinson, Certified Public Accountants, LLC to provide auditing services covering the 2018-2019 school year, in the amount of \$27,000 for the audit and \$2,500 for preparation of annual financial information returns.
- B. Personnel Committee (D. Blount and M. Fletcher)
- a. Reviewed list of New Hires, separations, and leaves
 - b. Analysis of number of candidates vs. anticipated openings for 2019-2020 was presented.
 - c. MPTCS and MPTEA have settled the Employee Contract, covering 2018-2021. The final documents have been reviewed and approved by MPTCS. The MPTEA has ratified the contract and it is up for approval tonight.
- C. Legal Updates (F. Jalloh)
- a. No Updates
- D. Academic Committee (R. Gregory)
- a. We are reviewing data and will present in May.
- E. Alumni Committee (B. Gilchrist)
- a. A student from our first graduating class completed medical school!
- F. Parent Committee (C. Rogers)
- a. Thanks to Mr. Simmonds for quickly addressing issues raised in last few weeks.
 - b. Parents want to know if there will be summer activities.
 - i. No, but Newark Thrives has great opportunities through resource fair we will communicate.

X. VILLAGE REPORTS

- A. Friends Update (G. Ince)
- a. Update on modular life span
 - b. Exploring refinance options for high school, including addition of gym
 - c. Board wants to learn more about relationship with Brick
- B. Foundation Update (M. Griffin)
- a. Plans for the retreat are in progress.
 - b. Will be having a Village Awards Ceremony in May or June - stay tuned!

XI. CHAIRMAN REPORT (Rouse)

- A. Pastor Rouse reminded everyone they are needed at the May retreat!

XII. RESOLUTIONS (Numbered 19-04-X)

FINANCE

1. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month of February 2019. **Approved: Unanimous.**
2. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Board Secretary Reports for the month of March 2019. **Approved: Unanimous.**
3. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Bills and Claims Report for the month of April 2019 for **\$2,984,202.42 Approved: Unanimous.**
4. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Form 990 Submission to the Internal Revenue Service covering the 2017 Calendar Year. **Approved: Unanimous.**
5. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Engagement Letter and appoint Galleros Robinson, Certified Public Accountants, LLC to provide auditing services covering the 2018-2019 school year, in the amount of \$27,000 for the audit and \$2,500 for preparation of annual financial information returns. **Approved: Unanimous.**

HUMAN RESOURCES

6. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following New and Updated Hires for the 2018-2019 School Year: **Approved: Unanimous.**

New

Last Name	First Name	Position	Annual Salary	Effective Date	Prorated Salary	10 OR 12 Months

*= awaiting clearance to start

Updates

Last Name	First Name	Position	Salary	Effective Date	Prorated Salary	10 OR 12 Months
Elks	Benjamin	Teacher-Social Studies H.S.	\$67,524.28	4/29/2019	*	10
Lloyd	Heather	Teacher (Art)-PAC	\$56,004.00	04/08/2019	14,858.19	10

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

Last Name	First Name	Location	Position	Type	Effective Date

Mosquera	Angel	PAC	Security Officer	Resignation	4/19/19
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**Updated info in italics*

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

Leaves of Absence (new and updated)

Last Name	First Name	Location	Position	Type of Leave	Leave Date	Return Date
<i>Felix</i>	<i>Bernardo</i>	<i>High School</i>	<i>HS Teacher</i>	<i>Sick Leave</i>	<i>10/12/2018</i>	<i>4/15/19</i>
Sanchez	Samantha	STEAM	ES Teacher	Maternity	01/02/2019	05/04/19
Fasching	Megan	SELECT	Teacher	Maternity	11/5/2018	6/3/19*
Shuman	James	High School	Teacher	Sick Leave	12/17/2018	6/30/2019
Breheney	Deanna	SELECT	Teacher	Maternity	2/25/2019	6/10/2019
Rivera	Vernetta	Central	Business Office Coordinator	Sick Leave	1/29/2019	5/1/19
Ferrer	Angela	STEAM	Teacher	Maternity	5/13/2019	8/2019
Haynes	James	PAC	Security	Administrative	4/9/19	TBD

***New Leave Requests in Bold**

**Updated Leave Requests in Italics*

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

Workers' Compensation

Last Name	First Name	Position	LossDays	Location
Moore	Clement	Custodian	28	SELECT
Carr	Jeff	Teacher	4	High School

OTHER

10. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached 2018-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Marion P. Thomas Charter School Educators Association.

Moved: Blount Second: Collins. Approved: Unanimous.

11. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following field trips:

Date	Purpose/Destination	School/Students	Transport	Cost
4/22-23/19	Liberty Science Center Spring Break Camp	Grades 6-8	Bus (Free)	Free
6/6/2019	Culinary Institute of America	HS Culinary Club	Bus (paid by club)	1317.75 (paid by club)

Moved: Sherrer El Second: Collins. Approved: Unanimous.

12. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached Revised 2018-2019 District Calendar. **Moved: Blount Second: Collins. Approved: Unanimous.**

13. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached 2019-2020 District Calendar. **Moved: Collins Second: Sherrer El. Approved: Unanimous.**
14. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached facility use agreement for Dance Instruction. **Moved: Collins Second: Blount. Approved: Unanimous.**
15. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached list of HIB determinations. **Moved: Sherrer El Second: Rogers. Approved: Unanimous.**

~~The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the attached list of disciplinary actions. **TABLED**~~

16. Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Marion P. Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees is privileged to honor the outstanding accomplishments of Marion P. Thomas Charter School alumna, Mariame Fofana, for fulfilling the requirements for a Doctor of Medicine;

WHEREAS, Mariame Fofana has been an exemplary scholar. She was a consistent honor roll student during her tenure at Marion P. Thomas Charter School, having graduated as the salutatorian of the 8th Grade Class of 2006. She continued her education at Science Park High School, Newark, NJ's highly-rated magnet school, graduating with honors. She matriculated to Seton Hall University, completing her Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry with honors in 2013.;

WHEREAS, this astute learner believes in taking advantage of unique opportunities to learn and grow, Mariame Fofana traveled to seven countries – Spain, Italy, Portugal, Morocco, Greece, Turkey and Croatia, in conjunction with the University of Virginia Semester at Sea Study Abroad Program; where a ship served as the backdrop for an innovative, global learning experience;

WHEREAS, Mariame Fofana, after a few years of working in the medical field, decided to embrace her goal of becoming a physician was accepted and enrolled in Meharry Medical College. As a result of her consistent hard work, unwavering dedication to her studies, resilient spirit to overcome obstacles and commitment to go above and beyond what was expected of her, Mariame Fofana is graduating with honors from Meharry Medical College with a Doctor of Medicine degree on May 18, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Mariame Fofana has been accepted to a Fellowship Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Icahn School of Medicine- Mount Sinai, where she will serve for the next 4 years; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Marion P. Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees expresses pride for the extraordinary accomplishments of Mariame Fofana and we look forward to seeing Mariame Fofana advance in her medical career and welcome her to come back to our *Village* to encourage future doctors, teachers, leaders and community activists. **Moved: Blount Second: Collins. Approved: Unanimous.**

XI. CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 740 PM to discuss:

- Legal

Moved: **Second:** **Approved**

The board returned to open session at 9:06 PM.

Moved: **Second:** **Approved**

XII. ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS (Numbered 19-04-X)

18. The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School resolves that the areas of assignment of Director of Technology, assignment of Director of Facilities, and contract price are the only three areas left to resolve with respect to the school management agreement with Brick Educational Network, and that the final agreement will be presented for approval at a Special Board Meeting to be held at 6pm on April 24, 2019 at MPTCS High School, 125 Sussex Ave., Newark, NJ.

Moved: Sherrer El Second: Blount. Approved: All except Collins (abstained)

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The board adjourned at 9:12 PM

Moved: Sherrer El Second: Collins. Approved: Unanimous.

Prepared by: Misha Simmonds