



Marion P. Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes of Scheduled Meeting

April 23, 2018

I. Call to order

The Chair G Collins called the meeting to order.

II. Roll call

Femi Amorin the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary conducted a roll call of members present. Members were counted, and the Board Secretary confirmed quorum for the meeting.

Members Present

G Collins
D. Blount –
L. Leslie
M. Jones
D. Best – Joined by Phone
K. Sherrer El
K. Thomas – CEO
D. White- DOO
F. Amorin

(ii) Excused
Rev. Slaughter
J-Dean –Taylor
L. Leslie
V. Rouse

(iii) Other:
T. Jalloh – Board Counsel
M. Fletcher - Director of Human Resources
M. Griffin – Director of Marketing and Development

III ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The Agenda for the meeting was adopted

Moved D. Blount

Second by: M. Jones



IV PRESENTATION

The Principals who were invited to the meeting presented their reports on the preparation for the upcoming Partnership Assessment of Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) testing and projections. Each of the principals provided members with the strategies being adopted by each school to ensure scholars prepare well for the testing. The participation of Scholars on PARCC Power program has been very strong especially at the Elementary and Middle Schools, where participation ranged from 90% to 93%. Overall the Principals anticipated gains in the performance of students in the PARCC testing compared to 37the previous year.

V OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

No comments from the public

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1) Chief Executive Officer Report

The Chief Executive Officer gave the status of ongoing twelve projects. Five activities were completed, and 7 activities are in various stages of completion.

Organizations

The CEO reported that the Board is being asked to take action on Interim Chief School Administrator

Student Achievement

The CEO reported that the principals will be presenting their report PARCC Projections. There is optimism that there will be growth and overall advancement toward the goal although we may not make the goal in both Math and ELA. .

Updates

The CEO provided members with updates on the concerns expressed by parents during the last board meeting on disciplinary measures taken by the school against students that participated in unsanctioned walk out as part of the national protest to encourage stricter gun control.

The CEO informed members that a response to the pending grievance was sent to the student and parent that formally filed a grievance. An opportunity to earn back the prom



was offered however the senior trip is denied. There has been no further action requested by the parent.

All affected seniors were offered the following plan by the principal:

- i. The suspension will stand
- ii. The opportunity to earn back the prom is contingent on NO further disciplinary action and meeting the academic requirements set forth

The CEO has requested the principal to provide a final analysis and report of the number of students that met the requirements to close out this item.

Enrichment Programing

The CEO reported that PARCC testing will run from May 1 to May 14, 2018

Summer Academy

The CEO informed members that Summer Academy will be piloting the STEAM Program and it will be a part of Victoria Foundation grant proposal.

Enrollment

The CEO reported that the enrollment for the 2018-2019 School Year opened on April 20; she reported that Kindergarten will be the most challenging grade to fill with the projected 150 students.

Facilities Plan

The CEO reported that on Morton Street project, Friends is still working on closing in April with Alpert Development LLC, as a project partner.

Board Development

The Board Retreat is scheduled to be held on May 19, 2018 at 125 Sussex Avenue. It will commence 8:30 am through 4:00 pm



Other

School Board Election

The CEO reported on the outcome of the Newark Public School (NPS) Election that took place on April 18, 2018. She reported that the three winners were Asia Norton, Dawn Haynes, and Yambeli Gomez, all members of the Moving Newark Forward Unity Slate.

- Asia Norton represented ed. reform and received 4,149 or 21% of votes.
- Dawn Haynes represented the mayor's office and received 5,240 or 27% of votes
- Yambeli Gomez was the North Ward candidate and received 3,725 or 19% of votes

She noted that Asia was part of the Leadership Pipeline, a project facilitated by Newark Charter School Fund (NCSF), to develop a pool of viable leaders interested in running for this year's school board race and other elected seats. She also pointed out the election was particularly important as the city returned to local control. Members on this school board now have a voting power on everything from the Superintendent search to Universal Enrollment.

2) OPERATIONS

The Director of Operations (DOO) Mr. Damon White presented a report from Operations for the month of March 2018. He provided a District attendance report and District suspension and expulsion summary for March. He also reported a number of priority notifications and submissions for the month of April 2018. County District School System information (CDS) submitted and Safety Data System submission.

On enrollment, The DOO reported that enrollment stood at 1,377 scholars as of April, 14, 2018. Enrollment packages for the 2018 – 2019 School Year (SY) have been prepared and have been distributed to the Office Managers at the respective campuses. The district is continuing re-verification of current scholars. Re-verification runs through September 28th. New student registration commenced April 23rd and will run through June 8th

Technology

- IT to support PARCC testing beginning the week of April 23rd. A final PARCC refresher training is scheduled for Friday, April 20th.
Lightpath – (Clinton and Burnet) Mr. Avery is working with Mr. Amorin and Mr. Ince to gain approval to initiate work at the Clinton & Burnett Campuses



Safety

- *The DOO provided an update on safety and related issues*
- *Safety Drill Report (for the month of April was provided to*
- *A full review of all emergency procedures will be initiated in May. It is anticipated that the review will be completed by mid-June. Any revisions or omissions will be communicated to the larger community in the month of August upon returning for the 2018 – 2019 SY. In addition, under the direction of the Director of Security and his staff, a review of all emergency procedures will be conducted twice annually for all personnel.*
- **Update:** *Installation of surveillance equipment in the culinary and main lobby area(s) of the high school has been completed. However, he noted that there is a need for additional equipment at several additional identified “blind spot” areas.*
- *Primary evacuation sites need to be identified for the Elementary and High School.*

Harassment Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report

The DOO provided updates on HIB from March 26th through April 20th 2018

1. ES – (0) no incidents reported
2. HS – (0) no incidents reported
3. MS – (0) no incidents reported
4. Select – (1) incident reported (1) incident confirmed

Facilities

The DOO provided updates on the ES HVAC.

- **ES HVAC (Update)** – Ambient Conditioning, the original installer of the current units, was on site to inspect existing units and ascertain if they can temporarily repair any of the existing units to provide cooling during the installation of the new units. Anticipated installation time is 5 to 6 weeks.

Other

- The DOO reported that due to inclement weather – the district has utilized three snow days in the month of March and four days overall (January 4th, March 7th & 8th, March 21st). As a result, the district must add two additional days to the calendar for students (Wed., June 27th and Thurs., June 28th).



IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Personnel Committee

The Chair of Personnel committee Mr. David Blount presented the personnel report. On new hires along with their effective dates. He also presented a listing of separations and the effective dates of their separations along with the request for leaves of absence.

He also reported on the following;

1. Axis Talent Partners has withdrawn their candidacy as the search firm for our next Superintendent.
2. MPTCS and MPTEA negotiations are still in progress. We have had 2 meetings since our last Board Meeting.
3. Attended the following Education Job Fairs:
 - a. Greater Philadelphia Teacher Job Fair (Delaware Valley Consortium)
 - b. Montclair State Educator Job Fair
 - c. NJSchoolJobs.com Teacher Job Fair
 - d. The College of New Jersey Educator Job Fair #2
4. Teacher and Operations Job Fair Planned for Thursday, May 3 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at the MPTCS HS, 125 Sussex Ave., Newark, NJ
5. May 4, 2018 Staff Appreciation Day Event at the HS.
6. Staffing notices of renewal, non-renewal and reduction in force will be distributed May 11, 2018. Executive session with final list will be held prior to the May 11, 2018.
7. Resolution to approve contract settlement with Dr. Karen Thomas on deferred compensation contract which was in effect since 2012-2013 school year and currently remains in place.
8. Resolution to approve job description for Community Engagement Specialist.



V. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session to Discuss confidential
Personnel matter

Resolution to move to closed session was

Moved by K. Sherrer El
Seconded by: David Blount

OPEN SESSION

The resolution to move into an Open Session was moved:

Moved by: K Sherrer El
Seconded by: David Blount

2) Finance Committee

The Finance Committee report was presented by the School Business Administrator. The Bill List in the amount of \$2,884,257.27 for the month May 2018 was presented to the Board for approval. The SBA also presented the Board Secretary and Board Treasurer Report as of April 30, 2018

3) Legal Updates

The Board Attorney Ms. Tina Jalloh presented updates on a few issues affecting MPTCS.

T.J Vs MPTCS
MPTCS Vs Reid Shakoor
Chad Vs MPTCS
Morton Street property



FINANCE

4-18-1

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the bill list for the month of April 2018 in the amount of \$2,436,619.57. **Approved**

4-18-2

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the Board Secretary Report for the month of March 31, 2018. **Approved**

4-18-3

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the Treasurer of School Monies report for the month of March 31, 2018. **Approved**

HUMAN RESOURCES

4-18-4

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School approves the following new hires for the 2017-2018 School Year: **Approved**

Last Name	First Name	Position	Salary	Signing Date
SELECT Academy				
Brown	Jarrad	School Social Worker	\$78,609.00	03/26/2018
Damiano	Michael	Elementary School Teacher	\$56,004.00	03/28/2018



4-18-5

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School approves the following separations. **Approved**

Last Name	First Name	Position	Status	Effective Date
DeLeonardo	Jason	ES Teacher	resigned	5/31/2018*
Augustus	Deidra	HS Interventionist	resigned	4/20/2018
Bido	Jesse	ES Security Officer	resigned	4/13/2018
Cave	Malik	ES Teacher	terminated	3/15/2018

4-18-6

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School approves the following leaves of absence. **Approved**

▪ **Leaves of Absence (New and Updated):**

Last Name	First Name	Position	Type of Leave	Leave Date	Return Date
Mosley	Krystal	Payroll, Business office	Sick	9/18/2017	extended (updated)
Fields	Andre	HS Sub Security	sick	10/19/2017	4/23/2018
Yekeen	Khadijat	Sped. Teacher MS	maternity leave	2/26/2018	5/29/2018
Ramos	Tanya	World Languages Teacher MS	Maternity Leave	3/9/2018	6/1/2018
Craig	Jason	History Teacher HS	Paternity Leave	anticipated wk of 5/5/2018 and	08/2018



				June 2018	
Shiera	Ola	ES Teacher	Sick Leave	3/02/2018	*08/2018
*Blevins	Torrence	custodian	sick	4/30/2018	TBD
*Ferrer	Angie	ES Teacher	maternity leave	5/11/2018	9/2018
*Wilson	Andray	Custodian	Sick Leave	2/27/2018	*5/17/2018
Caldwell	Shirena	Custodian	Sick Leave	3/20/2018	9/2018
Einstein	Julie	ES Teacher	maternity leave	5/18/2018	8/20/2018
Jones	Martha	MS Teacher	administrative leave	3/29/2018	6/30/2018

4-18-7

The Board of Marion P Thomas Charter School resolves to approve a contract settlement with Dr. Karen Thomas on a deferred compensation contract which was in effect between the 2012-2013 and 2017-2018 school years. **Approved**

4-18-8

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School resolves to approve a job description for a Community Engagement Specialist for the 2018-2019 School Year **Approved**

4-18-8A

The Board of Trustees of Marion P. Thomas Charter School resolves to approve the appointment of Misha Simmonds as Interim Chief School Administrator with effect from May 14, 2018 **Approved**

OTHER

4-18-9

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School resolves to approve the agreement with the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission for the provision of Public School English as a Second Language for Scholars for 2018-2019 School Year. **Tabled**



4-18-10

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School resolves to approve the agreement with the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission for the provision of Public School Child Study Team services to Scholars for 2018-2019 School Year. **Tabled**

4-18-11

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School resolves to approve the agreement with the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission for the provision of Public School Speech Services to Scholars for 2018-2019 School Year. **Tabled**

4-18-12

The Board of Trustees of Marion P Thomas Charter School resolves to approve a field trip to Hershey Park on June 11, 2018 by 67 students of 8th Grade accompanied by 9 chaperons at a cost of \$3,188.96 excluding transportation. **Approved**

Prepared by Femi Amorin – Board Secretary

Approved by MPTCS Board of Trustees