



Treasure Coast Classical Academy (TCCA)

Minutes for Meeting of the Board of Directors

1400 SE Cove Rd, Stuart, FL 34997

Meeting also available via Zoom

April 19th, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

Members in Attendance

- Mr. Joseph Featherstone
- Ms. Laura Pate
- Mr. Brandon Miller
- Mr. Brandon Tucker (via Zoom)
- Mr. Gary Uber (via Zoom)

School Personnel in Attendance

- Ms. Janine Swearingin, Principal
- Mrs. Tama Williams, School Operations Manager
- Mrs. Borzillo, Project Coordinator
- Mrs. Erika Donalds, Executive Director

Members Absent

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1. Meeting Called to order 10:07 a.m. by Mr. Featherstone.
 2. Attendance taken by Mr. Featherstone.
 3. Community Comments:
 - a. Michelle Miller
 - b. Cindy Canon
 - c. Monica Perez
 - d. Niki Marshall
 4. Principal's Report – Ms. Swearingin reported that student attendance continues to average above 90% and Mr. Greene is working with families on absence issues. Student retention is at approximately 96%. State testing has begun, and results will be available end of summer. Ms. Swearingin provided an update on the recent Hillsdale visit observations, feedback, and suggestions which were very positive overall. High School program development continues, and updates will be shared with families over the next few weeks. Ms. Swearingin answered Board questions regarding class and athletics designations for the high school. Mrs. Williams addressed Board member questions regarding teacher supply requests which are no longer an issue aside from global supply shortages and delays.
 5. School Operation Manager's Report – Mrs. Williams reported that the new kitchen has been installed and restrooms have been renovated. Car Line improvements continue to be made to alleviate any backups on Cove Road and prepare for expansion. Mrs. Williams provided updates on the activity clubs, parent volunteers, newsletter distribution and social media posts, the recent 5K event, the Spring Gala event, golf event, and student field trips. Ms. Borzillo addressed parent questions regarding the emergency text notification system and expanded student drop-off time period vs. staggered drop-off times. Mrs. Pate thanked Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Borzillo for the updates.
 6. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Tucker stated there is no new report this month.

7. Executive Director's Report – Mrs. Donalds provided an update on building construction which is on target for completion by August 2023. Mrs. Donalds addressed the PTC issue and stated that TCCA's policy does not allow for separate entities; all committees are overseen by the school and all fundraising goes to the school account. Mrs. Donalds explained that Board members are selected and elected by the Board and are vetted by Optima and Hillsdale with three-year staggered terms limited to three consecutive terms with up to nine Board members permitted.
8. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: 2/1/22, 2/11/22, 2/14/22 (vote) – ***Motioned by Mrs. Pate to approve Board meeting minutes as amended with an edit to 2/1/22 minutes to show Mr. Gary Uber in Attendance via phone, seconded by Mr. Tucker, vote: unanimous.***
9. New Business
 - a. Preliminary Budget Review – Budget draft documents were shared with the Board members and Mr. Featherstone asked every Board member to review prior to the May Board Meeting when the Budget will be presented for a vote.
 - b. Board Member non-renewal letter (vote to accept) Mr. Featherstone thanked Mrs. Pate for her years of service on the Board. ***Mr. Tucker motioned to accept Mrs. Pate's letter of non-renewal of Board term, Mr. Featherstone seconded, vote: unanimous.***
 - c. Board Meeting Schedule (vote) – ***Mr. Tucker motioned to accept the schedule as presented, Mr. Miller seconded, vote: unanimous.***
 - d. School Leadership (vote) – ***Motion for discussion by Mrs. Pate, seconded by Mr. Miller.*** Ms. Swearingin has resigned as Principal to accept the new position of Director of Academics with The Optima Foundation. Mrs. Kirsten Pendleton has been identified as the candidate to fill the now-vacant position of TCCA Principal. Ms. Pate thanked Ms. Swearingin for her passion and support in the School Principal position and Mr. Miller congratulated her on the new role she has accepted. Ms. Swearingin thanked the Board for all they do for the school. ***Mr. Tucker motioned to accept the school leadership changes as presented, Mrs. Pate seconded, vote: unanimous.***
 - e. Certification Extension Request (vote) – To extend the temporary three-year certification for Sam Foat and Stephany Sproul. ***Mr. Tucker motioned to approve the two requests, Mrs. Pate seconded: vote: unanimous.***
 - f. Hillsdale College Amended License Agreement (vote) – the new version of the Hillsdale agreement will last through the term of the charter. ***Mr. Tucker motioned to approve as presented, Mrs. Pate seconded, vote: unanimous.***
10. Policy Updates - None

11. Good of the Order - None

12. Announcements - None

13. Board Comments

- a. Mr. Featherstone commented on the letters that went to parents about change in school leadership; he acknowledges the work done behind the scenes in this process. Mr. Featherstone would like to make a motion to increase the time of community comment; this will be added to the next meeting agenda for discussion and vote.
- b. Mrs. Pate asked about the timing of Board meeting minutes posted to the website. Mrs. Turner responded that they are posted quarterly as per State statute after Board approval.
- c. Mr. Tucker personally thanked Mrs. Pate for her service and passion and all of her hard work saying it has been a pleasure to serve alongside her. In reference to the increase in public comment time; we may want to limit public comment based on the number of public attendees.

14. Adjournment – 11:39 a.m.

Next board meeting: Tuesday, May 24th, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.