

Taylor Road Middle School – Governance Council Meeting Minutes

Media Center, October 20, 2023

Members present: Gail Crust, Heidi Russell, Emily Lavretta, Tommy Thornton, Shannon Carey, Franca Marsh and Principal, Kelly Parker

Guests: PTA President, Kelly Allmon-Davis

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 AM by Gail Crust.

Heidi Russell moved to approve the agenda for the October 20, 2023, meeting. Tommy Thornton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was noted that a date in the September Minutes read 'May 2023' and should be changed to 'May 2024'. With that change, Tommy Thornton moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2023, meeting. Franca Marsh seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Council member Payal Chhabria is not able to continue in her role as Community Member on the council. Tiffany McCusker was put forward as a replacement and a statement from Ms. McCusker was read by Gail Crust. Emily Lavretta moved to approve Tiffany McCusker as the council's new Community Member. Shannon Carey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Payal Chhabria's departure has left a vacancy in the role of Superintendent Advisory Council Representative. A new representative will be chosen at the next meeting. Emily Lavretta will attend as interim representative for the next Advisory Council meeting.

Superintendent Update

Payal Chhabria provided a written summary of the Superintendent Advisory Council meeting. The meeting addressed recent Fulton County achievements, SAT scores/trends and operational updates including, bus driver shortage and recognition, capital programs, school nutrition initiatives, upcoming redistricting meetings, and feedback on the 2025-2026 instructional calendar.

PTA Update

Kellie Allmon-Davis provided a PTA update to the council. The 6th grade dance was a success. Updates were provided on upcoming spirit nights, stipend checks for teachers, mini grants for teachers, staff appreciation events and the Reflections competition. Staff feedback was very positive.

Requests for use of Charter Funds

Available General Funds- \$32,811

Principal Parker was able to use other funds to cover the cost of the Tier I instruction requests from last month's meeting.

Denied

Johnel Robinson requested a total of \$2,261.88 for the purchase of mindset bracelets.

Franca March motioned to deny the request. Shannon Carey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Partial Approval

Kippi Farragut requested a total of \$500 to cover the cost of t-shirts, membership fees and other start-up costs for a new chapter of HOSA.

Heidi Russell motioned to approve \$200 of the request. Tommy Thornton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approved

Ryan Murphy requested a total of \$500 to purchase sound proofing panels for office space often used for musical instruction.

Angela Reynolds requested a total of \$7,000 to offset the cost of transportation, clinicians, and sheet music for the Symphonic Band's performance at the Music for All Southeastern Regional Concert Band Festival.

Heidi Russell requested a total of \$1,900 to stock PBIS teacher stores.

Kilo Henderson requested a total of \$2,500 to stock the PBIS student store.

Tommy Thornton motioned to approve the requests. Shannon Carey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Principal Update

The first 9 weeks of the semester are off to a fantastic start. The staff appreciation events by the PTA have helped bring teachers together. TRMS attendance rates remain high. The district controls the attendance communications that go out to parents. Student recognition and feedback have increased. Students received 94% mastery of unit 1 ELA school wide.

Agenda for November Meeting

Public Comment to be included.

New Meeting Start Time

Heidi Russell motioned that council meetings begin at 7:30AM going forward. Tommy Thornton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Tommy Thornton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34AM. Franca Marsh seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved.