A special meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District Number One of Tulsa County, Oklahoma was held on October 30, 2023, commencing at 5:19 p.m. in the Cheryl Selman Room, at the Charles C. Mason Education Service Center, 3027 S. New Haven Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Notice of the meeting was given by service of written notice of the meeting to the office of the County Clerk of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, as required by Title 25, O.S., § 311.(A)(5) and (A)(5), and by posting the attached agenda and recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools in prominent public view at tulsaschools.org and in the inside of the clear glass display case outside the main door of said Charles C. Mason Education Service Center on October 27, 2023, at 5:06 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of Title 25, O.S., § 311. (A)(12).

PRESENT:  John Croisant  
Jerry Griffin  
Susann Lamkin  
Diamond Marshall  
Jennettie Marshall  
Stacey Woolley

ABSENT: E'Lena Ashley
OPENING EXERCISES

Ms. Stacey Woolley, president of the Board of Education, called the meeting to order and declared that a quorum of the board was present; therefore, the meeting was qualified to consider the agenda items. Board Member John Croissant led the flag salute.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

President Stacey Woolley welcomed board members and the Tulsa Honor Academy staff, students, and families in attendance. She highlighted that the special board meeting was called pursuant to policy 1301 which provides that the board may call a special meeting for the purpose of public comment on matters of particular interest and importance to the community.

Dr. Ebony Johnson shared her appreciation to the board for their care and diligence in reading and responding to emails from their constituents and for individual board members meeting with Tulsa Honor Academy leadership and board representatives. She also thanked Tulsa Honor Academy representatives for their willingness to meet and answer board questions in depth in preparation for this meeting.

Dr. Kathy Dodd recapped the process and the performance framework used to make the recommendation for Tulsa Honor Academy’s High School charter renewal.

PUBLIC COMMENT regarding the charter contract renewal for Tulsa Honor Academy’s high school.

Twenty-one speakers spoke on the topic of Tulsa Honor Academy’s high school charter renewal.

ACTION AGENDA

Approve up to a three-year renewal of Tulsa Honor Academy, Inc.’s charter contract for a high school serving grades 9-12. This renewal will start July 1, 2024, and expire June 30, 2027. Tulsa Honor Academy is a 501(c)3 corporation. If granted, this renewal will align the charter school expiration dates of Tulsa Honor Academy’s middle school and high school and authorize the district to draft a new, single, charter school contract incorporating both of Tulsa Honor Academy’s schools.

Board Member John Croissant made a motion to renew Tulsa Honor Academy’s high school charter renewal for three years. Dr. Jerry Griffin seconded the motion.

Board Member Griffin asked for a recap of the learning from the board small group meetings with THA leadership. Mr. Croissant shared that he and Board Member Ashley met with Dr. Dodd and THA leadership. They discussed some of the concerns that came forward and how the school, leadership, and THA Board were addressing those concerns. He also shared that THA provided a School Culture Improvement plan that was included in all of the Tulsa Board of Education meeting packets.

Board Member Diamond Marshall shared that her actions to table the THA high school charter renewal at the October 2, 2023, regular meeting of the board was a result of concerns shared with her just prior to the start of that meeting. She also shared that she met with THA leadership to discuss grievances with regard to the middle school. Also, during that time she was reminded of the role of a board member of a charter authorizer which she was not fully
aware of as a new board member. Due to the fact that the grievances were not regarding the high school, which is the school being considered for renewal, and her further understanding of the role of charter authorizer, THA’s scoring according to that framework, as well as THA’s acknowledgement of the racial issues and their plan to address with their staff and students and handle through their THA school board. Consequently, Board Member Diamond Marshall stated that she supported the renewal and believed that THA would become a leader in restorative justice just as they were in student academic achievement.

Dr. Jennettie Marshall shared her concerns regarding recent reports that she received with regard to racial slurs and insensitivities. She shared her disappointment that two marginalized communities would disparage one another rather than work to lift each other. Additionally, she acknowledged THA’s academic gains but restated her concerns regarding the hostile school environment between some of the African American students and Hispanic students that she feared would not change.

Dr. Griffin shared his appreciation for Dr. Marshall’s comments and stated he supports Dr. Marshall’s no vote. He inquired of legal if it was possible to renew the high school for a year with heavy monitoring.

Mr. Eric Wade stated there was a motion on the floor to approve a three-year renewal. He also stated the agenda item allowed up to a three-year renewal. There was continued discussion among the board and district staff.

Board Member Jennettie Marshall requested that Tulsa Honor Academy share with their students and families how to file a complaint a civil rights complaint.

Board President Woolley stated that she felt the pain of those hurt, and that she believed there was an opportunity to elevate students needing support through their partnership with THA. She stated that she felt THA was demonstrating a desire to improve, and that she did not feel throwing the “baby out with the bath water” was the correct thing to do. Lastly, she shared that she was prayerful that students, families, and staff that have been hurt would have an opportunity to engage with THA in genuine and healing work and that current students would reap the benefit of that work.

Board President called for the vote, and the motion passed by the following:


**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education will be held on onday, November 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.
Attorney for the School District

President, Board of Education

Superintendent of Schools

Clerk, Board of Education