



Board of Trustees Meeting September 22, 2025 (In-Person)
 Marion P. Thomas Charter High School of Culinary and Performing Arts
 125 Sussex Avenue, Newark, NJ 07103

September 22, 2025 | 6:00 PM ET

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87205682710?pwd=dWh4bE5qWCtkWk9PcThPSWdLbVZZUT09>

1. CALL TO ORDER – Open Public Meetings Act - 6:16 PM

- The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (“Act”) was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Marion P Thomas Charter School Board of Trustees has caused notice of this meeting to be advertised by having the date, time, and place there of posted on the district’s website (www.mptcs.org), in the office of the Clerk of the City of Newark, and was published in the Star-Ledger in June 2025.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Non-Voting Board Members Present	
Elijah Griffiths (Board Secretary/Administrator)	Tina Jalloh (Board Attorney)
Angela Mincy, Chief School Administrator/Superintendent	Joshua Solow (School Business Administrator)

** Motion Seconded



3. CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

- Chairman Rouse gave an update.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

- Ms. Mincy gave a presentation update.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations & Finance Committee

- So first we talked about facilities with Mr. Collins. Within facilities, we've gone through some fire safety tasks, making sure that our fire extinguishers, our exit lights, and smoke detectors are in working order. We've completed a number of summer renovations, including upgrades to the bathroom, painting classrooms, and exterior improvements. And then finally, major long-term issues we're working on is our lighting system, the roof impact, and our environmental compliance. Moving on to enrollment, we reviewed a vendor that we would like to hire called Enrolled, and they will assist us with just making sure that we improve our enrollment effort. Their service includes CRM, which is a software, as well as marketing support, parent outreach, data dashboards, and also retention strategies. And you'll see that that's an item we're going to be voting on today. Moving on to the finance topics, we went through all the financial reports that you'll see in your packet today, including the bills list, the reconciliation report for the last three months, the board secretary report for three months, treasurer's report, and the budget to actual. Just to summarize the numbers, I'd say first, we're in a strong position, but at the same time, last year we ended the year in a deficit of about \$89,000, which is better than what we forecasted. We forecast \$1.8 million deficit. We landed at \$89,000, which is an improvement. And then this year, our deficit is expected to be about \$1 million, which means some tough decisions, but I think the right decisions that we make to move the village forward. Also in the finance discussion is our grants. You'll see there's a number of grants that we're approving, which is our Title 1, 2, 3, and 4 grants, our IDA grants, our Perkins grants as well. And that's our finance committee report. (Boomer)

Personnel Committee

- Our Personnel Committee met and we have to report tonight our 2025-2026 school year teacher vacancies are as such. At our Sankofa, there are zero vacancies. At PAC, there are zero vacancies. At STEAM, there's one. And at the high school, there is one for our teacher vacancies. We are looking real good. We are looking real good. Non-instructional vacancies by campus. At San Francisco, 0, at PAC 0, STEAM there are three, at the high school there are three. Total across the district, only 8 vacancies. Congratulations. Out of all of my years, this is the first year that we reported this out as such. So what we'll be voting on tonight, there is Rutgers. We have a Rutgers Social Work. There's an agreement that makes Marian P. Thomas Charter School an approved site for Rutgers School of Social Work for social work students. Rutgers will provide oversight and assign a faculty consultant and will support our professional development while the school integrates students into these programs and provide qualified instructors for the program. And so we would like to make sure that we vote on that in the affirmative. And we're also voting on our report of those who have joined the village and those who may no longer be with the village. I would like to package those together. (Rouse)



Curriculum & Instruction Committee

- The committee met and we have 5 items to be approved tonight. The first one being the approval of the evaluation guidebook update. We've reviewed it. It looks good. The approval for the home instruction students. And I think right now we only have two right now. And they both are medical. And then we have the approval of field trips. There are several, but they are across the district. The K is approval to apply for the RISE grant, and the RISE grant offers money for intervention and reading. I think it's 6 through 12, but we need approval for the application to be presented. And then the final one is the approval of the Premier Stage contract. And that is a partnership with, I believe it's Kane where they would send in an artist in residence, the teacher, and an assistant. I think it's seven or eight sessions to work with students in the arts. And so we will package them. I don't think we need to do them separately. We can package them if you will. (Towe)

Culture & Climate + Alumni Committee

- Good evening, everyone. The Alumni Culture and Climate Committee met on September 9th. One of the things we discussed was the Care for You Kids program. I'm going to be asking that the trustees vote in the affirmative for this CARE Act. This is a hygiene initiative to help support and benefit the STEAM and PAC academies. This is at no cost to the district. So please vote in the affirmative. The next thing we discussed is the back-to-school nights, which for PAC, SanKofa, and STEAM was held on September 17th. The high school on September 18th. I don't know if you guys saw, but there was some really good advertisements on social media for the back-to-school night, some great engagement. It really showed that the village is an enjoyable place to work and to send your students. So, one thing that you can do for us is anytime you see anything on social media and you enjoy the content, please like, share, send it to someone. It's free and it'll be extremely helpful and beneficial to helping to lift us up in the algorithm and get that information out to the larger Newark community and surrounding areas. The next thing we discussed was the parent and student leadership. And so, as we're really invested in making sure that our parents and students have a voice in the village and particularly on the board. So, keep a lookout for the parent board representative in its elections and also the student board representative, which this year is going to be different from the student council. So, if you are a student and you are interested in, you know, getting your voice out there and learning the process for being a board member and what that could look like, how that could be beneficial for you if you maybe have some legal interests or the like, this could be a good opportunity. So keep a lookout for that and be sure to apply for that. Another thing we discussed was Suicide Awareness Month and our student support team has developed a comprehensive plan to raise awareness about suicide and emphasize how we can do things make it preventative. So there's lots of things we discussed. One more thing I wanted to point out, and if you guys can, you can go to social media before you leave and share this. Our superintendent, Mincy, did a special thank you from her Instagram to Audible. It is really cool to watch. So please go and share that out and say thank you to Audible for continuing to be a good support for the village. And that concludes the report out for the Alumni and Culture and Climate Committee. Again, a reminder, we have one resolution and I ask that you vote in the affirmative. Thank you. (Gilchrist)

Safety Committee

- So, we had two major subjects that we focused on for the safety committee in the past month. The first one is again, just trying to push through and fine tune our policy concerning the threat assessment, our procedures that we're instilling at the district. As you may know, there's a statute out there that basically requires that schools put in place procedures to identify threats of serious harm



that are immediate to the safety of the school. And so we're making sure, I'm pretty proud of the team. Like we spend a lot of time making sure that we balance ensuring safety, identifying potential threats, and safeguarding anybody involved's privacy as much as possible while also making sure that we don't sacrifice the you know what, safety. It's still not in its final stages. It's still not ready to present, but that's a large part of what we're working toward. And then we'll be able to present it to the board eventually. Also, the other one, and that's the one that's going to be presented now as a resolution, is that we would like to hire a third-party contractor to come in and do like an internal look at our security, like in-depth, very thorough. and give us an assessment of whether our resources right now that we're dedicating are adequate for security. I know that the committee's been made aware that there's some concerns that the contract, the way it's stated right now, might be vague on a couple of points. So what I'm going to be doing is making a motion that we pass this at the stated amount, which is \$6,500 that we're authorizing toward this but we'll make it contingent on both attorney approval and on our CSA's approval that after flushing this out some more, that it adequately meets the total needs of what we are looking for. I think the language at issue, if I'm correct, is it says complete on-site physical security assessment of building and grounds. And I've been told they're seeking more clarity on that so if we make it contingent on the CSA approving that the vendor is able and willing to provide basically what's necessary within the amount that we set, then we're good. And you guys can just go ahead and get that done. If you go back and realize that you can't get it done at the price that we were foreseeing, then we can always, as a board, come back and authorize more money. But we wanted to give you the freedom to flush that out without having to delay this another month. But again, we can address as necessary if more money is needed. Any questions on any of that or anything safety related from anybody?(Valdivieso)

Executive Committee

- No Report Given. (Rouse)

6. RESOLUTIONS

** Motion Seconded



I. [2025-9-22-A: Approval of the September 22, 2025 BOT Meeting Agenda](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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II. [2025-9-22-B: Approval of the August 11, 2025 BOT Meeting Minutes](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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- III. [PACKAGE C - F: Motion: Boomer - Gilchrist** | Approved](#)
[2025-9-22-C: Approval of September 25' Finance Report](#)
[2025-9-22-D: Approval of Newark Common Enrollment App](#)
[2025-9-22-E: Approval of FY 2026 Grants](#)
[2025-9-22-F: Approval of Enroll\(ED\) Proposal](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

** : Motion Seconded



Discussion:

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IV. [2025-9-22-G: Approval of Partnership with Rutgers](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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V. [2025-9-22-H: Approval of September 25' Personnel Report](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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** : Motion Seconded



VI. *PACKAGE I & M: Motion: Towe - Valdivieso** | Approved*
[*2025-9-22-I: Approval of MPTCS Evaluation Guidebook Updates for 25 - 26*](#)
[*2025-9-22-J: Approval of Home Instruction Students*](#)
[*2025-9-22-K: Approval of Field Trips*](#)
[*2025-9-22-L: Approval to Apply for RISE Grant*](#)
[*2025-9-22-M: Approval of Premiere Stages Contract*](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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VII. [*2025-9-22-N: Approval of Care for Kids MOU*](#)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse**	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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** : Motion Seconded



VIII. 2025-9-22-O: Approval of Security Assessment (Contingent on Attorney Approval on CSA Approving vendor is able to provide what's necessary within the stated amount 6,50)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vincent Rouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allan Boomer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Briana Gilchrist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toni Ince	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Princess Towe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Daryl Stewart	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Julio Valdivieso	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Discussion:

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7. PUBLIC COMMENT - It is now time for public participation. To engage in public comment, all speakers must register via the district's website no later than 5 calendar days prior to the advertised meeting by 5:00 PM ET. Please state your name and address for the record. All speakers will have 2-minutes to address the BOT.

EXECUTIVE SESSION | Motion: Boomer - Gilchrist** | Approved

LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION | Motion: Rouse - Gilchrist** | Approved

8. CLOSED SESSION - 9:17 PM

9. CLOSING REMARKS FROM BOARD CHAIR:

Thank you to all for your hard work and dedication to the village. Have a great evening! Committees thank you for meeting.

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN: 9:17 PM ET Rouse - Towe** | Approved

Respectfully submitted at: 9/22/2025

Submitted by: Elijah D. Griffiths

** : Motion Seconded