



**Thursday, August 12, 2021  
Special Board meeting  
4:00 pm**

*We serve a diverse student body to succeed in a rigorous college preparatory program. Our mission is to ensure that all students graduate with the skills to achieve in college, to contribute positively, and to be accepting of all people.*

**Call to Order**

The Board Meeting was called to order by Rich Holst at 4:11 pm

**Reading of Mission and Vision**

Read by Holst

**Attendance**

Members present: Rich Holst, Andrew Ng, Lisa Dennis, Erin Enquist, Jocelyn Bowden (arrived at 4:36 pm), Ofir Germanic (arrived at 4:27 pm), Doris Espelien

Members absent: Tim Becken, Yonathan Tadese

Others in attendance: Betsy Lueth, Executive Director; Erin Amundson, TCA Principal; Eugene Piccolo, Speaker; Brenda Reedy, Recording Secretary

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion of approve the agenda with the removal of the July minutes due to no quorum was made by Ng, second by Espelien, following no discussion, motion carried.

**Public Comments**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Espelien to approve the June 24, 2021 minutes, striking the yellow highlighted comments from them; a second by Ng. Motion passed with 5 votes.

**New Business**

- New Board member introductions
  - Lisa Dennis is the school social worker and has been at TCA in that capacity for 4 years. She is serving as one of the staff positions on the board.
  - Erin Enquist is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade English/Language Arts teacher who has been at TCA for 6 years. Her position is also a staff member position.
  - Ofir Germanic is a community member and part of Youth World Connect, he has

- coordinated with TCA on many events in the past.
  - Jocelyn Bowden is a parent of a TCA student/s. She lives on the East Side in the community. She is filling the 3 year parent position on the board
  - All present board introduced themselves as well; Holst—parent member; Espelien—community member; Ng—teacher at TCA in his 4<sup>th</sup> year; Becken—community member
- Presentation by Eugene Piccolo form MACS
  - MACS has done Zoom calls every month for 15 months connecting with other charter schools. He was reached out to for Strategic Planning trainings on his thoughts and ideas from other charter schools. He gave a little background on MACS, how it started and why. Eugene said some of the challenges for charter schools are direction and mission. He mentioned “mission creep” saying they will either close or be come down on by their authorizer.
  - The Mission is about today. What you’re doing, who you’re serving, what makes you stand out. It should be clear and focused. It also should be easily understood by people. He also mentioned that it should be read at EVERY meeting, people have to hear it and understand it.
  - The Vision is about the future, what do you want the school to be, i.e. “As a result of their education here students will.....”
  - Mission and Vision should be the driving force. For Strategic Planning purposes, how does this fulfill the mission? Organizations should start with someone having to take the leadership role to do it internally. It does take an investment of time to do well. As a Board, make sure it’s implemented and hold people accountable.
  - Eugene said TCA’s Mission statement is more like our Vision statement
  - Sometimes the Mission gets lost in chasing the \$\$ (grants, etc) that don’t align with the Mission. Lueth gave a background of 20 year of TCA history. Holst mentioned Mission shift and Mission drift. Eugene stressed the Mission should define WHO you serve. Ofir said it’s ongoing and should be. Strategic plans should shift, the Mission should not unless there is a change in population served.
  - A question TCA should be asking according to Piccolo is Are we moving toward our Mission and does it tie into our contract with our Authorizer?
  - He placed the responsibility of fulfilling of the Mission on the Board and if it’s not happening they need to step in and correct it and step in and support the leadership.
  - Board needs a common understanding of terms and every time there’s a new Board member, they need to review those terms.
  - Every board meeting, committee meeting, publication, faculty meeting, should include the Mission—it needs to be in front of people.
    - Who are our students?
    - What do we believe; what are our values? Ex: honesty, open dialogue
    - What is it that we do? Ex: College prep, ask people what they think our Mission is.
  - Mission doesn’t have to be complicated, Vision should be more in depth. Caution: Don’t make Mission a tag line/logo, the Mission should be driving what we do.
- **2021-2022 Board Calendar Approval**
  - Currently meetings occur the last Thursday of the month—it was asked if anyone opposed moving it to Wednesday to better accommodate some individuals schedules. Betsy will send out a Doodle survey to see if another day works better. Noted next meeting is Thursday August 26<sup>th</sup>, may change for future meetings, will revisit this on August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Asset and Opportunity Mapping**
  - Lueth met with Yonathan T via Zoom and his top 4 were diversity, care, community based and personalized or connections. He is interested in getting more students involved hearing more student voices

- Reviewed Asset mapping---it needs to be done by 8/31
- Talked about who we are
- Talked about the to do's
  - Find Strategic Planning process group
  - Marketing group—work with a group who is familiar with schools
  - Community liasions
  - Student focus groups—utilize Yonathan
  - Parent focus group in September/October
- Defined Assets
  - Teachers, staff, support staff, strong mental health team, diverse student body/families, partnership with Conway and Ofir—JP4 Foundation, Special Ed Department, TC Counseling group, tutoring, technology, building, Geno4Art, Arts groups/Music parnterships, GRS partnerships with sports, Drew—Mindfulness, UST, AVID, PBIS, elective, AP, CIS, PSEO, student leadership groups, transporation.

**Adjourn**

A motion was made by Espelien, second by Dennis to adjourn the meeting and move to the closed meeting.

5:18 pm by Holst