The Classical Academy 975 Stout Road Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Board of Directors Meeting North Campus Monday, September 14, 2009

- I. Call to Order (6:05pm)
- II.Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
- III. Executive Session per C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) for the purpose of receiving legal advice.
- IV. Comments (8:10pm)

Steve Pope addressed the Board and wanted to add an executive session after agenda item L to discuss personal issues. There is a target of 11:00pm to rap up the meeting.

Kay Goble addressed the board and let them know that summer school went well. We had the most students ever, 57 students. Recommendation that we have it at East campus next year. Thank you to the Junior High for hosting us. Here are the goals for 2010, have it at east, decrease time between the end of the school and the beginning of the program and feedback from the teachers to see if the school made any difference. Thank you to Mark Hyatt for the scholarships to make it happen for parents in need. Mark Hyatt told Kay thank you for your leadership and also that people from all around the community gave money to help with scholarships.

A parent asked the board where they would find information about the attrition of staff from East due to all of the things that happened with it. Recommend she ask administration.

## V. Consent Agenda Items

These are items that are for information or for vote but do not require further discussion by the Board or staff at this time. In the event that new information is available since the publication of this agenda, prior to approval of the consent agenda as presented, the board or staff may remove any consent agenda item(s) and move the item(s) to the Discussion Agenda.

### A. Financial Monthly

There was a motion made to approve the consent agenda by Matt Carpenter and was seconded by Lisa Suttong. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

### B. Operations Update

## VI. Discussion Agenda Items

These are specific items that the Board and /or staff would like to discuss and expand upon in greater detail than the materials that have been provided.



i.Item: Confirm Board Priorities for Fall 2009 & Meeting frequency/duration

- 1. Review Board Priority Objectives and Future Agenda Items
  - a. 1. Policy & Procedures, 2. President Job Description & Objectives, 3. Core Values / Assisting Parents Definitions

Est. Time: 20 mins

- 2. Board Working Sessions topics / frequency / dates
- 3. Discuss Regular Meeting Frequency (1/mo or 2/mo & Duration)

ii.Presenter: Steve Pope For: Discussion

Steve Pope addressed the board and discussed the Boards priorities for Fall 2009 and the meeting frequency and also to change the meetings to twice a month and shorter meetings. Vance Brown asked would we commit to this and what would the time be. Maybe have a 6:00-10:00pm or 6:00-9:00pm. Also to have working sessions outside of the board meeting to get things done and then have a voting session. Jim Kretchman stated that maybe if we had two meetings one that is working and one that is voting and people would not have to be at every working session but would need to be at the voting session. Steve said we should have mostly working sessions. Steve Pope will work with Andrea to create a schedule for the remainder of the year to have a working session. The first one is scheduled for September 28th from 6:00-9:00pm

B. TCA Board Policy Review Roadmap

i.Item: Discussion of Board/Admin Policy Domains & Board Policy Review Timeline

- 1. Update community on TCA Monitoring Report to D20 Board
- 2. Discuss Priority / Timeline of Updating Board Policies
- 3. Review/Update TCA Board Code of Conduct Policy
- 4. Review/Update TCA Board Election Policy

ii.Presenter: Steve Pope & Matt Carpenter For: Discussion/1st Reads Est. Time: 20 mins

Steve discussed the presentation made recently to D20 and about the time lines and commitments that we have made to them. We will make public the letter that went to them. Mark Hyatt said that the D20 board is happy with where we are going. Jim Kretchman clarified that if we do not have our own policies that we use D20 policies. Veronica Wolken shared with the board that there is not an easy answer to Jims Kretchman's questions; we have completed a detailed review of one section. As we go through policy by policy we are finding that we abide by the vast majority of them. There is a difference between Board policies, administrative policies, and administrative procedures. Matt Carpenter asked if the board policies would conflict with the administrative policies and Veronica Wolken stated that the administrative policies would not conflict. Vance Brown stated that it would be good if the board could have training by CASB and Mark Hyatt stated that he could make that happen. Ron Mast stated that it makes sense that if it is a board policy that they would need to be involved, if it fell underneath the administrative policies that the board should be made aware of any changes but not necessarily be a part of the decision making process just to make sure that the board is aware of. Lisa Sutton stated that the board has been part of the calendar decisions in the past. Jim Kretchman shared that if there was a policy that might be something the board would need to be part Administration should bring it to the boards attention. Vance Brown addressed that the board should decide what kind of training and then get a consultant to come in and delivery it. Jim Woody thanked the administration for putting the binder together. He would like to have the charter added and also the Colorado Charter book. Additionally he would like to have copies for the board and also other helpful information that is out there. Steve Pope asked Jim Woody to find out information that would be good for Board Training/Board Information for people who are new board members. Steve Pope will make a timeline on board training. Matt Carpenter spoke with the board about Board Code of Conduct and some changes that would be made and also the Board Elections Policy. Jim Woody asked if there was any way that we could do a "mail in"



ballots for elections. Ron Mast suggested an internet based voting system. Lisa Sutton shared with the board that if a parent comes with a concern and an e-mail is sent out, then the board is never surprised about things that come up. (Policy  $2.9\,0/4.6\,D20$  board policy between superintendent and the board) Matt Carpenter will take a look and it and bring back information to the board. Jim Kretchman shared that a lot of the tension among the board is around the topic of who is talking to whom, and this policy would help clarify it. Ron Mast talked about making this a working session item. Jim Kretchman said to err on the side of caution.

C. Core Values & Assisting Parents

i.Item: Update on documenting Core Values / Assisting Parents and next steps ii.Presenter: Jim Kretchman For: Status/Plan Update Est. Time: 10 mins

Jim Kretchman shared some things from the Core Values information from Leesa Waliszewski. They should have more feedback from the board in the next two weeks about the Core Values chart. Jim Kretchman said he is available to discuss the core values chart in the next 30 days the core values chart.

D. School Accountability Committees Update

i.Item: Status of forming, communicating, and implementing effective SACs at TCA Schools ii.Presenter: Mark Hyatt For: Discussion Est. Time: 5 mins

Mark Hyatt shared the Senate Bill that came out requiring we have East and Central School Accountability Committees (SAC) at all public schools. The other School Accountability Committees should be done by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. Jim Woody asked is it required to have one for each Elementary, Junior High and High School. Mark Hyatt shared that we went above and beyond to cover all the schools. Will have SACs for all seven schools – including out Cottage School Program and College Pathways school.

E. TCA Policy & Procedures Review & Updates

i.Item: 1<sup>st</sup> Reads for the top six priority Policy areas

- 1. Conflict resolution, Bullying and racial harassment, Non-discrimination policy, Safety, Conflict of interests, & Protection for students with disabilities
- 2. Update to include timeline and roll-out plans

ii.Presenter: Mark Hyatt For: 1st Reads Est. Time: 60 mins

Mark Hyatt shared that we are currently working on student policies right know and all the rest are due by February 8th. He shared with the Board the different policies that are being addressed, what we are doing on our own and also what policies we are following that are D20 policies. There was discussion about how the board will be involved. Jim Woody and Steve Pope will go through the policies and then have a meeting at a later time to discuss. Jim Kretchman felt at the D20 board meeting that there was understanding that this was a large administrative undertaking and that we should take more time to do a thorough review. Veronica Wolken shared with the board that there be a systematic way to through the policies and procedures to make it easier instead of picking one idea and then going through each area to find matching policies. Jim Kretchman stated that we would need a wrap up of the six issues and start to move on. Veronica Wolken stated that yes it would be wonderful to wrap up those areas and start to move on to phase two.

Ron Mast addressed the Conflict Resolution policy and TCA's policy has been D20 policy with TCA inserted in place of D20. Brandon Monson shared that our procedures are different because our schools are different. We are working on the procedural process and it is almost ready to go and be disseminated to the community. Matt



Carpenter asked if this is Board level policy. Ron Mast stated that the policy is Board Level but the procedure is administrative level. Ron Mast shared what the current procedures were and that they are part of the student hand book but not the policy. The next step will be for Brandon Monson to send out the policy to the board for their review, and take the policy to the board working session for more review.

# F. Recommended Additional Staffing Positions

i.Item: Staffing recommendations to effectively implement policy and procedural changes

- 1. Include Benchmark data, budget impacts, and timelines
- 2. Include Pro/Cons of initial Dean of Students position

ii.Presenter: Mark Hyatt For: Information Est. Time: 20 mins

Mark Hyatt shared that TCA is now in the "adult" phase of its life cycle that we should "shore up" our infrastructure. Steve Pope had asked for some benchmarks. It may take an outside person to help compare us to other charter schools. Maybe hire another Dean of Students for East and Central and have Brandon Monson cover North Elementary and Junior High and High School. Also add some FTE for Elementary to hire additional hours for Tutors for supervisory coverage and safety. Would like to add these this year, and add another IPD for next year to help coach secondary teachers. Ron Mast shared that there are needs associated with RtI that are unmeet and also that all the campuses are to much for one dean of students to handle. A lot of these requests are in response to help in mandated areas. He also shared that it might be a good idea to have an independent contractor to help step in when there is conflict that needs to be dealt with to help out the board. Jim Woody asked if there organizations that provide these services and also what it would cost to have these services. Ron Mast stated that this would be a form of a mediation service. Ron Mast stated that he wants to find out if people like this idea and would work out details later. Jim Woody would want to make sure this was available and make sure they are qualified. Vance Brown asked how soon would this happen. Mark Hyatt suggested that we move forward quickly. Jim Woody was concerned about where the money would come from. Mark Hyatt shared that we have recurring funds coming from the Mil Levy that could fund these positions. Matt Carpenter asked how the CFO felt. Mark VanGampleare shared that there is a one time cost to creating a position but the budget had an excess \$176,000 over expenses. Steve Pope stated that there are too many questions on the table to look at this again. Diane Burdit shared that each school has one head tutor right know and they do a lot of the scheduling for the tutors which takes time out the classroom and not being able to help the teachers. Jim Kretchman wanted to know what would have to be given up in order to hire these positions.

#### G. BKD Financial Audit Report

i.Item: Provide status of final report and next internal steps planned

ii.Presenter: Mark Hyatt For: Information Est. Time: 5 mins

#### H. Charter Review

i.Item: Status update of Charter Contract Annual Renewal

ii.Presenter: Mark Hyatt For: Discussion Est. Time: 10 mins

# I. TCA President Job Description & 2009-10 Objectives

i.Item: Document TCA President Job Description

ii.Presenter: Matt C. / Jim Woody For: Discussion Est. Time: 30 mins



Jim Woody stated that the purpose of addressing this is to make sure that the presidents job description changes from planning and building to leading and stabilizing. Steve Pope stated that the board members would take a look at the new description and give feedback to Matt Carpenter or Jim Woody.

J. TCA Election Cycle

i.Item: Propose modifications to TCA Election cycle to maximize board stability ii.Presenter: Lisa Sutton For: Discussion/1st Read Est. Time: 15 mins

K. Fundraising Policy Proposal plus Fundraising Subcommittee update including Gala plans
i.Item: Proposal to direct all fundraisers through the TCA President's office
ii.Presenter: Matt Carpenter
For: 2<sup>nd</sup> Read / Re-Vote
Est. Time: 10 mins

Matt reviewed the new fundraising language with the board that was presented last month and addressed the changes that where made. He suggested that parents, staff and board took a look at the language. The goal is to have committees work with the president's office to make sure that fundraisers are coordinated. Matt Carpenter made a motion to approve the new fundraising language for the fundraising policy. Jim Woody seconded. There was discussion about the new language and the rules that would regulate the fundraisers and the processes that would involve. The new fundraising language was approved by unanimous vote.

L. Board Planning/Debrief/Additional Items

i.Item: To discuss future items the Board should discuss and debrief the board meeting ii.Presenter: Board Chair/ Board Secretary For: Discussion Est. Time: 5 mins

M. Executive Session:

Matt Moved and Jim seconded to move.

## VII. Future Agenda Items

- A. Top Priority Policy Reviews/Updates (Mark) Ongoing until implemented
- B. Core Values Update (Jim) Ongoing until implemented
- C. College Pathways commitments for Feb 2010 D20 Review (Mark) Oct
- D. Safety & Security Update (Mark) Bi-monthly = Oct, Dec, Feb
- E. 5 year Financial Plan including Mill Levy revenue spend (Mark) Quarterly = Oct, Jan, April
- F.Board Governance Model (TBD) TBD
- G. Great Starts Programs Update (Mark)- Oct
- H. CSAP Report (Mark) Oct
- I. Disposition of Titan Trust Review / Stewardship (Mark) Oct
- J. Endowment Review Oct
- K. Teacher Compensation Plan TBD
- L. Fundraising Report TBD

# VIII. Adjournment