

Thomas Edison Charter Schools
Governing Board Meeting
April 6, 2016
5:33 pm

In attendance: Tirzah Anderson, Denae Pruden, Holly Gunther, Nick Jackson Late: Adam Burris Excused:
Emma Bullock

Welcome/Conducting: Tirzah Anderson
Pledge of Allegiance: Denae Pruden
Charter Highlight: Tirzah Anderson highlighted extracurricular activities.

Adoption of Agenda - Tirzah Anderson:
Motion to adopt the agenda as currently written: Tirzah Anderson
Second: Denae Pruden
Unanimous

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes: Tabled

Achievement Report - Scott/Melani/Angela: The committee discussed the SAGE interim results. Angela thought the SAGE formative testing was more helpful. Haptic questions can be chosen the help students with the mechanics of answering the questions. If there are questions, they can discussed as a class.

Adam Burris is in attendance 5:39.

Teachers can see all scores and which questions were missed. This can help guide their instruction.

Angela compiled SRI scores since the schools started using SRI. She also did SAGE interims and summatives. The trends showed strong growth for students have been here a few years.

Brad has not changed the layout on the report given to the board. Some of the information is used for LAND Trust and other things, so it needs to remain.

Adam Burris asked when it could be changed. Brad reported that the report used to be extremely details, however the board then wanted it more generic.

Tirzah asked if the SRI/SMI tests were going to be replaced with other assessments.

Carolyn Larsen noted that the teachers had a positive reaction when Angela talked about using SAGE formative. It is information the teachers can actually use.

Governing Board Election - Edison North - Tirzah Anderson: A governing board elected position is coming open as of May 31st. There are currently two excellent candidates.

Motion to approve the governing board election to open Monday, April 11, and to close at 3:00 pm on Friday April 15th for Edison North:

Second: Adam Burris

Unanimous

Transportation and Vehicle Safety Policy revisions - Tirzah Anderson:

Tirzah proposes repealing policy 7104, since it is similar to the other policy. She took the wording from a Hanover brochure about the acceptable driving record. Jim asked for a clarification on the combined accident/moving violations and noted that there is no time limit given on it.

Denae wanted to know why was it changed from age 21 to 18? Holly stated that her daughter would not be able to take her sister and Tirzah's daughter if it was left at 21.

Motion to repeal safety policy: Adam Burris

Second: Tirzah Anderson

Unanimous

Motion to approve travel and vehicle safety policy with the revision of adding the words of the last three years to the 4th bullet point at the bottom: Tirzah Anderson

Second: Denae Pruden

Unanimous

Revised Competition Participation and Travel Policy - Holly Gunther:

The board wanted the policy to support students that want to go onto competitions, but let administration make decisions on reimbursements.

Denae added it is possible that some students are unable to attend national competitions because their parents cannot afford it. Holly said this leaves it open so that the principal can reimburse in those situations. It also keeps the school free from liability since students have to have their own chaperone.

Mentor teachers are sent, but are not considered chaperones. This should be at the discretion of the principal. Melani asked that another sentence be added clarifying that whether a team attends is at the discretion of the principal. Tirzah suggested, "In support of student achievement, TECS offers financial support at the discretion of the principal".

Motion to approve the competition, participation and travel policy with the change just made: Holly Gunther

Denae Pruden

Yes – Holly Gunther, Denae Pruden, Nick Jackson, Adam Burris

No - None

Abstain – Tirzah Anderson

Vendor/Contractor Approvals - Melani/Scott:

Scott has bids from landscaping companies and all are more than last year. Their recommendation is to rehire Greenscapes with a five year contract that can be renewed annually. The increase is about \$100 per month.

Melani - Edison South is still working on obtaining bids for construction.

Motion to approve the contractor: Tirzah Anderson

Second: Adam Burris

Unanimous

Stakeholder Feedback - Parent Surveys - Shem Smith:

Brad Larsen reported on the parent survey. Edison South had 275 responses, Edison North had 63. At Edison South 91% were 8, 9 and 10 with a solid majority in the 10s. (How likely to recommend Thomas Edison to friends and family. North had an 86% approval rating with a much smaller size.

Jamie Lewis – When Shem mentioned the results to Kevin Miller, he said most schools get 30% approval rating.

Melani mentioned that Edison South had a tablet in or outside every elementary teacher's door.

Scott suggested the other way to look at our approval by looking at enrollment and the gathering of new parents.

Adam expressed appreciation for the administration leading the charge to get the word out about the schools.

Finance Report - Jim Peterson:

Edison South is in black at about \$13,000 per month. Edison North is about the same at \$10,000 below. Jim thanked Steve for completing the report so early in the month.

Jim intends to meet with Scott, Melani and Carol to start planning for next year's budget.

SB 239 was approved. It goes over in detail the financial procedures and reports charter are to follow. There must have been some charters who weren't doing the same things as districts. Steve is already following those procedure and dates.

It did two other things. The board is to designate a budget officer to provide a monthly budget report. It says within five days of the budget report it needs to be made available to public on request.

Adam thinks we are doing everything we need. Jim can be designated as the budget officer.

Principal Reports - Melani/Scott:

Scott:

- Edison North shows one less on the current year from last month. Another student is registering tomorrow. Next year enrollment is still full and there are 10 more on the waiting list.
- The PE teacher Desi Daines, received a notice and had a visit from a dean at university. She was recognized as outstanding alumni from USU.
- Debra Stoddard from Spalding Foundation, who has also been a principal at Franklin, send a meesag about Rory Anderson. She had trouble find a demo video for trainers until she found Rory's. It meets all her expectations and she wanted permission to use it.

Melani:

- Edison South shows 2nd grade with one opening, but eight on the waiting list. A meeting is being set up for the next parent on the list. Ninth grade shows 37 enrolled, with 30 openings. We will lose 7-9 of those students over the summer. New parents are visiting the school every week.
- The parent organization has brought in over \$10,000 in book fairs.
- Hiring was done and then two teachers let us know they were not returning. First grade had a student teacher, which we were glad to hire.
- The public relations communications specialist job will be shared by two applicants.

Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Utah code52-4-205-1(d): Tirzah Anderson

Second: Holly Gunther

Tirzah Anderson - yes

Holly Gunther - yes

Adam Burris - yes

Denae Pruden - yes

Nick Jackson - yes

Motion to adjourn the closed session and move back to open meeting: Tirzah Anderson

Second: Adam Burris

Tirzah Anderson - yes

Holly Gunther - yes

Adam Burris - yes

Denae Pruden - yes

Nick Jackson - yes

Reconvene Open Meeting

Any Necessary Action Item(s) from closed session:

Board Training Objectives: Tirzah will email these.

Motion to Adjourn: Tirzah Anderson