

**Thomas Edison Charter Schools  
Governing Board Meeting  
May 3, 2017**

**5:32 pm**

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In attendance: Denae Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris

Excused: Chris Johnnie, Emma Bullock

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*Welcome/Conducting: Adam Burris*

*Pledge of Allegiance: Adam Burris*

*Charter Highlight: Chris Johnnie*

Chris is out of town. Adam shared the portion about board member replacement, qualifications of board members and responsibilities of board members.

*Adoption of Agenda*

**Motion to adopt the agenda: Adam Burris**

**Second: Denae Pruden**

**Yes: Denae Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

*Public Comment: None*

*Approval of Minutes – Adam Burris:*

**Motion to approve the minutes mar 29: Audra Parent**

**Second: Denae Pruden**

**Yes: Denae Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

*Achievement Report – Denae Pruden:*

Kari Soderquist presented information on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> preparedness test ACT Aspire paid for by the state. The only low area is in reading for the 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

The tests are scored differently than the ACT. Aspire is looking at preparedness.

Both North and South scores have increased for 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading. Since the 9<sup>th</sup> grade is only 22 students, the smaller cohort may be skewed. One 9<sup>th</sup> grader has an IEP for reading.

Adam asked why some score well in English, but not reading. Melani said it depends on the makeup of the students. There are a number of IEPs in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and some lower students in 9<sup>th</sup>.

Kari also mentioned that at times, students do not take the four hour test seriously. This will be reflected in the scores.

Utah will go to Aspire for end of level testing for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades. The goal is to have students get a good enough score on the ACT to attend the institution they want.

Braden Probst presented a breakdown of the 2015-16 SAGE data comparing scores between newer students (finished first or second year) and veteran students (attended three or more years). Veterans are getting higher percentages than newer students.

Adam commented that overall, there is a positive trend for Thomas Edison.

*Board Recognitions – Adam Burris:* Adam wanted to create a custom for recognizing board members. “Board” plaques were created for Holly Gunther, Tirzah Anderson, Emma Bullock and Kim Winward.

*Board Appointments – Denaë Pruden/Chris Johnnie:*

After interviewing five candidates, the committee recommends the following to be appointed as board members:

- Kyle Hancock, whose children attend school at Edison South. He is a child psychologist and has spent an impressive amount of time at schools.
- Emily Buckley, editor at Cache Valley Family Magazine. She has a degree in journalism and marketing. Her three children attend Edison North.

Adam - their service will begin June 1<sup>st</sup>. All of the applicants were good candidates and it was a difficult choice. Both had prior engagements so were not able to attend tonight.

**Motion to appoint both Emily Buckley and Kyle Hancock as board members for a 3 year term: Denaë Pruden**

**Second: Audra Parent**

Adam wants to thank Denaë, Chris and the administration for this time consuming task.

**Yes: Denaë Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

*Finance Report – Jim Peterson:*

Both schools are running a little in the black compared to what is currently projected.

*Vendor Approvals – Shem Smith/Melani Kirk:*

*Edison North Special Education Rooms*

Raymond Construction and Lundahl's provided bids to divide the special education rooms into smaller, quiet learning environments during the summer. Shem would recommend Raymond's, as their bid was quite a bit lower and they have done projects with the school in the past.

*IT Service for Edison North and South*

H-Wire and Xsys bid on IT service. H-Wire came highly recommended. They said nothing was wrong with system in place, but want to come in and put in their own hardware. It is on loan to us as long as they are our provider. Xsys was more along the lines of what currently doing as far as hardware. Both provided 20 hours per week on one or the other campus. Currently Cameron spends 29 hours, but both companies said they would not need as much time the new equipment. Xsys is \$500 per month more. H-Wire is almost what is paid to the current IT.

Shem recommended H-Wire for both schools. It will be a three year contract and has an option of redoing the phone system. There would be lower monthly payments, but a large upfront cost.

*Cabinetry for Edison North Classrooms*

Shem recommended Swainston Cabinets, who bid under \$40,000. They will build cabinets for all middle school and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms, as well as a cabinet to hold Chromebooks in the library.

*Bathroom Floors for Edison South*

Two of the restrooms have problems with graffiti and the VCT tile floors stain. Melani recommended Bundy's Flooring America to redo the floors. The floors will be polished concreted. Brad is obtaining bids for the stalls.

**Motion to approve Bundy's Flooring America for Edison South, Raymond Construction for Edison North, Swainston Cabinets for Edison North and H-Wire for both schools: Adam Burris**

**Second: Kim Winward**

**Yes: Denaë Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

*Personnel Requests – Shem Smith/Melani Kirk:*

*Melani Kirk:*

- Melani listed all teachers, with new teacher bolded. Some teachers may change assignments for the coming year and Liz Evans and Savannah Winn may (tentative) split a math position.
- Currently the SLT is paid at an aide rate. They have a degree and other districts are giving them a salary. The SLT position will be .75 next year with salary and benefits.

**Motion to approve the personnel requests Adam Burris**

**Second: Audra Parent**

**Yes: Denaë Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

Commented [c1]:

*Principal Reports - Shem Smith/Melani Kirk:*

*Melani Kirk:*

- The roofing project is complete other than the windows. Those will be reset or replace on May 30 and 31.
- The parking lot and drive through will need to wait, since the land purchases are not final.

*Shem Smith:*

- Enrollment numbers continue to look strong. There are 62 on the waiting list for next year.
- Frogummy did a free SEO (Search Engine Optimization) project free of charge. It boosted the numbers to increase the position of the webpage in searched. Janice recommended that for marketing and advertising, adding more for people to scroll down on the home page. It could contain highlights for parents investigating the school and information on the philosophy and school environment. Snippets and quote that appeal to the heart and head can be placed here.

Adam suggested accomplishments, such as administration of the year, be publicized there.

Kim asked if kindergarten number at Edison South were low this time of year last year. Melani replied that they were and should increase. Jim mentioned the new charter school opening this fall and wondered how it would impact Edison South.

*Ad hoc Committee Recommendation/Approval of Salary Increases – Audra Parent:*

The committee had a good mix of people and a lot of discussion. The recommendations for increases to salary ranges are:

- 3% for levels 1-4
- 3% to 7% for level 5

The committee tried to make sure the school is staying competitive in the long term. They wanted the raise to be separate from current level or performance increases.

There should be a flat 3% raise to all teachers. The raise should be communicated in the offer letters showing that there are two separate pieces to it.

An increase in funding is expected for next year. About 7% can be used for salaries. Normal increases take about 3%, so the committee recommended 3%. In the fall, after the exact expenses are known, a little more may be set aside for extra bonuses.

Jim has met with the principals and updated the financial forecast tool. He explained the control tab and how to use the tool. The raises are built in along with a 20% increase in health insurance. There is a new director of instruction, with another director changing to .75 FTE.

The committee felt that the increase in pay would not negatively impact the schools financially. It will let teachers know that the school is looking out for their best interest.

**Motion to approve the recommendations of the ad hoc committee as typed here: Audra Parent**

**Second: Kim Winward**

**Yes: Denaë Pruden, Audra Parent, Kim Winward, Adam Burris**

*Committee Updates – Adam Burris/Chris Johnnie/Denaë Pruden:*

Policy and Personnel – Data security policy needs to be passed next month.

Finance – The executive committee will be working on salary adjustments for principals.

Achievement – Curriculum mapping deadline is May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Adam thanked everyone for the work that they do and for all their time and effort.

*Adjourn*

**Motion to adjourn: Adam Burris**

**Second: Denaë Pruden**