

**Thomas Edison Charter Schools
Governing Board Meeting
May 4, 2016**

5:34 pm

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

Welcome/Conducting: Tirzah Anderson

Pledge: Emma Bullock

Charter Highlight: Holly Gunther read about newly elected board members and choosing the CAO.

Adoption of Agenda - Tirzah Anderson: Change to agenda - FY17 preliminary budget will be presented in June for approval. There will be no closed session.

Motion to adopt the agenda with those changes: Holly Gunther

Second: Tirzah Anderson

Unanimous

Public Comment: Brad Larsen offered a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: No minutes to approve tonight

USU Research Group Presentation - Chris Barney: As the group spoke with Melani she expressed a desire for them to work on one of the school's strategic goal to have 107% enrollment. The current level was 94%. Their current prose was advertising at the Megaplex, in the Valpak, newspaper and a big focus on word of mouth.

The group wanted to find the simple things to make an immediate impact. The first thing they wanted to do was see how former students were performing in high school. They called 330 parents of high school graduates from 2013 to 2015. Sixty-five responded.

A vast number of the parents recommended TECS at 9 or 10 approval on a scale from 1 to 10. Some of their recommended solutions were updating the webpage with current charts and data showing how students will be positively affected in attending the school and using the date to inform current students and parents on how TECS compares to other public schools. The data can be used to further advertising by word of mouth.

The group was thrilled to do the project. At end of their presentation in class, people seemed fairly engaged. The professor stopped midsentence and asked who would actually send their children to TECS. All of the hands went up.

Appointment of New Board Members - Tirzah Anderson:

There was an election at Edison North last month. Chris Johnnie won the election so does not require a board approval.

Chris is from south Los Angeles and has been in the valley since 1994. He is married with three children. Two are at Edison North, the third will be there next year. Scott has been a friend of his for a long time and he loves the school. He worked at USU for 11 years, he is a life coach and does software development.

Nick Jackson's seat ends May 31st, and the subcommittee would like to recommend Audra Parent to fill that position.

Audra moved to Cache Valley from Arizona in 1996. All five of her children have attended Edison South. She, too, loves the school. Her children have a wide range of abilities. Some are high and need to be challenged, and some on IEPs that need to be challenged. No matter their ability, they feel they are successful. Audra has a bachelor's in accounting and is a stay at home mother. She has done taxes for 15 years.

Motion to approve Audra Parent for a governing board position representing Edison South from 2016 to 2019: Tirzah Anderson
Second: Dena Pruden
Unanimous

As of May 31st, Tirzah will be vacating her seat. The board would like to appoint Kim Winward to fill her final year on the board.

Kim Winward was born and raised here. She is married and has two daughters at Edison North. She loves it more than they do. From day one she was wowed and knew it was going to be the best program. She also has a child at the top and one with an IEP. Both are so supported. She is part owner in a title and escrow office.

Motion to appoint Kim Winward to fill last year of my vacated seat 2016 to May 31 2017:
Tirzah Anderson
Second: Dena Pruden
Unanimous

Tirzah expressed gratitude to those who have served.

401(k) Plan Provider Change - Nick Jackson: Nick will not be here. Shem will introduce Riley from Adams Wealth. Nick arranged for two very qualified and exciting presentations. The choice and recommendation is Adams Wealth.

Riley Crosby and Ryan Bohm are excited and looking forward to the opportunity. They have several decades experience in the 401k industry. They will meet with each employee to begin

with and have at least an annual contact at a board meeting. They are available for employees to reach out to them any time.

Shem mentioned some of the selling points. They are local and actively manage the funds. They will use the TDA Ameritrade platform. There is a wide array of options for teacher to choose from, but actively manage the funds. With the new laws surrounding 401ks they will be considered the fiduciary. There is transparency in where the costs lie.

Motion to approve recommendations of the finance committee: Emma Bullock

Second: Tirzah Anderson

Tirzah thanked everyone who worked on this.

Unanimous

Vendor/Contractor Approvals - Brad/Shem:

Shem: There is a construction RFP out and a couple of contractors working on it. The deadline is May 13th.

Personnel Requests - Shem/Brad:

Shem:

Michelle Dunlap will be the art teacher. She is also a parent with a bachelor's in design.

Emily Judkins will replace Casey Jensen as an elementary teacher.

Mary Nelson will be a first grade teacher to taking the place of Katy Meatoga, who will be going to Edison South as a special education teacher.

Noelle Harrild will be moving to full time with benefits. Cathy Hansen is retiring.

Carry Soderquist will be the counselor. She is an intern.

Judy Brown will be a classroom aide.

Suzy Bertiolio was an RTI aide at Edison South. She took a few years off to focus on her nine children.

Brad:

Lora Stead is staying home with her baby. Instead of Charlotte going to 2nd grade, she will be going to 5th grade. It is recommended that Rachel Beus teach 2nd grade. She has taught for three years. There will be many aides in June.

Motion to approve personnel requests as stated: Tirzah Anderson

Second: Holly Gunther

Unanimous

Achievement Report - Shem/Brad/Angela: Achievement report - Angela looking at Scantron to see how useful the tests and data is. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Shem would like to keep what we are doing internally and add a state level test and a national level test. That would supply the desired triangulation.

Finance Report - Jim Peterson: Both schools have been spending below the target. There may be some larger purchases during the end of the year.

Principal Reports - Brad/Shem:

Brad :

- Regarding the strategic outcome of 107% that was spoken of earlier, there is a full page ad in Cache Valley Direct green pages that come through the mail. The administration is pushing to have all faculty put the TECS decal on their car windows.
- Pizza Wednesdays have really been a success for the school.
- Envirothon – Mr. Hepworth took a group of 9th graders to compete against other high schools. They did very good and were close to taking the rookie team award.
- History Fair - students are again going to the national competition.
- Talent show – Even the janitors performed with a mariachi band.
- Culture Night – This first time event was put together by 9th grade students under the direction of Mrs. Knight. They reached out to the USU Saudi club and international student council.

Shem:

- North is full beyond capacity in all levels with 113.5% of capacity with on the waiting list. Jim Peterson - about 16 months from now new charters will be opening up with a lot of advertising.
- Between the two schools eight students are going to the National History Fair. There will be a fundraiser for Edison North also at the North McDonalds.

Board Training Objectives: Tirzah will email them.

Motion to adjourn: Tirzah Anderson

Adjourn