

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE THOMAS A. EDISON CHARTER SCHOOL OF WILMINGTON, INC.**

February 27, 2017

**THOMAS A. EDISON CHARTER SCHOOL
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

Upon notice to all directors and posting of public notice, a meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Thomas A. Edison Charter School of Wilmington, Inc. (the "School") was held on February 27, 2017.

Directors	Present	Absent
Hal Blocksom	X	
Emile Brown	X	
Mikkel Christie	X	
Rev. Moore	X	
Gwendel Robinson	X	
Ron Pinkett	X	
Wayne Cooper	X	
Vera Holmes		X
Jerry Velazquez	X	
Nicole Huffner	X	
Joseph Till	X	
Valarie Waters		X

THERE WAS A QUORUM OF THE BOARD

The following people were also present:

- 1. Principal Salome Thomas-EL**
- 2. Liz Yates**
- 3. Patricia Winder**
- 4. John Shelton**

- 5. Meghan Johnson**
- 6. Nate Durant**
- 7. Ankur Arya**
- 8. Candace Charles-Inniss**
- 9. Ryan Davis**
- 10. Megan Brown**
- 11. Marquita Ransom**
- 12. Robyn Blair**
- 13. Eileen McLaurin**
- 14. Brandie Berrien**
- 15. Tameka Wingo**
- 16. Sara Hinsey**
- 17. Emily Callahan**
- 18. Thomas Allen**
- 19. Brittany Hood**
- 20. Mary Downing**
- 21. Bhoke S. Lumumba**
- 22. Emily Rickert**
- 23. Daniella DiMatteo**
- 24. Michele Baldini**
- 25. Heidi L. Parker**
- 26. Nicole Chinn**
- 27. Cory Leydic**
- 28. Courtney Wynn**

- 29. Davina Vaughan**
- 30. Carolyn Meadows**
- 31. Karen S Jones**
- 32. Brenda Jenkins**
- 33. Deborah Ross**
- 34. JaNiesha Jenkins**
- 35. Jada Harris**
- 36. Roberta Forwood**
- 37. Marsha Shabazz Knight**
- 38. Adrien Pressey**
- 39. V Clark**
- 40. Eric Smith**

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to call the Public Session to order at 6:42 p.m. The motion was made and seconded, motion was approved by all and the Board went into Public Session.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the January 2017 minutes. The motion was made by Mr. Cooper and seconded by Rev. Moore. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Public Comments

Parent/Teacher Comments

General Public Comments

School Report by Principal EL

Principal EL reported that there are two Saturday Academy sessions remaining.

Boys and Girls Basketball season ended with the Boys team, coached by Mr. Shelton, undefeated and the Girls team, coached by Mr. Belcher, only losing once in four seasons.

At the Arthur J Turner Spelling Bee held at Salesianum, 6 out of the 10 finalists were Edison students with a third place win going to a 6th grade Edison student.

The Chess Team is preparing to compete for the National Championship in Tennessee May 10-16 on a quest for the 3rd National title in 4 years. It is their goal to raise the needed funds.

Many of our 8th graders have been accepted into the following private schools on scholarships: Padua, St. Elizabeth's, Ursuline, Tatnall, Tower Hill, Wilmington Friends and Salesianum. Students have also been accepted into Charter School of Wilmington and the Vo-Tech schools. The Be Positive Foundation has awarded \$2,500 for 4 years to an Edison student.

'Girls on the Run' begins in March culminating with a 5K on the waterfront at the end of the school year. More than 30 girls are participating. Principal EL thanked the numerous staff volunteers who make Girls on the Run a success.

Seven Education students from the University of Delaware will be doing their practicum placements at TECS this spring. Principal EL acknowledged Edison staff who are U of D Alumni.

Principal EL reported that quotes for the fire alarm panel and equipment. Also, the control panel for heating and cooling is 17 years old and he is investigating upgrading the software.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the School Report. A motion was made by Mr. Blocksom and seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was approved by all and carried.

School Financials by P. Winder

Ms. Winder reported all local funds have been received. We have a \$56,000 negative unfavorable variance due to 10 less students in attendance than were budgeted for. However, for state funds we have approximately \$64,000 favorable variance forecasted. This is primarily due to an increase in the state's salary funding formula. We are expected to receive an additional \$100,000 of state funds according to the current Funding Summary. We should receive it in February.

We received the funds settlement from Christina School District of approximately \$78,000, which is restricted to be spent in the following 4 areas: 1. Kindergarten; 2. Expansion services for gifted and talented; 3. Expansion of alternative programs; and 4. Technology.

Rev. Moore commented on the unfavorable funding in Food Services. Ms. Winder replied there is always a timing difference. Two payments were received in February so we should now be caught up next month.

Title I funds were not all spent in the Fiscal year. Ms. Winder received a call and was informed to use more Title I funds so that there would be no surplus. An allowance was made to purchase other things not provided for in the grant i.e. technology. Next year we will be caught up with no excess funds.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the School Financial Report. A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Finance Committee Report by M. Christie

Mr. Christie presented the Board Financials through January 2017. He stated no funds have been spent other than the \$3,700 for the Holiday Party. Pending expenditures are the Spring Conference, assistance for the chess conference and another bill in from Homsey. Outside of that he is trying to be conservative and prepare for anything that might happen.

Mr. Blocksom questioned in reference to Homsey how did it happen? Ms. Winder responded there was no open balance. Mr. Christie stated under \$300,000 had been paid and to the best of his knowledge was free and clear. Ms. Winder has put in a call and is awaiting a response.

Mr. Christie stated he wanted to meet this month regarding Fund Raising but focused on teacher pay increases and the meeting was put off.

Mr. Pinkett thanked KAPPA Alpha Psi Fraternity for their contribution to the chess team in the amount of \$11,000.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the Finance Committee Report. A motion was made by Rev. Moore and seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Curriculum Report by W. Cooper

Mr. Cooper reported Edison students are wrapping up Black History month. He found the 4th grade showcase to be very informative with each student reporting on a selected individual and their contributions.

Principal EL thanked staff for their participation in the celebration. He stated Ms. DiMatteo sends out weekly emails with slides and that he is proud of all staff and the way that they support one another.

Mr. Cooper reported that there is an upcoming Multiplication Bee on March 23 and TECS 1st annual Leadership day is scheduled for April 28th. He requested that the Board attend and to provide support by submitting names of potential visitors and speakers. Mr. Pinkett requested that Principal EL provide information and a program to the Board. Mr. Christie encouraged each Board member to donate financially.

Principal EL stated the program will begin at 9:00 am and will be student driven with a chess exhibition, music performances, art exhibits, school tours, and end with a short video on the history of the school. Joe Biden and Devin Steele have been invited to speak. Local and National media will be contacted.

Principal EL thanked Mr. Cooper for being actively involved in the school and really coming in and finding what is we may need and what it is that he can offer.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the Curriculum Committee Report. A motion was made by Ms. Robinson and seconded by Rev. Moore. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Personnel Committee Report by Rev. Moore

Rev. Moore reported the meeting with teachers on 2/16/17 was more of an informational session on what the Personnel Committee had planned to committee to the Board for vote.

A motion was made by Rev. Moore that effective 3/1/2017 teachers would receive a 2% raise and also the Step System would be implemented for next school year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Rev. Moore stated the Board is also looking at Paraprofessionals, the Nurse and others not included with hopes to have information enough to vote at the April meeting.

Operations Committee Report by H. Blocksom

Mr. Blocksom stated there is no Operations Committee report.

Principal EL reported Jesse (Bravo) is working to get the concrete replaced, two classrooms needed repairs made to heaters and Jesse is also working on the lights in the parking lot. The Brownfields grass is growing but there are bald patches in need of reseeding. There are some leaks in 2 areas of the roof over the 3rd grade wing and he is awaiting the ID system sample package.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the Operations Committee Report. A motion was made by Rev. Moore and seconded by Mr. Christie. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Executive Committee by R. Pinkett

Mr. Pinkett reported the Brownfields have been signed off on and now the playground will be looked at.

New Business/Open Discussion by R. Pinkett

Mr. Pinkett reported that the Charter School Renewal is coming up for next year. Principal EL stated he is looking at companies to assist us with the process.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion was made by Mr. Blocksom and seconded by Rev. Moore. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

3/16/2017