

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

March 20, 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 March 20, 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. Brandie Berrien**
- 8. Tameka Wingo**
- 9. Bhoke S. Lumumba**
- 10. Brenda Jenkins**
- 11. Deborah Ross**
- 12. Jada Harris**
- 13. Marsha Shabazz Knight**
- 14. V Clark**
- 15. Jayah Feliciano**
- 16. Andrue Smith**

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to call the Public Session to order at 6:40 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 February 2017 minutes. Ms. Holmes made a proposal to strike everything following the 3rd paragraph from the Personnel Committee Report to accurately reflect what the Board minutes should look like. Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the amendment to the minutes. The motion was made by Ms. Holmes and seconded by Rev. Moore. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Mr. Pinkett made a motion to correct "KAPPA" to "Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity." Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the amendment to the minutes. The motion was made by Ms. Holmes and seconded by Mr. Blocksom. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Ms. Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes with accepted amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blocksom. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Public Comments

Parent/Teacher Comments

Mr. Durant thanked the Board for the work done on behalf of the teachers.

General Public Comments

School Report by Principal EL

Principal EL reported the last Saturday Academy was held on March 11th; Report Card conferences will be held on March 24th and Spring Break begins on April 13th with school resuming on April 24th.

Drumline, band and choir students in grades 5-8 will be performing at the 87ers game on March 22nd.

K-3 teachers will be participating in the Delaware Early Literacy Initiative Professional Development on March 27-29th in Dover.

The Chess Team is raising money to compete at the Nationals in Tennessee in May. They need \$25,000 to go. Donations are accepted on the Go Fund Me page or by checks sent directly to the school. The Chess Team is going for their 3rd National title in 4 years. Brothers from the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity will come out and play chess with the students.

Staff and Students are working diligently to prepare for our 1st Annual Leadership Day, which will be held on Friday, April 28th. Principal EL stated a target of 300 invitations is being sent to members of the community and a confirmation has been received from the Mayor who will come and speak. Ms. Holmes suggested sending Rawlings, The Gilliam Foundation and Longwood Foundation invitations.

Preparations are being made for conversion from heat to AC in April between the 1st and the 15th.

Principal EL has begun getting pricing for the Playground systems and is also looking at ways of reducing costs. Mr. Blocksom stated that through Lowes and Home Depot's 'Give Back Program' they will send out a team to install at no charge. Ms. Holmes stated the Gilliam Foundation supplied Eastside Charter School's play system and suggested submitting a proposal to them.

Mr. Jesse Warrick is preparing the building for summer cleaning. He will be meeting with the Operations Committee to go over some of the major projects. Principal EL stated that Mr. Warrick is doing a great job and that he expresses his appreciation of how the Board acknowledges him. Ms. Holmes suggested a letter be drafted that Mr. Pinkett could sign to let Mr. Warrick's management know that he is appreciated.

Principal EL stated intent to return forms have been returned with over 90% response from families intending to return next year.

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 she is still waiting for the last bit of funding from the State unit formula for approximately \$100,000 that was expected in February. She spoke with Brooke Hughes who assures it is definitely on the way by year end.

All local funding has been received going to end of year and in positive variance.

The only other funds would be grant funds which would be offset with the expense. Title I funds were used in Technology to purchase software.

The budget is on track including salary increases and other employment costs. Ms. Winder stated she is currently working on next year's budget and will make the April deadline.

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

Finance Committee Report by M. Christie

Mr. Christie reported that no expenditures occurred in 2017.

The final Audit bill from last year in the amount of \$1,800 has been paid. He is waiting to follow-up with Culbertson but that is a small potential payment.

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

Mr. Christie stated he and Mr. Cooper were discussing Leadership day and getting the Board to provide the school with personal invitations as well as organizations, to introduce them to the school via Leadership Day.

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

Personnel Committee Report by Rev. Moore

Rev. Moore reported the Personnel Committee and the Executive Board have been working very hard to put together salaries for Para-Professional Instructional, Para-Professional Non Instructional and Interventionist and have been very successful in doing this. He stated to the teachers that their expression of appreciation of what was done for them was appreciated by the

Board. The same concept was used to put together salaries for Para-Professional Instructional, Para-Professional Non Instructional and Interventionist

Rev. Moore called for a motion to give the three categories a \$500 bonus in the next pay check and in the upcoming school year that we follow the step system that was created for those three categories. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blocksom. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Ms. Holmes stated the motion should be amended to reflect the step system that is being implemented is for Instructional Para Professionals and Non Instructional Para Professionals just the two categories not three. Also, that with the step system being implemented beginning with the next school year that to the extent that anyone is currently compensated above what their step would make them entitled to that they not take a cut in pay they just remain frozen until such time as the step system would take them to a point where they were entitled to additional compensation.

Mr. Blocksom seconded the amendment. The amendment was approved by all and carried.

Ms. Holmes made a motion to accept the Personnel Committee Report, seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Operations Committee Report by J. Velazquez

Mr. Velazquez reported he is getting ready to meet with Mr. Warrick. Once reseeding takes place the Brownfield issue will be closed.

Mr. Velazquez commended Mr. Warrick on his enthusiasm on the job and the extent of which he works outside of what is required of him.

Mr. Velazquez is working with Mr. Warrick on the roofing issue and commended him for looking into solar panels. They are working on the parking lot lights (convert to LED) and emergency lights. The ID system is still in progress.

The final large project will be upgrading the automated temperature control system which could be a sizeable expense.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to accept the Operations Committee Report. A motion was made by Ms. Holmes and seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Executive Committee by R. Pinkett

Mr. Pinkett reported the playground for the school is on the table.

New Business/Open Discussion by R. Pinkett

Mr. Pinkett reported that Charter School Renewal bids will be taken to get that process started.

The April Board Meeting will be suspended due to Spring Break.

Mr. Pinkett called for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:25 p.m. The motion was made by Mr. Blocksom and seconded by Rev. Moore. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

4/10/2017