

**Tempe Preparatory Academy
Board of Directors**

Date: August 6, 2011

Time: 10:30a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

A meeting of the Tempe Preparatory Academy Board of Directors was held in the Student Union of Tempe Preparatory Academy, 1251 East Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice having been duly given.

Board Members Present: E Ortiz, President. K Brockelman, Vice President. T Bush, Treasurer. T Kilby, Secretary. D Foreman. R Bergez, Faculty Ex-officio member. M Rhoades, PTO Ex-officio member.

Board Members Absent: C LeBeau. J Hughes.

Others Present: Hugh Hallman, TPA Headmaster and TPA counsel. B White, Business Manager.

1) **Call to Order.** E Ortiz called the meeting to order at 10:43 a.m.

2) **Call to the Public.**

Rafael Tan requests 1) bylaws be reviewed and board members elected by TPA community and 2) noted football player sporting Mohawk; desire school enforcement.

Bill Tonnesen suggests that public chairs be closer to the Board members at meetings.

3) **Consent Agenda.**

a) **Reading/Approval of the minutes of previous meetings:**

i) June 15, 2011 TPA Special Meeting (A)

ii) June 15, 2011: TPJA Special Meeting (A)

b) **Review and approval of monthly financial statements.**

i) June, 2011: TPA (A)

ii) June, 2011: TPJA (A)

D. Foreman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. T. Bush seconded. Motion passed.

4) **Regular Agenda.**

a) **Accept New Scribe (Cindy Carter)**

b) **Discussion and possible motions for Faculty and Staff contracts:**

i. Samuel Bryant

ii. Leland Chapin

iii. Michelle Tripoli

iv. Dean Anthony

v. Iain MacDonald

vi. Olivia Salcido

vii. Mitchell Sweet

viii. DeAnne Flores

D. Foreman moved to approve faculty and staff contracts as listed. T. Bush seconded. Motion passed.

c) **Renewal of Credit Line (B. White)**

Discussion included Mr. Hallman statement defining significant reserves/healthier cash flow making us less likely to need it; however, it is common practice and desirous to secure.

K. Brockelman moved to renew line of credit. T. Bush seconded. Motion passed.

d) **Approval of Extracurricular Facilities Lease Amendment**

Mr. Hallman discussed difficulty in securing extracurricular facilities this year; bank ultimately retained title of property with option to terminate Oct. 31, 2011. Mr. Tonnesen asks if this is REO or pre-trustee sale. Mr. Hallman responds with history explaining difficulty of refinancing bonds.

Debbie Drury asks who was the lender on the property. Mr. Hallman responds. Mr. Brockleman asks if we asked for more than 60 days notification. Mr. Hallman explains our role in stepping in while bank will not provide ANY facility improvements while we are there (ice machine/lamps examples). Mr. Foreman asks who is responsible for facility care during this time. Mr. Hallman responds all other organizations/tenants are excluded. Andrea Guinney responds with appreciation for all the work going on behind the scenes. Maureen Zimmerman expresses great appreciation for access to the ice machine and knows parents willing to volunteer with facility needs.

D. Foreman moved to pass lease agreement as discussed. K. Brockleman seconded. Motion passed.

e) Senior Gift

Kristi Atha announces that the senior gift of campus sculpture will hopefully be presented over Christmas. Details related to the sculpture are not yet decided but goal is to have something students will be proud of in years forward. Money collected will go to sculpture only, not to include soft- or hard-scape around it. Team desires board approval to move forward with plan for sculpture near Zellman Center. Mr. Tonnesen will facilitate any items desired.

Mr. Rafael Tan likes the idea of holding a book not sword. D. Foreman notes this is an extraordinary senior gift and suggests board will not design this today, but Board approves team continue discussion by gaining community input and present final plan for approval. Point of clarification by M. Rhoades: does parent /student body input mean parent body or parent organization? D. Foreman states intent was general body.

D. Foreman moved to approve direction as requested by Senior gift committee, asking them to move forward with discussion (and invite input) and make a final presentation to the board at a future meeting (as an agenda item) for final approval. T. Kilby seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion includes concern by Mr. Tonnesen regarding time and too much input to make decision. Mrs. Atha is concerned about time needed to obtain input from entire student body. Mr. Foreman makes it clear that input is encouraged, not required and can be done in a variety of ways. T. Bush mentions placement and significance of the sculpture be brought for board approval due to its terrific nature.

Motion amended by D. Foreman to bring final sculpture presentation to next board meeting. Seconded by T. Kilby. Amendment passed.

Discussion: Mr. Tonnesen is willing to contribute a clearer document/drawing for Board review. T. Bush asks what the material will be and Mr. Tonnesen notes it will appear to be cast iron and will be able to be readily repaired.

f) Faculty Representative Report (R. Bergez)

Mr. Bergez states good orientation schedule for parents/students. New teacher training included teachers facilitating their own Socratic discussions on great books. Discussed family handbook including how to deal with enforcing contractual obligations on campus and reminder of role as first models and must enforce what we have in place. Quality core of faculty are providing a strong sense of renewal and optimism. Mr. Glen Thorpe asks how TPA orients new teachers to the Socratic method and great books philosophy and how they are evaluated. Mr. Bergez explains two-part interview process followed by recommendation or rejection given to Mr. Hallman, including match of their 'spirit of the school' along with resume. Two-day orientation and seminars attended by new and experienced teachers follow. Availability has increased for formal and informal observations of classroom and new faculty, with more capacity to deal with class concerns. Mr. Hallman adds that the improved budget position provided opportunity to increase academic leadership team time for student issues. Mr. Bergez will serve as Dean of Students and Mrs. Veenstra will be mentor teacher and liason for new

teachers. Dr. Hickernell, Mr. Veenstra and Mr. Atkinson will serve as a mentor teachers, for those faculty at TPA for three years or less.

Mr. Rafael Tan asks about enforcement of handbook and importance of upper class students modeling to lower class students. Mrs. Drury mentions rumor mill heard that faculty lost to other institutions because of discipline issues not addressed, wants to make sure faculty know that parents will back them up. Asks that faculty discuss how to provide to parents what is needed to ensure this sense of support. Then, asks if a parent has a question about how a subject is taught among classes, who do we go to for clarification? Mr. Bergez responds that you can talk to the teacher directly to determine whether there is a curriculum shift based on a class need or interest or talk to the class chair re. for insight on departures from the curriculum. Going to person most directly connected would be the first course. He thanks Mrs. Guiney for being thoughtful to the grievance process. Dr. Zimmerman understands sometimes teachers are hired without liberal arts background; asks what we are doing to get them up to par with this philosophy? Mr Bergez responds noting modeling of Socratic discussions among the faculty and Mrs. Veenstra dedicating more time to work with new teachers. Not so much a step-by-step but an overarching placement of time and resources for veterans to attend to this.

g) **PO Representative Report** (M. Rhoades)

M. Rhoades notes work on campus this summer has been significant. Meet and Greet on Wednesday evening allowed time to meet new teachers. Evaluation process this year in place to ensure what PO has done in the past is still meeting the needs of our students/parents. New PO efforts include: support at lunch duty, science lab assistant, lesson prep for teachers, social committee allows parents to come alongside faculty to plan events for students. 2-3 members of PO will attend board meetings. Two-part process for funding will be headmaster and then board will present request. Implementing confidentiality and conflict of interest forms. Volunteer code of conduct will be presented to elevate personal integrity. E. Ortiz extends thanks from entire board for all the behind the scenes work and effort that is extremely appreciated.

K. Brockelman moved to enter Executive Session at 1:28 p.m. T. Kilby seconded. Motion passed.

5) **Executive Session. All business conducted in Executive Session is confidential pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03. At this time, the public is to leave the room and take all materials such as backpacks, purses and briefcases.**

- a) Discussion/Consultation regarding bond refinancing, TPJA CSP Grant and other financing issues and options (A.R.S. Section 38-431.03(A)(3)).
- b) Discussion/Consultation regarding negotiations for purchase, sale or lease of real property (A.R.S. Section 38-431.03(A)(7)).

K. Brockelman moved to re-enter Regular Session at 2:15p.m. D. Foreman seconded. Motion passed.

6) **Regular Session** (continued).

- a) **Possible Motions from Executive Session:** None
- b) **Discussion, Call to the Public and Possible Vote on Items Presented:** None

7) **Announcements** (E. Ortiz)

It is decided that if someone wants the board meeting to be videotaped in the future, this be announced at the beginning of the meeting.

8) **Next Board Meeting** was scheduled for Wednesday, September 7, 2011, in the Student Union; TPA at 6:00 p.m. TPJA immediately thereafter and tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m

Mr. Brockelman suggests that the Board meeting be moved to the following week on Wednesday, September 14, 2011 in the Student Union; TPA at 6:00 p.m. TPJA immediately thereafter and tentatively scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

9) **Adjournment** (E. Ortiz)

D. Foreman moved to adjourn at 2:30 p.m. K. Brockelman seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tara Kilby, Secretary
Cindy Carter, Scribe

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Kilby". Below the signature is a large, simple, hand-drawn loop or flourish that extends downwards and to the right.