

# Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Tolbert Charter Academy School Board

Date: May 22, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m. - Virtual ZOOM Online Meeting

## Board members

**Mark Tolbert, President | Blaine Clark, Treasurer | Linda Edgely, Secretary | TuJuania Scott, Board Member | Aldon Jones, Board Member | Troy Nash, Board Member | Ashton Jones, Board Member | Derrick Parker, Board Member**

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Bishop Mark Tolbert, Board President. Board members present at the meeting were:

- Bishop Mark Tolbert
- Blaine Clark
- TuJuania Scott
- Aldon Jones
- Ashton Jones
- Derrick Parker
- Linda Edgely

Absent:

- Troy Nash

- **Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

A motion was made by Linda Edgely to accept the April 17, 2023 board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Blaine Clark.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- **Approval of Bills**

A motion was made by Blaine Clark to approve the monthly bills for payment. The motion was seconded by Linda Edgely.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- **Approval of Elevator Bill**

A motion was made by Linda Edgely to approve the \$15,000 bill to repair the building elevator. The motion was seconded by Blaine Clark.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- **Superintendent's Report- Dr. Mitchell (report emailed)**

- For several months the Missouri Legislature has considered an open enrollment bill. This bill would allow families to transfer to any school of their choice without necessarily meeting residential requirements. In our opinion, this bill would unfairly target and harm urban schools. Last week, the legislature decided that this bill would not move

forward and at the present time is not being considered. We are excited about that and I will keep the BOE posted as to any future developments.

- Last week I had the pleasure to represent our school in Washington DC with the Educational Leadership Policy Program. This visit allowed me to participate in advocacy for public schools and the programs we need to ensure our students (at LATCA) receive support on the state and federal levels for educational equity. Summary of visits include:
  - National Education Association – conversation around what we can do to address the teacher shortage and compensation support at the federal level.
  - National Association of Elementary School Principals – conversation around how we can assist colleges and create teacher education prep programs that go deep enough to give students the skills needed for effective teaching, but also how we cannot make requirements as hard to encourage more to enter into the education field.
  - National Association of Secondary School Principals – similar conversation above but also tips on the verbiage and language to use while meeting with representatives on capitol hill around educational support.
  - National School Board Association – conversation around advocacy.
  - United States Department of Education – conversation around career and technical education support as well as supporting increasing minority engagement in pursuing careers in education. Also spoke to potential areas to increase financial support for teacher salaries.
  - United States Department of Agriculture – conversation around the federal school lunch program and potential changes and cuts. Heavy discussion on universal school lunch is free for all students as many school districts are incurring debt from unpaid student lunch bills. A discussion was also had that school districts need to make themselves aware that shifts in policy could result in funding decreases.
  - Office of: Congressman Emmanuel Cleaver, Congressman Sam Graves, Senator Josh Hawley, and Senator Erick Schmidt. – in these separate meetings the same conversations were held...how to encourage people to get into the field of education and how to boost support for loan forgiveness programs. We also discussed that over 100,000 teaching jobs have been unfilled this school year due to rapid decreases in individuals leaving the education profession.
- **Principal's Report (report emailed)**
  - MAP testing update- MAP testing is complete, results will be issued at the end of August.
  - SY23/24 Curriculum Update - Changes are being made to our daily class schedule to include more reading, RTI & Supplemental Reading.
  - Academic Advisory Committee Update (We are introducing curriculum maps for SY23/24 and reviewing all Curriculum Resources and Academic Programs).
  - EOY Academic Celebrations- Awards ceremony, NJHS Induction Ceremony, Kindergarten Promotion, 8th Grade Promotion. The retirement party for Ms. Lucero and Ms. Gartin.

- **Items for Discussion/Approval**

- School Uniform Policy

A motion was made by Aldon Jones to keep the current uniform policy updates as presented.

The motion was seconded by Linda Edgely.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- Campus Security- Wanding

A motion was made by Aldon Jones to accept the campus security proposal to allow security to wand on staff and students upon arrival. The motion was seconded by Blaine Clark.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- PEACE Fundraiser Account

This is an official memo from the LATCA Board of Directors that these two fundraising accounts will be operated by the Superintendent, the Principal, and the Board chair as a DbA: of the Lee A Tolbert Community Academy.

A motion was made by Linda Edgely to accept the proposal for the PEACE fundraising account. The motion was seconded by Aldon Jones.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- Audit- Ralph Johnson & Company

A motion was made by TuJuania Scott to accept the audit proposal from Ralph Johnson & Company. The motion was seconded by Linda Edgely.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- **Board Committee Reports**

Student Performance Committee- Dr. Donnie Mitchell - No report

Board Governance Committee- Dr. Hayes - No report

- **Financial Report- Blaine Clark**

A motion was made by TuJuania Scott to accept and receive that financial report as presented.

The motion was seconded by Linda Edgely.

Motion carried. Vote 6/0

- **Next Meeting Date & Location: June 19, 2023 (7:00 pm) ZoomOnline**

- **July- No Meeting**

- **Adjournment**

TuJuania Scott made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Aldon Jones. Motion carried. Vote 6/0. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Submitted by Ashley Walker, HR Assistant