



# THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

## Regular Board Meeting Minutes

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### Date and Time

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 10:00 AM (Approved Minutes)

### Location

4000 S. Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90037 (MPR)

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Board Members Present:** L. Rabinowitz, P. Morrison, L. Picus, L. Berz, B. Brooks, M. De la Cruz

**Board Members Absent:** B. Yost

**Administrative Team Present:** G. Lee-Chang, L. Lugo, C. Foley, K. Sheehan, D. Kukta, R. French, T. Nizetich, K. Clerx, F. Jackson, L. Hilarides, A. Zartner, A. Blackwell, B. James, D. Tran, D. Gonzalez. K. Hlaudy, S. Godfrey, S. Murphy, O. Mojarro, A. Dominguez, and C. Reyes

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**Guest Speakers:** None.

**Guest Present:** J. Ruley and P. Reyes

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### AGENDA

**Meeting Called to Order:** President Rabinowitz called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** B. Brooks

**Approval of Board Meeting Agenda January 24, 2024, Motioned:** PM/LP **Approved:** Unanimously 6/0

**Approval of Annual Board Meeting Minutes: December 13, 2023, Motioned:** LP/PM **Approved:** Unanimously 6/0

**Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes: December 13, 2023, Motioned:** LP/PM **Approved:** Unanimously 6/0

Next Board Meeting  
Special Board meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2024

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## **PUBLIC COMMENTS on NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Public comments

**There were two public comments on non-agenda items:**

1. Daniel Gonzalez requested the Board to adopt a resolution recognizing Black History Month at TAS and provided a draft resolution to the board for their consideration.
2. Ms. Capriel, ACES parent and ELAC president, requested more tutors in mathematics and reading. Ms. Capriel also requested more student field trips to places that they can't readily access, and healthier food should be provided versus processed food.

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## **BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS, REPORT AND ACTION ITEM**

No Public Comments

1. **ACTION ITEM:** Board President Leonard Rabinowitz stated he was pleased to announce that on today's agenda is a motion to establish the TAS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee. Board members Mr. P. Morrison and Ms. B. Yost have been offered and will be the initial members of this committee and will expand the committee under their guidance. **Motion to establish the DEI committee and establish its membership:** LR/LP  
**Approved:** 6/0 unanimously
2. Brown Act training: The Board President requested members to review PowerPoint on their own. Ms. Ruley will contact new Board members for training.
3. The CEO's job description will be ready at the end of the month.

**Direction to staff and future agenda item(s): to Ms. Capriel comments about healthier food should be provided versus processed food, more student field trips, and math/reading tutors. Also, a response to Mr. Gonzalez regarding Black History month.**

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## **CEO'S PRESENTATION AND REPORT**

No Public comments

1. Acknowledged Board member emeritus Simeon Slovacek for his contributions to our organization annually. This generous gift will be used for student scholarships. Acknowledged Board member L. Picus for leading three study sessions with the administrative staff on his evidenced-based funding model. Dr. Picus shared he was impressed with the school leadership and their focus and commitment. He was honored to work with TAS leadership.
2. Acknowledged faculty and staff for their incredible support during the winter break to accelerate student learning.
3. Thanked all parents, faculty, and staff for a successful Parent-Teacher conference week. Board member B. Brooks shared her experience with parent-teacher conferences. Board member M. De La Cruz shared his experience with parent-teacher conferences.

**Next Board Meeting  
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4. Acknowledged T. Nizetich, Director of Facilities for eight years of service. Wished him a fond farewell and best wishes in his next endeavors.
5. Introduction of Dr. Patricia Brent-Sanco from Lighthouse Consulting as our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion consultant. Dr. Sanco presented her work, and the goal of her consulting company is to establish an equitable, culturally relevant, and responsive environment.
6. Provided an overview of LAUSD Annual Oversight and its purpose. CEO highlighted LAUSD's visit to TAS on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. ACES oversight visit will be on Friday, January 26, 2024. A big thanks to TAS Leadership, faculty, staff, Cabinet, and Ms. Lugo.
7. A request was made for a special Board meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. The following Board members will be in attendance: L. Rabinowitz, L. Picus, P. Morrison, and B. Brooks.

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## STAFF PRESENTATION, REPORTS, AND ACTION ITEMS

No Public Comments

1. Information Item-Bring Back on Student Enrollment and Marketing Plan. The Director of Operations shared plans to:
  - a. Increase enrollment that includes more social media presence
  - b. Updated school website
  - c. Brand book for each school
  - d. Interview several firms who are familiar with IG and YouTube

**The board brings back the request: Who are social media influencers who can work with our organization to market our school to students? The board directed staff to solicit bids for Communications/PR/Media firms.**
2. Information Item-Bring Back on Job Description for a Development position. CHRO reviewed the job description for the Development person. The board suggested the title be Director of Development. **The board directed staff to contact some consulting firms or consultants that provide this service to possibly outsource this job. The Board also directed HR to fly the position and start the interview process for Director of Development.**
3. Action Item - The Board will consider approving the Consolidated Financial Reports through December 2023-24 for TAS/ACES/WAHS. **Director of Fiscal Services, Review Financial Dashboard for December 2023.**  
**Motion to approve consolidated financial reports: PM/LR Approved: 6/0 unanimously**
4. Information Item - Highlights of the Governor's 2024-25 Proposed Budget. **Director of Fiscal Services shared highlights of the Governor's 2024- 2025 proposed budget**
  - a. The good and bad of LCFF for 2024-2025
  - b. Review of next steps (April – June 2024)
  - c. **The board directed staff to ensure Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) was initiated to invest TAS funds.**

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**CONSENT ITEMS**

No Public Comments

**Items 1 and 2 were approved. Motion:** PM/LR **Approved:** 6/0 unanimously

1. Approval of the 2022-2023 School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) for ACES, TAS, and WAHS
2. Approval of Amendment to Ware Disposal Agreement - TAS/ACES/WAHS

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**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION AT 11:42 AM**

1. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54954.5 for School Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 99
2. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54954.5 for United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA)
3. Discussion on Public Employment Appointment of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) §54957

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**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION AT 1:16 PM**

1. Conference with Labor Negotiators pursuant to Government Code §54954.5 for United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA). **The board gave directions to counsel to bargain with UTLA. Unanimous vote.**

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**ADJOURN AT 1:16 PM**

**Motion:** LP/LB **Approved:** Unanimously