



THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

Board of Trustees Newsletter #10 – 10.27.2022

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our ACES/TAS/WAHS parents informed regarding the recent board meeting. The Board recognizes the power of a well-informed, involved parent, who engages in the decision-making process.

The Accelerated Board of Trustees is the governing body for The Accelerated Schools (ACES/TAS/WAHS)

Board Members

Leonard Rabinowitz, *Board President*
Peter B Morrison, *Vice President*

Larry Picus, *Trustee*
Elisabeth Weiss, *Trustee*

Binti Yost, *Trustee*

The Accelerated Schools held a Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, October 27, 2022, by teleconference pursuant to AB 361. Here are some of the highlights of this meeting:

Board President Comments

President Rabinowitz reviewed a report with other board members that compared compensation of similar charter school leaders in Los Angeles County.

He thanked staff and faculty for their continued work in educating the community on dangers of fentanyl.

He thanked staff and faculty for their continued dedication to student educational program

He thanked board members for their public service as board members are volunteers who do not receive compensation for their work.

Items approved:

- Contract for Security Cameras ACES/TAS/WAHS
- Contract for Outdoor Furniture TAS/WAHS
- Contract for Metal Detectors TAS/WAHS
- Contract Amendment for HeyTutor for student tutoring - ACES/TAS/WAHS
- Resolution of Authorization for Director of Fiscal Services

One Pill Can Kill-Harmful Effects of Fentanyl From Kim Sheehan, Director of Operations

A highlight of this Board meeting was the presentation by Ms. Sheehan, Director of Operations to inform and educate our school community on the harm of Fentanyl.

Ms. Sheehan shared that The Accelerated School’s community has taken an aggressive approach to educate our community following the state and Los Angeles County’s campaign “One pill can kill”. TAS has sent informational flyers in both English and Spanish, along with webinars that have been sent via Remind app to all parents.

Parents can view archived information webinars to learn more:

English:

- <https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/hkqc5442wj>
- <https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/rsgtky0w49>

Spanish:

- <https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/g51cif0pl1>
- <https://lausd.wistia.com/medias/yl17bn7w02>

Approximately 30 staff members at ACES/TAS/WAHS campus have been trained on the use of Narcan in case an emergency arises. Schools have hosted parent meetings. We will have organization- wide participation on Fentanyl Awareness Day on May 10, 2023.

The Accelerated Schools have a zero-drug tolerance policy.



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CEO's comments:

- a. Ms. Lee-Chang introduced Ms. Debbie Kukta as new Director of Fiscal Services. Ms. Kukta is a Certified Public Accountant and has worked in both public and private sector in finance and business services.
- b. She presented the recently released 2021-22 student achievement data which showed the following data trend
 - i. Despite the pandemic, ACES continues to increase student achievement. ACES exceeded CA state in English and Math
 - ii. TAS continues to provide unique opportunities for students in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). They have science and math tutors during and after school. TAS Middle School recently launched partnership with USC Viterbi School of Engineering.
 - iii. WAHS continues to exceed local schools in preparing students for college. LAUSD averages 56% of students graduating college eligible. WAHS exceeds with over 90% of students graduating college eligible. WAHS exceeded local schools in their Math proficiency
- c. Board members shared their reflections and their vision regarding post-pandemic trends in national and California state's student achievement data for public schools.
 - o Mr. Rabinowitz agreed with research articles and highlighted the importance of tutoring and parental involvement including parents reading at least 20 minutes with their child to improve reading comprehension, especially in lower grades
 - o Ms. Yost recommended to have career-oriented programs to provide students with exposure to different career opportunities to pursue
 - o Mr. Morrison express his vision for TAS to continue pushing ourselves to provide the best educational programs for The Accelerated School community
- d. Ms. Lee-Chang thanked the board members for bringing unique opportunities to TAS students including scholarships and mentoring. She thanked school administrators for their on-going dedication. She especially thanks staff and faculty who are also our parents for entrusting us with their most precious, their child. A sign of a great school is when their faculty and staff bring their children here.

“Regardless of the size of the city or town where men or women are born, they are at the end the size of their work, the size of their will to enlarge and enrich their brothers.”

**Ignacio Allende,
Lieutenant General
(Mexican independence
movement)**

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

- **December 8, 2022, at 9:30am - Annual Organizational Meeting**
- **December 8, 2022, at 10:00am - Regular Meeting**

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