



# THE ACCELERATED SCHOOLS

## Board of Trustees Newsletter #12 – 2.23.2023

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 Larry Picus, Trustee Binti Yost, Trustee  
Peter B. Morrison, Vice President Elisabeth Weiss, Trustee

The Accelerated Schools held Board Meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2023, by teleconference pursuant to AB 361. Here are some of the highlights of this meeting:

### Board President Comments

Since our founding in 1994, The Accelerated Schools have been committed to academic excellence and educational equity. We believe in high expectations coupled with high support. He is proud that we have not lowered our standards like other schools.

Thank our CEO for working tirelessly to meet TAS’s mission and vision.

### Items approved:

1. Purchase of 200 Chromebooks - TAS/ACES/WAHS
2. Southwest Patrol - Increased Security Services - TAS/ACES/WAHS
3. USC Third Space Youth Institute Agreement - WAHS
4. USC Third Space Youth Days Agreement - WAHS
5. Polywood - Purchase of Outdoor Furniture - TAS/ACES/WAHS
6. Hazel Health -Tele-Therapy Mental Health Services - TAS/ACES/WAHS

### A MESSAGE FROM CEO-Grace Lee-Chang

**“A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees.” -Amelia Earhart**

We celebrate Random Act of Kindness Week in the United States this week. I first experienced a random act of kindness when I was a young teacher buying a cup of coffee at Starbucks. The person in front of me in line paid for my drink despite being a total stranger. I pondered this the next few days.

But that’s what makes a random act of kindness so special. It’s important to remind each other kindness should not have to be deserved or earned, and that the simplest of things can have the most significant impact on someone else – a smile, a compliment, paying for a cup of coffee.

As an organization, we’ve been learning and implementing success criteria(s). A way to achieve success as an organization is to practice habits that lead to happiness, not sacrifice.

- Optimistic salespeople outsell their pessimistic counterparts by 56%
- Doctors in a positive state make an accurate diagnosis 19% faster.
- Students primed to feel happy prior to a math test outperform their peers

According to The Happiness Advantage: How A Positive Brain Fuels Success in Life and Work by Shawn Achor, one of the habits that fuel happiness is practicing a random act of kindness.

Just today, I witnessed these acts of kindness from our colleagues:

- ACES-Deborah Albin extending her time to a teammate who is ill
- TAS/WAHS-Mark Aguero sharing his baking talents with a co-worker
- WAHS-Marvetta Thompson buying and sharing girl scout cookies as prizes with faculty.
- Campus Supervisor Anny Perez going out of her way to acknowledge a former co-worker.
- Facilities Team Member Doneyea Johnson greets those he walks by without losing speed on deliveries.

Thank you to our TAS Dean of Culture, Amber Blackwell and Director, Dr. Tom Crowther for sharing out activities and ideas to practice kindness!

**If you know of other students who would thrive in this kind and nurturing environment coupled with high expectations, here are the links to share with family and friends to complete their pre-enrollment process before our lottery on Friday, March 3, 2023. It’s students enrollment season and spaces are limited.**

Click here to see what parents say about our schools:

- [TAS parent](#)
- [WAHS parent](#)

English: <https://registration.powerschool.com/family/gosnap.aspx?action=34471&culture=en>  
Spanish: <https://registration.powerschool.com/family/gosnap.aspx?action=34471&culture=es>

Grace Lee-Chang  
Chief Executive Officer



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### CEO's comments

- TAS's mission is to prepare students that will become community leaders
- TAS believes that equity, including education and racial equity, are sacred causes worth fighting for.
- Recognize everyday school heroes that shine while handling an emergency at ACES last Friday.
- Thank you to the Board members for their Random Act of Kindness to staff and faculty on Friday, February 17.
- Thanked WAHS Leadership and Parents in celebration of students for their academic and athletic achievements at WAHS Awards Night.

**"Kindness is like  
snow it beautifies  
everything it  
covers."**

**Kahlil Gibran**

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

**April 27, 2023, at 10:00 am**



**Accelerated Charter Elementary School**  
3914 E. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90037  
Office (323) 846-6694 • Fax (323) 846-0686

**The Accelerated School**  
4000 S. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90037  
Office (323) 235-6343 • Fax (323) 235-6346

**TAS 2**  
119 E. 37<sup>th</sup> Street (Grades TK-K)  
Los Angeles, CA 90011  
Office (323) 985-6369 • Fax (323) 235-6346

**Wallis Annenberg High School**  
4000 S. Main Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90037  
Office (323) 235-6343 • Fax (323) 235-6346