

Taylion High Desert Academy

Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2023

Time: 6:00pm

Location: 14181 US Highway 395, Suite 202, Victorville, CA

Meeting Conference Line: 414-501-3671 PIN: 179 284 535# Teleconference available at the following locations:

- 7130 Avenida Encinas, Carlsbad, CA 92011
- 15018 Avenida Montuosa Unit C, San Diego, CA 92129
- 3050 West 4th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90020

A. Preliminary

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at _6:07_pm on February 23, 2023 by Kimberly Tucker.

2. Board Roll call

Current	Present	Absent
Tadios Belay	X	
Elizabeth Hulsey	X(arrived late)	
Kimberly Tucker	X	
Destiny Irons	X	

Additional Attendees: Zach Wolfe, Shannon Smith, Brenda Congo, Karen Ruffner

Items Scheduled for Action

1. Approve Minutes from December 19, 2022 Board Meeting – Kimberly Tucker

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____

Second: _____ **Irons** _____

Vote: Belay X Hulsey _____ Tucker X Irons X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved to 3 to 0

2. Approve Board Bylaws Update – Zach: Mr. Wolfe mentioned that an addendum was added including board member names and terms as a new feature. Additionally, he spoke about the process of renewing for in May/June for board members' positions in the 2023-24 year.

Motion: _____ **Belay** _____
Second: _____ **Tucker** _____
Vote: Belay X Hulsey Tucker X Irons X
Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

3. Approve Gift Card Policy – Zach Wolfe: Back office received emails concerning providing gift cards to homeless students and he explained that these cards are possible with certain guidelines which are outlined in the newly created policy. Mr. Wolfe continued saying that if purchases are made for necessary items for students, these gift cards may be utilized. Ms. Congo added that since it will be difficult to receive receipts, Taylion will be asking students in need to visit the counseling department to ask for specific items needed for school and will be granted as much as possible.

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____
Second: _____ **Irons** _____
Vote: Belay X Hulsey Tucker X Irons X
Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

4. Approve LMEG Contract – Zach Wolfe: Due to an auditor finding at last December meeting concerning the LMEG contract (pg. 16), new language was added and another vote is required.

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____
Second: _____ **Belay** _____
Vote: Belay x Hulsey Tucker x Irons x
Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

5. Approve THDA Fiscal Policies – Zach Wolfe: Auditing firm asked that as part of the agreement, once the contract gets board approved, LMEG will provide the auditor a signed copy of the contract or it will become null and void.

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____
Second: _____ **Irons** _____
Vote: Belay X Hulsey Tucker X Irons X
Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

6. Auditor Selection – Zach Wolfe: Formality – Christy White & Associates is in the third year of the contract and the fees were provided by Mr. Wolfe. This will be the third and final year using this firm.

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____

Second: _____ **Irons** _____

Vote: Belay x Hulsey Tucker x Irons x

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

7. Approve MVN Agreement/Invoice – Shannon Smith: This is an advertising agreement which would give permission to display Taylion ads outside of county in Victorville, Barstow, and Anaheim @ the DMVs to be seen on screens displayed while clients are waiting. Total cost would be \$20,520. Ms. Smith believes it would be a positive opportunity especially in Victorville for additional name recognition. Discussion ensued with questions from Board Member Irons questioning as to whether a smaller experiment could be a better approach or possibly replicate what has been done to increase enrollment over the past months. Ms. Smith explained that this may be a strong addition to name recognition and an increase in curiosity about Taylion. A follow-up in a year was requested by the board.

Motion: _____ **Tucker** _____

Second: _____ **Irons** _____

Vote: Belay X Hulsey X Tucker X Irons X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0 .

Communications

1. Principal Report – Brenda Congo: Ms. Congo started with announcing the 646 student enrollment numbers - 101 SPED students included in this total, 25 SSCs servicing students, 4 SPED teachers. CSUSB field trip took place 2-22-23 and another planned for the local community college. WASC is approaching on May 1-3. Lego and Art Clubs happening monthly. Student Government continues for middle and high school – both student populations give input. March 3 will have a VVC event, state testing is ongoing, progress being made in aligning science classes with A-G standards. Board member Belay mentioned prospects of an alliance with a Lancaster school per a conference he attended.
2. CSI Grant Educational Partner Engagement – THDA Leadership; Zach/Brenda: Mr. Wolfe mentioned that as a Title 1 funded school and as a school on the low graduation list, CSI gives federal funding to improve overall grad rates. Allocation for next year is \$165,000 which could increase. Ms. Congo mentioned use of funding for tutors, intervention, field trips to colleges/universities plus their bridge programs, Ren STAR for data reflection of baseline assessments, senior monitoring by counseling, etc.
3. 2023-24 Board Calendar - Shannon: Ms. Smith informed board that she and the back office will create a calendar for the entire upcoming year of board meetings. Ms. Smith

mentioned that the June meeting will be at Taylion's graduation (6/15/23), and the July meeting will focused on the Brown Act training at a board retreat.

4. CBO Financial Report – Zach: Mr. Wolfe reviewed the strong financial situation resulting from the expansion of enrollment. CSI funding increased the January finances. ADA shows that we differ from our projections. Adjustments to hiring teacher staff are ongoing. Next year's CSI application will be submitted by March 3rd. Reminder to board concerning the completion of the Form 700.
5. SARC update – Karen: Ms. Ruffner explained Taylion's School Accountability Report Card as a reflection of the various aspects of the school – academic offerings, staff, student demographics and progress, facility condition, etc.
6. Next Regular Board Meeting Date March 23, 2023, at 6:00pm. This may be canceled if there are no agenda items requiring approval or rescheduled if needed. Special meetings may be scheduled as needed.

C. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm p.m. by Kimberly Tucker.

Taylion High Desert Academy

Board of Director Members

Officers:	Board Members:
Shannon Smith Vice President Smith.Shannon50@yahoo.com (602) 741-4123	Tadios Belay Board Chairman tadi2001@gmail.com 510-328-0003
Brenda Congo Principal, THDA brenda.congo@taylion.com (760) 885-2337	Elizabeth Hulsey Board Member ehulsey@goodwillsocal.org 702-479-8210
	Kimberly Tucker Board Secretary/Treasurer Tuckersbeach09@yahoo.com 804-467-0955
	Destiny Irons Board Member destinyann777@gmail.com 760-846-0750