

Taylion High Desert Academy

Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2024

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: 14181 Highway 395, Suite 202, Victorville, CA 92392
11336 Bartlett Ave., #9, Adelanto, CA 92301
14196 Amargosa Rd., Suite C, Victorville, CA 91709
14545 Hook Blvd. Victorville, CA 92394

Google Meeting Number 1-304-715-2774 PIN 974 035 795#

A. Preliminary

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:26 pm on June 20, 2024 by Kimberly Tucker.

2. Board Roll call

Current	Present	Absent
Tadios Belay	X (late arrival)	
Elizabeth Hulse	X	
Kimberly Tucker	X	
Dave Petray	X	

Additional Attendees: Zach Wolfe, Matt Butler, Rachel Pitchford, Ildi Clark, Maria Angel, Veronica Prado, Mandy Oliver, Jodie Radford, Tim Smith, Shannon Creamer Smith, Brenda Congo, Karen Ruffner

Closed Session

1. Board Resolution to discuss Staff Stipends/Benefits Increases-(**closed session**)
3:28pm, Mr. Wolfe reviewed the upcoming stipends and discussion ensued with minimal questions

Open Session

Items Scheduled for Action -

1. Approve Minutes from March 13, 2024 Board Meeting – Kimberly Tucker

Motion: ___Hulsey___

Second: ___Petray___

Vote: Belay ___Hulsey__X__ Tucker__X__Petray__X__

Information/Actions: Board vote approved to 3 to 0

2. Approve Staff Stipends/Benefits Increases – Zach Wolfe referred to closed session discussion.

Motion: ___Kim___

Second: ___Elizabeth___

Vote: Belay ___Hulsey___ Tucker___Petray___

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0.

3. Approve 024-25 Adopted Budget – Zach Wolfe discussed the details of the upcoming budget with surplus balance(5.5 million in total). Mr. Wolfe referred to the handout with outlined details of the new budget and determined that having surplus will put us in an advantageous position. If there are any large shifts in the 2024-25 school year, adjustments will be made.

Dr. Smith asked about the P2 ADA and what we are being funded on currently as well as the 672.18 ADA (23-24) which had increased from the previous year. Mr. Wolfe explained that Taylion is currently being funded off P1 funding (P2 was funded yesterday). For the upcoming year in January when the P1 is submitted, the increase in enrollment ADA will conclusively show. An additional question was asked by Dr. Smith regarding a new law (SB 740) which had been discussed at a previous meeting concerning the possibility of an annual need for this type of monetary review.

Motion: ___Hulsey___

Second: ___Tucker___

Vote: Belay ___Hulsey__X__ Tucker__X__Petray__X__

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0.

4. Approve 2024-25 LMEG Contract – Shannon Smith/Rachel Pitchford: request to table this topic until all data can be collected.

Motion: ___Tucker___

Second: ___Hulsey___

Vote: Belay ___Hulsey__XX__ Tucker__X__Petray__X__

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0.

5. Approve 2023-24 Prop 28 Report – Zach Wolfe/Brenda Congo: Ms. Congo began explaining the arts funding report and the fact that during 2023-24, Robotics course has been implemented with over 100 students partaking. During the next year, Taylion will strive to grow the program.

Motion: Hulsey

Second: Tucker

Vote: Belay Hulsey X Tucker X Petray X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

6. Approve 2024-25 Prop 28 Report – Zach Wolfe/Brenda Congo: \$122,000 is what the school is expected to receive for the arts grant in the upcoming school year. Ms Congo spoke of the need for continued materials and a teacher.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey X Tucker X Petray X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

7. Approve 2024-25 Consolidated Application– Zach Wolfe: For Title 1,2, & 4 funding was reviewed by Mr. Wolfe.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey X Tucker X Petray X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0

8. Approve 2023-24 Local Indicator Report – Karen Ruffner: Ms Ruffner reviewed Taylion’s Local Indicators for the 2024 Dashboard. The goals are remaining the same with a deeper dive into Academic Growth and Family Engagement.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey X Tucker X Petray X

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

9. Approve 2024-25 LCAP – Brenda Congo: Ms. Congo explained the goals of the LCAP for this cycle. She reviewed the success with the participation of the testing , however, a focus is needed on growth with the academic standing - this focus on academic standing is a priority. The second goal is focusing on professional staff development which will include training of teachers on common core understanding as well as development of implementation using the new curricula being adopted. An additional goal is to engage student involvement with clubs, student

government, etc. Taylion wants to develop communication and connections with all families and educational partners.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

10. Approve 2023 -24 and 205-25 EPA Resolutions – Zach Wolfe: Mr. Wolfe explained that this is an annual review for public transparency. Staff salaries shown for 23/24 and the details on the handout for 24/25 budgetary funding including certificated salaries were included. Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

11. Approve Student Attendance and Progress Policy – Brenda Congo: Ms. Congo to explained the school’s compliance with attendance. Student samples, records of meetings, and classes attendance are some of the ways to account for the student attendance progress.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 3 to 0 .

12. Approve Parent/Student Handbook – Brenda Congo: The updated parent/student handbook was reviewed which included all the annual notices as well as a new math placement policy , possession of tobacco, link to school safety plan, policies and procedures. Mr. Belay joined the meeting at this point.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0 .

13. Approve Annual Notice – Brenda Congo: Notices reviewed included synthetic drug/narcan, workplace readiness, suicide prevention, Title IX. Working on staff/student policy and a seal of biliteracy procedure still being reviewed.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Belay

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0 .

14. Approve School Safety Plan – Karen Ruffner: Ms. Ruffner reviewed the updated additions to the earlier approved manual which included: transportation safety, service animals policy, synthetic drugs awareness, and child sex protection.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

15. Approve Workplace Violence Prevention Plan – Ildi Clark: Ms. Clark spoke on the mandated workplace violence prevention plan outlining how to recognize and respond to any workplace violence or threats from either staff, students, or the public.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Belay

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

16. Approve Homeless Ed Policy – Veronica Prado: Ms. Prado spoke on the revised/updated Taylion’s homeless policy.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

17. Approve Board Term Renewal for Kimberly Tucker – Zach Wolfe: renewal term until June 2026.

Motion: Petray

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

18. Approve Board Term Renewal for Tadios Belay – Zach Wolfe: renewal term until June 2025.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Hulsey

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

19. Approve Board Term Renewal for Elizabeth Hulsey – Zach Wolfe:renewal term until June 2026.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

20. Approve Board Bylaws – Zach Wolfe: Mr. Wolfe will update the bylaws for the extension of the board member terms.

Motion: Tucker

Second: Petray

Vote: Belay Hulsey Tucker Petray

Information/Actions: Board vote approved 4 to 0.

Communications

1. Principal Report – Brenda Congo: Taylion’s state testing has completed and the school’s participation rate met the 95% participation expectation. A job hiring fair took place with a resounding success. The Grad Bash and Prom happened over the past two weeks and a wonderful experience was had by all students. Over 100 8th graders have been promoted and 57 seniors are graduating. The new school year will be starting on Jul 1, 2024 for the new Track A. Ms. Congo expressed the excitement of serving our students and growing during the new school year. Maria Angel is kicking off a new reading program in tandem with surrounding libraries per a new law being implemented.

Ms. Congo expressed the need to schedule the next board meeting for the new year. Ms. Creamer Smith suggested the option of going up to Lake Arrowhead for a board retreat or at a local hotel for an entire day. Aug 22 & 29 are being scheduled for Open

Houses for the new Orange County students so these meetings will need to be taken into account.

2. Next Regular Board Meeting Dates will need to be determined and set for the new school year. Sep 14, 2024 @ 9AM was set for the first board meeting which would include the Brown Act training.

C. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:27p.m. by Kimberly Tucker.

Taylion High Desert Academy

Board of Director Members

Board Members:
Tadios Belay Board Chairman tadi2001@gmail.com 510-328-0003
Elizabeth Hulseley Board Member ehulseley@goodwillsocal.org 702-479-8210
Kimberly Tucker Board Secretary/Treasurer Tuckersbeach09@yahoo.com 804-467-0955
Dave Petray Board Member travelviser