



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF**

**AMERICA CAN! dba TEXANS CAN ACADEMIES CHARTER SCHOOLS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 13, 2022**

TRUSTEES

Rudy C. Oeftering, Chair
Chaundra Smith-Adams,
Ph.D.

Gloria Delgado
Linda K. von Quintus, JD

Michael T. Casey

Penny Rayfield

Regina M. Thompson, DNP,
RN, NEA-BC

Richard Evans

Robert Nelson, M.D.

Thalia F. Matherson, Ed. D.

James Ponce, Ed. D.,
Superintendent

The Board of Trustees of American Can!™ DBA Texans Can!™ Academies met January 13, 2022 via video conference with the following in attendance

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Rudy Oeftering, Dr. Chaundra Smith-Adams, Linda K. von Quintus, Michael T. Casey, Penny Rayfield, Dr. Regina Thompson, Richard Evans, Dr. Robert Nelson and Dr. Thalia Matherson

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT

Dr. James Ponce, Stacy Venson, Cynthia Miles, Richard Pena, Dan Cahalen, Scott Barrow, Fernando Marino, Dr. Kellie Curreri, Richard Nichols, Dr. Susan Tims, Joseph Mena, Sonia Lozano, Travis Whisenant, Kim Spivey, Martin Donald, Rachel Arcaute, Karla del Rosal, Chris Flores Mendez, Jared Smith, Alba Marino, Isabel Salazar, KuMasi Lewis

OUR MISSION . . .

To provide
the highest
quality education
for all students,
especially those
who have struggled
in a traditional
high school setting,
in order to ensure
their economic
independence.

Chairman Rudy Oeftering called the meeting to order at 5:30pm on January 13, 2022 announcing that Trustee Gloria Delgado had resigned from the Board for personal reasons but would do her best to rejoin a Committee process. At some point Dr. Regina Thompson will replace Chairman Rudy.

Chairman Rudy Oeftering announced that he would bring forward the last item on the agenda, the Board Self Evaluation, after the TEA Conservator's report and before the Consent Agenda. Pulling from the Consent Agenda - Bylaws.

Student welcome was provided by Briannah Monje of Texans Can Academies Houston Southwest. Briyanah was introduced by Principal Donald Martin.

Governance Committee Report provided by Chairman Rudy Oeftering, in place of Chair Dr. Regina Thompson who had not made her arrival yet. The Governance Committee is working with Lone Star Governance on the Constraints in preparation for the Lone Star Governance Training on Friday, February 18, 2022.

Finance Committee Report was provided by Chair, Richard Evans - Discussed their 3 targeted restraints for the Committee. Differed to Marian Hamlett for highlights of the Finance piece: realignment of banking relationship and investment report. Richard Evans welcomed nominations for Finance Committee members.



Education Report was provided by Chair, Dr. Robert Nelson. Chair Dr. Nelson expressed issues with getting data. He discussed Dan Cahalen working with the Workforce group to get jobs for the students. He shared that on enrollment and attendance, attendance is the problem and not enrollment.

TEA Conservator's report was provided by Dr. Susan Tims. Dr. Tims reminded everyone that their camera needed to be on. She then asked if there were questions. Dr. Nelson questioned TEA's awareness of the difficulty getting the students to take tests and getting data back. Dr. Tims shared the December tests always have a smaller number, the Spring is known to be better. Rich Evans asked how do you grade human capital, it's the workforce. Dr. Tims shared that TCA has a new CHRO with great experience and things should start to look up. Dr. Tims shared a powerpoint Sanction Monitoring presentation. The Conservator reports were included in the Board packet.

Bylaws - Discussion pulled for independent discussions. Will be extending the Board member terms of Chairman and Co-Chair to allow time to fill positions. Looking at websites that offer Board opportunities and/or Committees.

The Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was provided by Trustee Penny Rayfield, and seconded by Trustee Dr. Matherson.

Approvals

- November 11, 2021 meeting minutes
- I CAN Return / ESSER III Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan(s)
- Region 10 Grant Contract
- Amendment of Local Policy for Speech Proficiency
- Sep 30, 2021 Investment Report
- Inter-Local Agreement with Region 10 Educational Service Center Multi-Region
- Approval of purchase of network switches to replace 'end-of-life' switches currently in service. \$245,390.52 initial purchase | Federal ERATE reimbursement: \$187,386.61 | Net out-of-pocket after reimbursement: \$58,003.91

Contracts

- Region 10 Grant Contract

Report Regarding

- Financial Condition
- Municipal Financial Advisor/Bond Issuance
- Career Readiness Programming for 2022



Board of Trustee Evaluations
Vision & Goals 1 / 1 Point / Goal 4
Vision & Goals 2 / 0 Points / Goal 4
Vision & Goals 3 / 0 Points / Goal 3
Vision & Goals 4 / 0 Points / Goal 2
Progress & Accountability 1 / 0 Points / Goal 1
Progress & Accountability 2 / 1 Point / Goal 4
Systems & Process / 0 Points / Goal 0
Advocacy & Engagement / 1 Point / Goal 3
Synergy & Teamwork / 3 Points / Goal 9
Totals 6 Points / Goal 30

Trustee Dr. Matherson motioned to approve the Self Evaluation process. Trustee Penny Rayfield seconded.

Non-Consent Agenda Items

The Superintendent's report included Dr. Ponce welcoming Chris Flores Mendez for our Community Spotlight. The Preliminary EOC highlights were provided, documents included in the Board packet.

Finance

Marian Hamlett reviewed the Financial Condition included in the Board packet. Dr. Nelson questioned Bond financing. Marian Hamlett explained that the bond will be used for repositioning us financially.

Education

Dan Cahalen reviewed the CCMR 5-Year Review 2021 Progress reports that were included in the Board packet. Trustee Dr. Nelson reviewed the Attendance and Enrollment report that was included in the Board packet. Cynthia Miles introduced some principals that were in attendance to discuss the issues with COVID. The Principals included Garland, Oak Cliff, Westcreek, Austin and Houston Hobby. Trustee Penny Rayfield asked what was most effective in what the principals are doing. Garland hearing, seeing and incentivizing. Garland has not had to use the staff for teaching. Principals of Austin and Westcreek also shared their tactics for getting the kids in the building. Principal Salazar of Oak Cliff reported that they had been significantly affected and staff had been teaching.

The Compliance update was provided by Fernando Marino. Reports were included in the Board packet.

Trustee Rich Evans asked for clarity on acronyms being used. Trustees Dr. Nelson and Dr. Matherson agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.