

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE THOMAS A. EDISON CHARTER SCHOOL OF WILMINGTON, INC.**

August 21, 2023

**THOMAS A. EDISON CHARTER SCHOOL
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

Upon notice to all directors and posting of public notice, a meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Thomas A. Edison Charter School of Wilmington, Inc. (the “School”) was held on August 21, 2023.

Directors	Present	Absent
Hal Blocksom		X
Emile Brown	X	
Mikkel Christie	X	
Wayne Cooper		X
Nicole Huffner	X	
Kathleen Cheadle	X	
Ollie Johnson	X	
Ami Patel	X	
Roopa Sabesan		X

THERE WAS A QUORUM OF THE BOARD

The following people were also present:

- 1. Principal EL**
- 2. Liz Yates**
- 3. Patricia Winder**
- 4. John Shelton**
- 5. Robyn Neal**

Mr. Christie called the August 21, 2023 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Christie called for a motion to accept the July 24, 2023 minutes. The motion was made by Mrs. Huffner and seconded by Mr. Brown. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Public Comments –

- Parent – No Comments
- Teacher – Mrs. Huffner expressed her excitement at being back in the building. She stated it has been an awesome few days and she is looking forward to the school year.
- General Public – No Comments

School Report by Principal EL

Principal EL reported new teachers will participate in our New Teacher Orientation on Tuesday, August 15th and Wednesday, August 16th.

All Staff will return on Thursday, August 17th and will participate in Professional Development from Thursday, August 17th to Friday, August 25th.

We are planning a staff picnic and team building day at Bellevue State Park on Friday August 18th.

All students will return on Monday, August 28th. The first two days are half-days.

Attached are our 2023 Smarter Balanced test scores. Also, you have the scores from some urban charter schools in the state and similar district school scores, for your review. Although our scores are not where we would like them to be we are still dealing with recovery from the covid shutdown. Our scores did increase in each grade. As you can see, our 7th and 8th grade students in ELA performed close to or exceeded the state average. Our 8th graders almost doubled the state average for African American students in ELA. This year we are partnering with NCTM to help coach our teachers around math instruction and will continue to focus on maximizing our instructional time as support for students who need more assistance. We appreciate your support!

The modular project is continuing to move forward. We received two bids on the project.

Mr. Warnick and his team are working extra hard to prep the building to be ready for the first day of school.

Many classrooms were freshly painted for the start of the school year and received new rugs.

The gym condensation leak has been remediated and we are moving forward with the new floor.

We have over 65 kindergarten applications and our goal is 80-90 students by September 30.

Mr. Christie called for a motion to accept the School Report. A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Huffner. The motion was approved by all and carried.

School Financials by P. Winder

Mrs. Winder reported this is the first month of the new school year and we did receive our 75% of unit count State Funds in the amount of \$3.3M. We did receive a lot of the State earmarked grants from the Governor's Budget. We received \$337,000 for charter transportation. That is the first 75%. We have not received local funds yet, but we usually get those September - October.

We have revenues of approximately \$4M, and our first month expenses are \$766,000. We have cash funds of \$3.3M.

Mr. Christie called for a motion to accept the School Financials Report. A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Patel. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Board Financials Report by W. Cooper

No Formal Report. In Mr. Cooper's absence, Mr. Christie reviewed the Board Financial Accounts.

Operations Committee Report by E. Brown

Mr. Christie summarized the bus transportation situation. Met several times with Advanced transportation management to discuss the ongoing problems. They expressed the ability to correct the problems but at the most recent meeting admitted to not being able to do anything. Another bus company is being considered to assist. The Board supports Principal EL's decision to move forward with a supplemental bus company to provide 4 additional buses.

Mr. Christie made a motion that the Board empowers the school to move forward with an agreement that makes sense with Achievement Logistics bus company. The motion was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The motion was approved by all and carried.

Mr. Christie stated, secondly, we are at the end of Advanced Transportation's contract and going forward any additional charges by them should be offset due to poor services provided.

Mrs. Winder stated two responses were received for the Modular RFP. One the company that was being used, Box Modular and the other one called Modular Genius. There is almost a \$1M price difference between the two and further breakdowns are being looked at.

Executive Committee by M. Christie

Mr. Christie stated he will be reaching out to see if the committee can get together before the end of the month to discuss some new things to bring back to the board.

The Retirement Celebration at Harry's Savoy was very nice. Mrs. Winder stated the auditors have finished their field work. They are still waiting for retirement pension information from the State.

Mr. Christie discussed Board members going on a tour of The Warehouse, which is a community center serving teens in the Northeast area.

Board Member Comments

New Business/Open Discussion

A motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm was made by Mrs. Huffner.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Amanda Morris May

September 14, 2023