



# *J. Paul Taylor Academy*

*Recapturing the Joy of Learning - Recapturar la Alegria de Aprender*



**J. Paul Taylor Academy Charter School  
Governance Council Special Meeting  
Wednesday, June 13, 2018 6:10 PM (MST)  
402 W. Court Building 2 Las Cruces New Mexico 88005  
JPTA Media Room**

I. Opening Items

- A. The J. Paul Taylor Academy Governance Council met in open session for a Special Meeting on May 10, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. to conduct a Special Meeting. Roll was called by Suzan Martinez de Gonzales: Governance Council members Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Janet Acosta, Carrie Hamblen were present. Robyn Rehbein attended by phone, and Arthur Berkson arrived at 6:15 p.m. Ric Hernandez was absent/excused. A quorum was confirmed. Eric Ahner, Executive Director, was in attendance.
- B. Vice-Chair Stephanie Haan-Amato called for any conflict of interest. None was stated by those in attendance.
- C. Eric Ahner read the Mission Statement: *J. Paul Taylor Academy, in alliance with families at the school and community, will offer a rigorous, well-rounded Spanish acquisition, project based instructional program in a smaller school to promote excellence for the diverse students of the Las Cruces area.*
- D. Janet Acosta moved to approve the agenda for June 13, 2018 Special Meeting. Carrie Hamblen seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Carrie Hamblen, Martin Lopez, and Robyn Rehbein.
- E. In reviewing the May 16, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes, Janet Acosta noted that she was not listed as in attendance in the Opening Items Roll Call. This was an error, as in the body of the Minutes, she made motions during the meeting and was clearly in attendance. Suzan Martinez de Gonzales noted that her last name was spelled incorrectly and asked that it be changed from Gonzalez to Gonzales. Janet Acosta moved to approve the minutes for May 16, 2018 Regular Meeting with the above noted two amendments. Sherry Booth seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.

- F. Janet Acosta moved to approve the minutes for May 20, 2018 Special Meeting with no amendments. Sherry Booth seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.

## II. Public Input

- A. Vice-Chair Stephanie Haan-Amato called for Public Input. There was no public input at this time.
- B. Vice-Chair Stephanie Haan-Amato called for Staff Input. There was no staff input at this time.

## III. Finance

- A. Eric Ahner notified the GC of the submission of the Arts Application. A discussion ensued regarding the submission of the application prior to GC approval and the fact that the Agenda called for a Vote. Sherry Booth moved to postpone the motion indefinitely. Carrie Hamblen seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.
- B. Janet Acosta moved to approve the IDEA-B Application. Suzan Martinez de Gonzales second the motion. Motion was passed unanimously with affirmative votes by Stephanie Haan-Amato, Arthur Berkson, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Robyn Rehbein, Janet Acosta, Sherry Booth, Carrie Hamblen and Martin Lopez.
- C. Eric Ahner presented the Title I Application. Sherry Booth moved to postpone the motion indefinitely. Carrie Hamblen second the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.
- D. Eric Ahner presented the Title II Application which is similar to last year's application for professional development for approximately \$4,830.00. A discussion ensued regarding the submission of the application prior to GC approval and the fact that the Agenda called for a Vote. Carrie Hamblen moved to postpone the motion indefinitely. Sherry Booth second the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.
- E. Stephanie Haan-Amato presented a request for the Continuation with Patty Matthews, School Attorney. According to Mr. Ahner there is no need to go out to bid for attorney services as the contract does not exceed \$20,000 annually. The agreement allows us to have an open purchase order for services and can be used retroactively in the event of an emergency. The discussion was favorably received.
- F. Martin Lopez moved to Approve Budget Adjustment Requests: 535-000-1718-0035-M and 535-000-1718-0036-M. Arthur Berkson second the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson,

Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.

#### IV. Governance

A. Eric Ahner began the discussion with an admission that he failed to submit the Bilingual Education Program Application, which was due in May 2018. He submitted the Application on June 4, 2018. Mr. Ahner reviewed his emails to see if he missed a notification from the Bureau calling for the application, but he could not find one. Mr. Ahner has tried to contact staff at the Bureau without success. There have been no replies to his emails or phone calls. Mr. Ahner noted that this would have a negative impact of \$40,000 to \$50,000 reduction for the program for Fiscal Year 2019/20. Mr. Ahner apologized profusely. It was also noted that this would result in the reduction of the bilingual stipend for staff.

GC inquired if there was a running Calendar noting when submissions are due to assure that all applications, contracts, leases etc. are submitted in a timely manner, especially with respect to passing such information on to our new Executive Director. One recommendation was that representatives visit the Bureau in Santa Fe to try and remedy the late submission.

Sherry Booth moved to approve the submission of the Bilingual Education Application. Arthur Berkson seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.

B. Sherry Booth asked that we document in our Minutes our attempts to contact former GC members Dolores Conner and Yvette Turrieta, to impress the importance of following through with their commitment to complete their annual training requirements. Martin Lopez reported that he had a conversation in February with Yvette Turrieta and emailed her noting the Carlsbad training opportunity. During the meeting, a call was placed to Chair, Ric Hernandez, to document his attempts to get Dolores Conner to complete the training requirements; Ric emailed her, reminding her of the training requirements, and she initially told Ric that she would follow through and complete her requirement. However, she has failed to do so. There are notes in the January 24<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> Minutes that we discussed the training requirements for all GC members.

#### V. ED Support and Eval

A. Janet Acosta moved to approve the Executive Directors End of Year Evaluation. Arthur Berkson seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Martin Lopez, Robyn Rehbein, and Carrie Hamblen.

#### VI. Policy – no items

#### VII. Other Business

- A. Arthur Berkson reported that the Academic Oversight Committee met today June 13, 2018 and the minutes will be attached to today's agenda. A discussion ensued regarding the committee chairs and whether some committees, such as the Academic Oversight Committee, should be structured under the ED or the GC and how often the committees should meet.
- B. Stephanie Haan-Amato thanked Mr. Ahner for dedicating two years of his life to JTPA. Mr. Ahner gave a Ms. Takacs a vote of confidence after spending time orienting her to her position. A brief discussion regarding the Assistant Director position and some of the job responsibilities such as observations of Teachers in the classroom.

VIII. Adjourn

- A. Janet Acosta moved to adjourn the June 13, 2018 Special Meeting. Sherry Booth second the motion. Roll was called motion was passed unanimously with affirmative votes by Stephanie Haan-Amato, Arthur Berkson, Suzan Martinez de Gonzales, Robyn Rehbein, Janet Acosta, Sherry Booth, Carrie Hamblen and Martin Lopez. Meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.