



**TA Board of Directors Meeting
01/26/2026**

Call to Order

- Mike Reid welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4 PM.

Roll Call to Establish Quorum

- Shannon DeRosa called the roll.
- Present were: Mike Reid, Dave Wyatt, Pat Medlin, Julie Wolfe, Racheal Winger, Terri Duncan
- Absent were: Woody Weddington, Christy Hopkins
- Staff present were: Cathy Gantz, Thomas Academy Principal, Mark Murphy, BGH CEO, Janice Toporek, BGH CFO, and Shannon DeRosa, Thomas Academy Office and Data Manager
- Parent(s) present were: None.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Mike Reid led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of the Vision

- Mike Reid read the TA Vision and Mission Statement.

Consider and Approve Current Agenda

- Julie Wolfe moved to approve the agenda. Pat Medlin seconded and the motion passed.

Consider and Approve Minutes for Last Month.

- Julie Wolfe moved to table the approval of minutes from November 24th, 2025. Racheal Winger seconded and the motion passed

Public Comments

- None

Director of Education/Principal Report- Dr. Cathy Gantz

◆ Student Enrollment:

- Target Enrollment: Eighty-five
- Current Student Enrollment: Seventy-two
- Community Students: Thirty-eight
- Residential Students: Thirty-four

Students enrolled by grade level	Residential	Community
3rd	3	0
4th	0	1
5th	1	4
6th	1	4
7th	7	6
8th	5	5
9th	8	2
10th	5	8
11th	3	5
12th	2	3

Potential Graduates for June 2025: 8 - 12th graders

◆ Student Activities:

- TA Rotary Interact Club
- TA Key Club/Event
- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Cheerleading (Ms. Ashlee Jackson-Cheerleading Sponsor)
- SCC Partnership/Vocation Education Classes- Transport Technology AutoMechanics) and Agri-Business-Second Semester.
- "Rise and Thrive" student group sessions two times per week during 5th period advising (Tuesdays and Thursdays).

◆ Professional Development:

- NC Star Key Indicators are ongoing (www.indistar.org, Login: GuestS17733.)
- School Improvement Team (SIT) meetings are scheduled for the Second and Fourth Wednesdays of the month from 3:00-4:00 pm in the library/media center.
- Monthly Relias Training is ongoing for all teachers.

◆ Academic Report:

- Congratulations to our new teachers: John Burnette, HS Math; Tyler Davis, PE/Health teacher/Coach/Residential Activities; Scott Warden, HS ELA; Gwen

Dixon and Tonya White, EC Teachers (contractual); and Jennifer Smith, TA Substitute Teacher. We also have two new van drivers (Mr. Hewett and Mr. Freeman).

- TA open positions for spring 2026, MS Science/ELA.
- Student attendance: 08/25/2025-01/22/2026 was 89.74%. Third Grade: 98.26%, Fourth Grade: 100%, Fifth Grade: 93.65%, Seventh Grade: 90.38%, Eighth Grade: 92.14%, and 12th Grade: 92.44%.
- Behavior: The Teaching Family Model continues to be implemented each day at TA with 90% teacher participation rate. The observers noted that they have provided teachers with feedback and they have seen improvement.

◆ **Student/School Success:**

- Our partnership with Southeastern Community College (SCC) vocational opportunities continues in 2026.
- A successful monthly fire drill was held on January 23rd, 2026.
- On January 12th, the Office of Charter renewed Thomas Academy's Charter for seven years.

◆ **Upcoming:**

- Southeastern Community College is offering Intro to Transport Technology TRN-110 and Agri-Business, second semester 2026.
- January 27th, TA's last home basketball game and Homecoming.
- January 29th, Scholarship Meeting with 11th/12th graders.
- January 30th, Beginning Teacher Coordination, NCEES, Fayetteville, NC. (principal will attend).
- TA has purchased the Renaissance Reading Program for TA's Superintendent's Reading Challenge, and the program will kick-off in late January. Students can earn prizes as they reach reading milestones. One student in Intermediate, Middle School, and High School reading the most books can earn a \$100 gift card.
- February 9th, New Employee Orientation (NEO).
- February 18th, Grade 3-5 NC Check-in for Reading.
- See testing calendar for 02/12-02/24.
- February 24th-American College Testing (ACT): English, Math, Reading, with an optional Science Section. The ACT scale ranges from 1-36 and measures College Readiness, Subject Areas, and Optional Writing. The composite score is the average of the three measures. There is also an optional writing test to assess essay skills.
- TA Rotary Interact Club will participate in Rise to Hunger in February 2026.
- March 2nd, Picture Day-8:30 am (Fuller Royal).

- March 6th-8th, Key Club District Convention and Leadership Conference, 2026, Charlotte, NC.
- Cucalorus Film Foundation Field Trip, Wilmington, NC (Middle School Students-March 12th and High School Students-March 13th).
- March 19th is Career Day. Career Day will be held in the gym beginning at 1:00 pm.
- Teaching Family Evaluation will take place in the fall of 2026.
- TA's Charter School Renewal Process:
 1. April 2026 - OCS will send schools their new Charter Agreements to be signed by the Board Chair, notarized, and mailed back to OCS.
 2. May 2026 - OCS will take the signed and notarized Charter Agreements to the State Superintendent for final signature.
 3. June 2026 - Schools will receive a digital copy of the Final Charter Agreement via email. Final Hard Copy Agreements will be filed in the OCS.
 4. July 1, 2026 - New Charter Agreements begin!

◆ **Action Items:**

1. Thomas Academy Sharps Policy
 - a. Motion passed unanimously.
2. New member recommendation.
 - a. Motion passed unanimously.

◆ **Attachments/Requests:**

- None

◆ **Financials**

- Janice Toporek reviewed the Financial Report that had been provided to the members and a copy of the financial report will be attached.

◆ **Public Adjournment**

- Dave Wyatt moved to adjourn the public meeting. Julie Wolfe seconded and the motion passed at 5:13 PM.

◆ **Closed Session**

- None