



## **TA Board of Directors Meeting 11/14/2023**

### **Call to Order**

- Owen Robinson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

### **Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

- Shannon Britt called the roll.
- Owen Robinson, Dave Wyatt, Julie Wolfe, and Patricia Medlin were present for a quorum. Woody Weddington and Christy Hopkins were absent. Staff that was present were Dr. Cathy Gantz, TA Principal, Daniel Nolan, CFO, Marc Murphy, CEO, and Shannon Britt, TA Administrative Assistant. Parents that were present were Melissa Hopkins.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

- Owen Robinson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Reading of the Vision**

- Owen Robinson read the TA Vision and Mission Statement.

### **Consider and Approve Current Agenda**

- Owen Robinson moved to approve the agenda. Patricia Medlin seconded and the motion passed.

### **Consider and Approve Minutes for Last Month**

- Julie Wolfe moved to amend October minutes. Patricia Medlin moved to approve the amendment. Dave Wyatt seconded and the motion passed.

### **Public Comments**

- No public comments

### **Director of Education/Principal Report- Dr. Cathy Gantz**

- Student Enrollment:

- 75 Total Students

- 60 Community Students
- 15 Residential Students
- Will be enrolling 2 more residential students soon
- 19 potential graduates

- Student Activities:

- Positive Behavior Intervention System Incentives (PBIS) coupled with Teaching Family Model
- Homework Club after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays for students with averages in a subject area below 70%.
- For the first semester, six TA students are earning 6 semester hours developing career skills and participating in the course Introduction to Wiring.
- There was a Junior and Senior field trip on Thursday, November 9th to Kenan Auditorium in Wilmington to the Encore Production of Five Short Stories: The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, The Necklace, The Tell Tale Heart, The Monkey's Paw, and The Celebrated Frog of Calaveras County, and The Raven. It was noted that all students displayed superb behavior.
- Several art students participated in the BGHNC Christmas Card Contest, and two winners were selected.
- Girls' and Boys' basketball teams will have their first home game on Tuesday, November 14th beginning at 4:45 pm (girls) and 6:00 pm (Boys).
- TA Students will have an opportunity to participate in the Wilmington Women's Club Art Show in February.

- Professional Development:

- The principal, academic coach, and grant director attended the 2023 Fall Innovative Partnership Grant (IPG) Regional Meeting Southeast Region Conference on Monday, October 16th, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, Wilmington.
- The principal attended The Teaching Family Model Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida in October.
- RTI visited classrooms on the morning of November 13th and provided professional development in the afternoon on the topic: "Teach Like a Champion".

- Academic report:

- NC Check-ins for Middle School Reading, Math, and Science and High School Biology, Math, and ELA took place during the week of November 12th.
- According to the NC Department of Public Instruction per 2022-2023 school report card, Thomas Academy is a Progressing School.

- TA is transforming into a learning community through intentional innovations and interventions.
- Potential TA Graduates for Spring 2024 are 19, twelfth graders.

- Student/School Success:

- One of TA's 2023 graduates is studying Chemistry at Southeastern Community College and is preparing to become a pharmacist.
- Lorelei Hopkins was the Student Spotlight in the Whiteville News Reporter.
- One of TA's students landed a job at Dollar General Market, Hallsboro.
- College and University acceptances for fall 2024 include the following: East Carolina University, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, Wingate University, and Converse College.
- Potentially two seniors could complete their associate degree through the Career and College Promise Program, SECC at the same time as completing their HS Diploma.
- TA students are enjoying the newly renovated library housed with a student selection of books to check-out. The lending library allows students to enjoy reading level/age-appropriate content.
- TA's School Counselor is providing a Senior Life Skill's Class that includes college applications, college visits, exploration of career opportunities, completing the FASFA and general support to complete high school for the next step.
- A grant funded two TA green uniform polos for all students.
- Thomas Academy continues to implement a rigorous academic program balanced with a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) weekly lesson. Students with challenging behaviors are given a second chance.
- TA's Innovative Partnership Grant, October 2023 Report shows that TA's goals are in Progress or Complete. This is the third and last year of the IPG Grant.
- Our partnership with Raleigh Triangle International (Innovative Partnership Grant) continues for a third year with a continued focus on academics (best practices/strategies), and social emotional learning (SEL) for our boys and girls. Thomas Academy continues to transform into a learning community.
- Jacksonville Rotary Club is purchasing the senior class robes, sashes, and pictures for our graduates. This club is also sponsoring the Rotary Inner Journey Journal Mindset SEL curriculum to be implemented for all students.
- A remote plan was submitted to DPI and is in place if TA must close school due to inclement weather or a health concern. Classes can be either virtual or work packets provided to students.

- Upcoming

- We welcome Thomas Academy Board of Directors to attend TA's School Improvement Team (SIT) meetings. SIT meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 1:30 pm, room 1, high school.
- Mr. Jonathan met recently with Mr. Larry Hewett to discuss reinstating a Key Club at TA.
- The School Counselor will contact Capp's Construction Company to develop a partnership for TA's students.
- For the second semester, students will have an opportunity to choose the following course offerings via Southeastern Community College: Introduction to Carpentry; Green Building and Design Concepts; and Diagrams and Schematics (Engineering Track.)
- TA's girls and boys have 24 games scheduled for the season.
- Student Government Fundraiser- Information forthcoming.

- Action Items

1. TA's Medication Policy.
  2. TA's Pediculosis (Head Lice) Procedure.
  3. Parental Leave Opt-in, December 1 st deadline.
- Julie Wolfe moved to approve action item 1. Patricia Medlin seconded and the motion passed.
  - Dave Wyatt moved to approve action item 2. Patricia Medlin seconded and the motion passed.
  - Patricia Medlin moved to approve action item 3. Julie Wolfe seconded and the motion passed.

**Daniel Nolan - Chief Financial Officer**

- Daniel Nolan reviewed the Financial Report that had been provided to the members

**Public Adjournment**

- Owen Robinson motioned to adjourn the public meeting. Patricia Medlin seconded.