



J. PAUL TAYLOR ACADEMY

Recapturing the Joy of Learning - Recapturar la Alegria de Aprender



**J. Paul Taylor Academy Charter School
Governance Council Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 30, 2017 6:00 p.m. (MDT)
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 on August 30, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. to conduct a special meeting.
 1. Roll was called by Suzan Martinez de Gonzales: Governance Council members Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth (arrived at 6:10pm), Dolores Connor, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales were present. A quorum was confirmed. Carrie Hamblen, Janet Acosta, and Martin Lopez were absent and notified the board of their absences. Eric Ahner, Executive Director, and Gina Trujillo, Assistant Business Manager were also present.
- B. Chairman Ric Hernandez called for any conflict of interest. None was stated by those in attendance.
- C. Stephanie Haan-Amato 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. Dolores Connor moved to approve the agenda for August 30, 2017, Special Meeting Agenda. Arthur Berkson seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Dolores Connor, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.
- E. Approval of Minutes
 1. Arthur Berkson moved to approve the minutes for June 30, 2017 Special Meeting. Stephanie Haan-Amato seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Dolores Connor, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

II. Public Input

- A. Chairman Ric Hernandez called for any public input. There was no public input at this time.
- B. Chairman Ric Hernandez called for any staff input. There was no staff input at this time.

III. Finance

- A. Ric Hernandez started the discussion for the approval MOU Agreement for SWREC. This is the same as the last meeting. This doesn't include the statement to ask SWREC to provide their audit findings to us in this MOU.

Yvette Turrieta moved to approve the MOU Agreement for SWREC. Dolores Connor seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Dolores Connor, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

IV. Governance

A. Eric Ahner reviewed the School Grading Report Card 2017.

Discussion:

- C + improved slightly from last year's score of 59.12.
- Current Standing: Are students performing on grade level? Did they improve more or less than expected? Mr. Ahner noted that these are actually two very different things. We received 18.03 of 40 points.
- School Improvement: Is the school as a whole making academic progress. We received 4.74 of 10 points.
- Improvement of Higher Performing Students: Are higher-performing students improving more or less than expected? We received 9.42 of 20 points.
- Improvement of Lowest -Performing Students: Are the lowest-performing students improving more or less than expected? We received 12.83 of 20 points.
- Opportunity to Learn: Do students and families believe their school is a good place to attend and learn? 9.30 of 10 points were earned.
- Bonus Points: Schools can earn points for reducing truancy, promotion extracurricular activities, engaging families and using technology. JPTA received 5 out of a maxim of 5 bonus points.
- Growth Over Time: The idea behind this, is about growth over one year. It is how much the students have grown. Quartile= 25 % of JPTA's students.
- Generally, in NM as a whole we are behind. However, generally our school is higher than the state average but still not at 50%.
- Additional information similar schools: JPTA falls below the median on 3 of the marks.

B. Ric Hernandez reviewed the Charter Performance Framework.

Discussion:

- Academic, organizational, financial are the three sections for review in this performance framework.
- Academically oriented mission specific indicators have 4 sections.
- JPTA's target is 75% of the student tests at "benchmark" winter or spring short-cycle assessment or show one year's growth.
 - Note: the teachers didn't know that these short cycles effected our charter renewal. Up to this point the Teachers have not put any pressure on these assessments because they thought they were only for internal data.
 - Staff is aware of it now, and will be done yearly going forward. The scores are pretty good, so not much needs to change on this.
- DIBLES Reading/Language Art is now Istation which was implemented during the 2016-2017 school year.
- Language Arts K-4th was at 93% Proficient or Higher, or (showed) Growth.
- Language Arts 5th-8th (this was Discovery). Was at 83 % Proficient or Higher, or (showed) Growth.
- Ms. Kannard noted that Discovery and Istation are totally different and that is what this year's data will be based on since we had to change to Istation this school year.

- Short cycle data was not intended to be used like this however we are required to do so due to the Performance Framework.
- Discovery Math K-5th was at 74% Proficient or Higher, or (showed) Growth which makes us 1% below the target.
- They will look at 4 years of data overall and 1% below the target should not be flagged.
- Discovery Math 6th-8th was at 58% Proficient or Higher, or (showed) Growth with a Target of 70%. It is below our target but we were not able to get the target down to the a reasonable % for Las Cruces. This year will be Istation will be the short assessment for Math as well.
- For student's on IEP we can set the measure for each of those student's. We haven't been doing that so far. It would be more work for the SPED department and the person compiling the data. But it is a consensus that this should be looked at and implemented if possible. This will have to be rolled out one IEP at a time and done extremely cautiously.
- ESSA replaces No Child Left Behind.
- Chairman Ric Hernandez would like to finalize the Performance Framework Self-evaluation 16-17 by the October Meeting so this will be in the next few meetings.

C. Eric Ahner reviewed the PARCC Testing Data FY 17

Discussion:

- Individual classes and subject scores:
 - PARCC Grade 3- English Language Arts was at +35%= 35% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 4- English Language Arts was at +5%= 5% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 5- English Language Arts was at +19%= 19% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 6- English Language Arts was at +5%= 5% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 7- English Language Arts was at +24%= 24% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 8- English Language Arts was at +30%= 30% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 3- Math was at +1%= 1% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 4- Math was at +3%= 3% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 5- Math was at +21%= 21% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 6- Math was at +10%= 10% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 7- Math was at +7%= 7% higher than state proficiency.
 - PARCC Grade 8- Math was at +4%= 4% higher than state proficiency.
 - SBA Grade 4- Science was at +42%= 42% higher than state proficiency.
 - SBA Grade 7- Science was at +43%= 43% higher than state proficiency.
- So many facets that go into this that effect this, home life, etc . But be mindful that most kids come from other schools in NM. We do have a lot of our families who put an emphasis on education, as the reason they chose to come to JPTA.
- Our Project Base Learning tends to lend to science and science learning.
- Another thing to consider is that the SBA is a state test versus PARCC is a national test.

D. Eric Ahner and Ric Hernandez reviewed the IPT Testing Data.

- 2017 data 42% measured at the Beginning Level. 44.2% Early Intermediate, 3.9% Intermediate, 0% Early Advanced, 0% Advanced. We now have 2 years of data for the LAT team to use this information and set the benchmarks and then approve the charter amendment for the setting of these benchmarks. The LAT team would need to get these before the next GC meeting.

E. Eric Ahner provided an update on the status of the Bilingual Application. He is still working with the Bilingual department on this and he is on version 4.5.

V. Closed Session

Dolores Connor moved at 7:40pm to go into Closed Session to discuss Collective Bargaining Strategies; closed Pursuant to Section 10-15-1-H (5). NMSA 1978 with an Invitation to Eric Ahner, Executive director and Herb Torres to stay for the Closed Session. Suzan Martinez de Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote, with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, Dolores Connor, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

Dolores Conner left at 8:40p.m.

The Special Meeting moved from Closed Session to Open Session at 8:51p.m. Nothing other than Collective Bargaining Strategies (pursuant to Section 10-15-1-H(5). NMSA 1978) was discussed during the Closed Session.

VI. Other Business

A. Ric Hernandez called for any other business to discuss.

- Next GC meeting will be held on September 20th at 6:00 at the JPTA Media Center.
- Final topic discussed at Open Session was the need to have additional time added to GC meetings to allow GC members to review the Collective Bargaining Agreement item by item. After discussing several options, it was decided to add work sessions to our monthly schedule, we will have our first meeting on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:45 at the JPTA media center.

VII. Closing Items

A. Sherry Booth moved to adjourn the August 30, 2017 Special meeting. Stephanie Haan-Amato seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously with affirmative votes by roll call from Ric Hernandez, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Sherry Booth, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales. Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzan Martinez de Gonzales
JPTA Governance Council Secretary

Approved August 16, 2017

Ric Hernandez
JPTA Governance Council Chair