



# J. PAUL TAYLOR ACADEMY

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



**DRAFT- J. Paul Taylor Academy Charter School  
Governance Council Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, November 15, 2017 6:00 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 on November 15, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. to conduct a Regular Meeting.
1. Roll was called by Suzan Martinez de Gonzales: Governance Council members Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Stephanie Haan-Amato, Yvette Turrieta, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales were present. A quorum was confirmed. Dolores Connor, Martin Lopez, Sherry Booth, and Carrie Hamblen 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. Suzan Martinez de Gonzales 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. Stephanie Haan-Amato moved to approve the agenda for November 15, 2017, Regular Meeting Agenda. Janet Acosta seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales
- E. Approval of Minutes  
Stephanie Haan-Amato moved to approve the minutes for October 18, 2017 Regular Meeting with the amendments listed below. Janet Acosta seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.  
Amendments:  
Closing Items- A. Should have the date of October 18, 2017 instead of September 20, 2017.

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. Staff expressed thanks to everyone's participation (including board members) in the Fall Festival. It was a great event enjoyed by all.

### III. Finance

#### A. Finance Committee Report

Yvette Turrieta presented the Finance Committee report from the November 9, 2017 meeting. The Finance Committee recommends the finance items on today's agenda for approval.

#### B. Approve September Financial Reports

Yvette Turrieta moved to approve the September Financial Reports. Arthur Berkson seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

#### C. Approve Budget Adjustment Request 535-000-1718-0015-I

This is Spaceport grant money that we receive from LCPS for \$12,764.

Janet Acosta moved to approve BAR 535-000-1718-0015-I. Yvette Turrieta seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes by roll call vote from Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

### IV. Audit

#### A. Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee met to do their exit meeting. More details to come when the audit information is released.

### V. Governance

#### A. Governance Committee Report

Met on November 10, 2017 and discussed the succession policy. This is what, when and who will take over in case something happens to the Executive Director. New board member orientation program will also be ready to be voted on by the next meeting. This committee is also in charge of nominating new board members. Dolores Conner has submitted her resignation to the Governance Council effective as of December 31, 2017. The by-laws regarding resignation notice and other possible revisions were also discussed.

### VI. Executive Director Support and Evaluation

A. Executive Director Report was displayed on the Promethean board. The Charter School division has recommended that our amendment requests not be approved. Therefore Mr. Ahner has asked the PEC that they be taken off the agenda for this Friday's meeting, until Mr. Ahner is able to work with the Charter School division on these amendments.

FY 19 Lottery Dates: Lottery Date on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Thursday) Lottery Forms Accepted on or after January 16th (Tuesday) Cutoff Date for FY19 Lottery will be on March 7th at 4:00 p.m. Janet Acosta moved to approve FY 19 Lottery Dates. Stephanie Haan-Amato seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with affirmative votes Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

VII. Facility

A. Facilities Committee Report was given by Arthur Berkson.

Bernd Leinauer professor of Turf Science at NMSU has been great resource for the facilities committee regarding the playground area development. It appears that French drains will need to be installed before the next steps on the playground development. The next meeting for the Facility Committee is on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. The Move-A-Thon is on November 29, 2017 that is a fundraiser for the playground.

Ric Hernandez then discussed the Activity Fund regarding moving some funds from other earmarks into the playground earmark. More discussion to come after discussing with staff and others that were involved in the raising of those said funds. There was discussion on what was communicated to parents and those participating in the JAAM Fest of 2017 about what the proceeds would be used for.

VIII. Development

A. Development Committee Report

The Foundation Report: the brick path was completed just before the Fall Festival. Bricks are still for sale, everyone has been happy with the installation of bricks to date.

IX. Academic Excellence

A. Academic Oversight Committee has not met so there is no report. This committee usually starts later in the year.

B. Parent Advisory Council

The Parent Advisory Council report was given by Stephanie Haan-Amato. Updates on past events and discussion of upcoming events of Holiday Bazaar, the Move-A-Thon, and the Barnes and Noble Book Fair fundraiser.

C. Gifted Advisory Committee

Met November 7, 2017 for the first meeting of the year. Eric Ahner went over the report that was included in the packet for tonight's meeting.

X. Other Business

A. Ric Hernandez called for any open discussion.

- Many thanks were given to MOTT'S POTS for their generosity in the past JAAM Fests. This year's JAAM Fest (if there is one) will more than likely be much different than previous years. As of right now Mott's Pots will not be able to provide the ceramic pieces for the auction.
- Stephanie Haan-Amato reminded everyone that the Phoenix Awards will be due December 4th.
- A parent asked about by-laws for the council since there will be an opening on the council soon. Ric Hernandez directed her to the GC section of the school website. Janet Acosta also informed that there is also an application.

XI. Closed Session.

Janet Acosta moved at 7:09 p.m. 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 to stay for the Closed Session. Yvette Turrieta seconded the motion.

Motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote, with affirmative votes from Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales.

The meeting moved from Closed Session to Open Session at 7:40 p.m. Chairman Ric Hernandez stated that nothing other than Collective Bargaining Strategies (pursuant to Section 10-15-1-H(5). NMSA 1978) was discussed during the Closed Session.

XII. Closing Items

- A. Arthur Berkson moved to adjourn the November 15, 2017 Regular meeting. Janet Acosta seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously with affirmative votes by roll call from Ric Hernandez, Janet Acosta, Arthur Berkson, Yvette Turrieta, Stephanie Haan-Amato, and Suzan Martinez de Gonzales. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.