

APPROVED

TEXAS CENTER FOR  
**ARTS** +  
ACADEMICS

Texas Center for Arts + Academics

**Minutes**

TCA+A Special Session of the Board

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**Date and Time**

Tuesday February 23, 2021 at 6:00 PM

**Location**

- Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81698366564>
- Meeting ID: 816 9836 6564
- One tap mobile
  - +13462487799,,81698366564# US (Houston)
  - +12532158782,,81698366564# US (Tacoma)

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**Video/Audio Conferencing Notice:** Pursuant to Governor Abbott's Temporary Suspension of Open Meetings Laws issued on March 16, 2020, the February 23, 2021 **TCA+A Special Session of the Board** will be conducted via video conference on the Zoom Video Conference platform, which will be audible to the Board and public and allow for two-way communication. The Board Chair, presiding officer, or trustees will not be physically present at one location, but a quorum will be required for the meeting on the video conference or phone.

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**Directors Present**

Charles Reid (remote), Daniel Bates (remote), Leslie Scott (remote), Leslie Wade (remote), Mary A. Zimmerman (remote), Melissa Goodroe (remote), Michael Wellbaum (remote)

**Directors Absent**

None

**Ex Officio Members Present**

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Paul Gravley (remote)

### **Non Voting Members Present**

Paul Gravley (remote)

### **Guests Present**

Betsy Compton (remote), Janelle Grau (remote), Jennifer Jackson (remote), Luke Byford (remote), Nancy Vaughan (remote), Penny Clay (remote), Phillip Garrott (remote), Sheyna Ferraro (remote), Tommy Fisher (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

Melissa Goodroe called a meeting of the board of directors of Texas Center for Arts + Academics to order on Tuesday Feb 23, 2021 at 6:13 PM.

### **B. Record Attendance and Guests**

## **II. Public Comments**

### **A. Public Comments**

- There were no Public Comments made.

## **III. Consent Agenda**

### **A. January 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Leslie Scott made a motion to approve the minutes from TCA+A Board Meeting - Audit Presentation on 01-12-21.

Mary A. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **B. Financial Statements**

Leslie Scott made a motion to approve December 2020 and January 2021 Financial Statements.

Mary A. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **IV. Academics**

### **A. 2019-2020 Texas Academic Performance Report (TAPR)**

TAPR is a snapshot of a school's demographic data and instructional program data. It shows how a school's students are achieving on a variety of indicators, including the STAAR test compared to the State average.

Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts - Dr. Jackson

- 637 students (102 student increase over last school year)
  - 274 in grades 3-6
  - 157 in grades 7-8
  - 206 in grades 9-12
- Student Population - 69% female and 31% male
  - Student Demographics
    - 16% African American
    - 19% Hispanic
    - 47% White
    - 4% Asian
- Student Instructional Programs
  - 33 students in special education
  - 17 students in dyslexia program
  - 20 students who are limited English proficient
  - 277 students in gifted and talented
- 59 Instructional Staff Members - 80% female and 20% male
  - Staff Demographics
    - 9% Hispanic
    - 6% African American
    - 2% Asian
    - 83% White
  - 50% have taught in 0-10 year range / 50% have taught 11+ year range
  - 80% have a bachelors degree / 19% have a masters degree / 1% have a doctorate degree
- Highlights of Indicators
  - Elementary Students
    - All STAAR Tests
      - 69% earned Meets Standard vs 50% across the State
    - Reading and English Language Arts
      - 70% earned Meets Standard vs 48% across the State
      - 48% earned Masters vs 21% across the State
    - Math
      - 55% earned Meets Standard vs 52% across the State
    - 2019-2020 Student Success Initiative – 5th graders had to meet a certain requirement on their STAAR test in order to be promoted to 6th grade
      - 95% of 5th graders earned that standard on Reading test vs 78% across the State

- 93% of 5th graders earned that standard on Math test vs 83% across the State
- 96% Attendance Rate vs 95% across the State
- Middle School and High School
  - All STAAR Tests
    - 72% earned Meets Standard vs 50% across the State
  - Reading and Writing
    - 83% earned Meets Standard vs 48% across the State
    - 42% earned Masters vs 21% across the State
  - Math
    - 64% earned Meets Standard vs 52% across the State
  - 2019-2020 Student Success Initiative – 8th graders had to meet a certain requirement on their STAAR test in order to be promoted to 9th grade
    - 100% of 8th graders earned that standard on Reading test vs 78% across the State
    - 98% of 8th graders earned that standard on Math test vs 82% across the State
  - 95.7% Attendance Rate vs 95.4% across the State
  - 100% Graduation Rate
  - 32% of 11th & 12th graders choose to take advanced placement classes vs 25% across the State
  - Average SAT Score is 1153 vs 1027 in the State
  - Average ACT Score is 25.2 vs 20.6 in the State
- Top 5 Initiatives
  - Aligned Curriculum
  - Blended Learning – Education Galaxy and BrightFish
  - Google Classrooms
  - Classroom Libraries
  - Progress Monitoring every 3 weeks

Leslie Scott made a motion to accept FWAFAs Performance Report.

Leslie Wade seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Texas School of the Arts - Mrs. Compton

- Top Initiatives
  - Professional Development - Instructional Coach Julie Murray is helping both FWAFAs and TeSA, bridging the gap between the campuses
  - Align Curriculum
  - Rigorous Classroom Instruction
  - Blended Learning - Education Galaxy and BrightFish
  - Technology
- Student Demographics - 211 female and 77 male

- 272 students enrolled
    - 93 Hispanic
    - 20% Multiracial (2 or more races)
    - 87 White
    - 56 African American
    - 21 Asian
    - 1 American Indian / Alaskan Native
  - 97% Attendance Rate
  - Special Populations
    - 16 Special Education
    - 40 English Language Learners
    - 20 504 (medical related disability)
      - of those 16 dyslexia
  - 18.7% of students/families are economically disadvantaged
  - STAAR Tests
    - English Language Arts and Reading
      - 63% earned Meets Standard vs 48% across the State
    - Math
      - 58% earned Meets Standard vs 52% across the State
    - 4th Grade Writing Scores
      - 56% earned Meets Standard vs 38% across the State
    - Science
      - 55% earned Meets Standard vs 54% across the State
  - 2019-2020 Student Success Initiative - 5th graders had to meet a certain requirement on their STAAR test in order to be promoted to 6th grade
    - 84% of 5th graders earned that standard on Reading test vs 54% across the State
    - 74% of 5th graders earned that standard on Math vs 58% across the State
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- Instructional Staff Demographics
    - 26 Instruction Staff
      - 4 Hispanic
      - 21 White
      - 1 Asian

Daniel Bates made a motion to accept TeSA's Performance Report.

Michael Wellbaum seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **B. Texas School of the Arts Charter School Renewal**

Charter Renewal is done 5 years after charter is initiated and then every 10 years after the first one

- TeSA received an Expedited Application Renewal
  - due to consistently high performance scores, high financial report scores, etc.
- Renewal Application ask for things like school philosophy, bylaws, admission process, assurances that the school follows Edgar Rules for finance, serve dyslexia and special education populations, etc.

Charles Reid made a motion to accept TeSA's Charter Renewal Application with recommended edits done by Mr. Gravley if needed prior to submission.

Mary A. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **C. Consider TEA Educator Appraisal Waiver**

With COVID-19 rules, TeSA and FWAFA can request teacher and principal official appraisals be waived.

Michael Wellbaum made a motion to approve FWAFA's TEA Educator Appraisal Waiver.

Leslie Scott seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Charles Reid made a motion to approved TeSA's TEA Educator Appraisal Waiver.

Michael Wellbaum seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **D. 2021 Graduation**

- Asking the board to approve moving graduation from May 29th outside at Doxology to May 26th indoors at MacGorman Chapel and Performing Arts Center
- MacGorman seats 3,500
  - at 25% capacity it can hold 875 safely
- will revisit if COVID guidelines change

Mary A. Zimmerman made a motion to approve moving graduation to May 26th at MacGorman Chapel and Performing Arts Center.

Leslie Wade seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **V. President | CEO Update**

### **A. Updates**

#### Weather Scenarios from last week

- Praise to Mrs. Compton, Dr. Jackson, and all staff for navigating so many issues like no water, no electricity, etc.
- Aside from a mild AC issue at FWAFA, we had no damage at either campus
- For those 5 days we did not have instruction, waiting to hear from TEA regarding waivers

#### Official Proclamation

- City of Fort Worth declared the month of March as Theatre in Our Schools month
- Drafted by thespian students at FWAFA
- Signed by Mayor Price and Representatives from districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9

#### Auditions

- finalized open enrollment and auditions are being completed due to power issues last week
- spent a good part of the fall re-doing rubrics
- all auditions were held online
- scored and complete by the end of this week to get acceptance letters out prior to Spring Break
- Acceptance letters will have some added flare with large envelopes like college acceptance letters, confetti, etc.

#### Gala

- April 9, 2021 / Virtual
- Dan and Shelli Bates - Chairs
- Alumni driven
  - Broadway Stars
  - Committed \$5K to fund it
- Sponsorship packets have been sent out
- Gala performance will be free
- Pre and Post Gala performances for sponsored tables
- Teasers will start dropping on social media for everyone to share out
- Mayor Price is joining us via video for the event

## **VI. Closed Session**

### **A. Convened to Closed Session at 7:01pm**

### **B.**

**Opened in Closed Session at 7:05pm and closed Closed Session at 7:12pm**

**VII. Open Session**

**A. Reconvened to Open Session at 7:15pm**

**VIII. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melissa Goodroe

**B. CERTIFICATE AS TO POSTING OR GIVING OF NOTICE**