

SOUTHTECH CHARTER ACADEMY, INC.
SOUTHTECH PREPARATORY ACADEMY, INC.
STA/STPA Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2023

1. Opening of Meeting

- a. Call to Order at 6:05 pm**
- b. Pledge of Allegiance**
- c. Roll Call**

Present: Ayesha Edmond, Russell Feldman, Diane Heinz, Dan Heller, Robert Kesten, Suzanne Nicolini, and James Notter

Absent: Roger Dunson, Christina Grenga, and Tony Robinson

Quorum confirmed.

- d. Open Meeting Act Statement**

2. Approval of the Minutes

- a. STA/STPA Governing Board Regular Meeting Minutes January 19, 2023**

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Diane Heinz

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

3. Reports

- a. Treasurer's/Financial Report – Dan Heller**

The Finance Committee met earlier this evening to review the financials for SouthTech Academy, SouthTech Preparatory Academy, and SouthTech Schools Holdings.

- December 2022 Financial Snapshot
- Income vs Expenditures
- Reserves
 - Request a Board Workshop in late March or early April
- Bidding process for Item F-3

- b. Executive Director – Carla Lovett**

- Making Connections:
 - Kijana Heroes (Thank you, Ms. Nicolini)
 - Celebrating Black History Month
 - Posters & Essay Contest
 - Institute for Small & Rural Districts (ISRDR)
- Making Improvements:
 - Fence Installation at SouthTech Prep
 - Governing Board Photos on Display
 - Program Spotlight:
 - SouthTech Transition Program
- Making Plans:
 - Skills USA
 - Host the event at STA next year
- Next Meeting: March 9, 2023

- c. SouthTech Academy Principal – Eileen Turenne**

- Upcoming Events
 - Recruitment Open House 2.16.23
 - Black History Month Celebrations
 - Black History Month Breakfast 2.23.23

- Board members are invited to attend
- Enrollment Update
 - SY23 FTE #1
 - Enrolled = 1183
 - Budgeted = 1150
 - Difference = +33
 - SY23 FTE #2
 - Enrolled = 1141
 - Budgeted = 1150
 - Difference = -9
 - SY23 FTE Average
 - Enrolled = 1162
 - Budgeted = 1150
 - Difference = +12

d. SouthTech Preparatory Academy Principal – Nicole Handy

- Upcoming Events
 - Friendship Celebrations/Club days 02/14/23
 - Parent Training 02/15/23
 - Healthy School Initiative – 10 minutes of exercise every other day
 - Total to date = 66,500 minutes
- Enrollment Update
 - 6th = 172
 - 7th = 184
 - 8th = 176
 - Total = 532

e. Special Report

- Transition Program Spotlight – Robert Pancione
 - Overview of Programs and Services
 - Graduating seniors with an active IEP
 - Presentations and Tours
 - Interview Process
 - Academy Enrollment
 - Community Assistance
 - History
 - Started in 2001, Supported Employment, 2 teachers – 20 students
 - Grew to 160 students, 7 teachers, and 1 job coach
 - 2011 to 2014 – Dropped to 3 teachers
 - 2015 – Incorporated Academies
 - 2020 – I became the Transition Coordinator, 2 teachers – 42 students
 - 2021 – Added an additional teacher unit
 - 2022 – Added an additional teacher unit. 100% increase in 2 years.
 - 2023 – 4 teacher units, 82 students
 - Future Goals and Statistics
 - Anticipate adding at least 1 teacher unit for school year 2023/2024 as we have 100 applicants this year. If an additional teacher unit is needed, most of these students will be enrolled in Supported Employment.
 - SY24 109 applicants for the program
 - 94 of those are eligible for the program
 - 45 interviews scheduled with more anticipated
 - 75% of our transition students are currently employed.
 - We successfully place 70% of our Transition students in their field

- of choice upon receiving academic certifications.
- Success Stories – WPTV Interview

4. Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

5. SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda

a. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SOUTHTECH ACADEMY:

Administrative Items

A-1 I recommend that the Board approve the donations for the period from January 1, 2023 through January 31, 2023.

Financial Items

F-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for the months ending December 31, 2022, as required by the Sponsor.

F-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the SouthTech Schools Holdings, LLC Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Report for the months ending December 31, 2022.

F-3 I recommend that the Board approve the professional janitorial service proposal from Glow Cleaning Plus, LLC.

b. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions

- **Item F-3 – Suzanne Nicolini**

c. Approval of SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Diane Heinz

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

d. Approval of Each Pulled Item

Item F-3

Motion: Dan Heller

Second: James Notter

Discussion: Ms. Nicolini had a few questions about the contract that Ms. Lovett was able to address including the cancellation policy, waxing and summer work, and emergency services. Ms. Lovett also gave a synopsis of the bidding process and how Glow came to be selected by STA.

Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries**

6. SouthTech Preparatory Academy Consent Agenda

a. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SOUTHTECH PREPARATORY ACADEMY:

Administrative Items

PA-1 I recommend that the Board approve the donations for the period from January 1, 2023 through January 31, 2023.

Financial Items

PF-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for the months ending December 31, 2022, as required by the Sponsor.

b. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions – None.

c. Approval of SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled

Motion: Robert Kesten

Second: Suzanne Nicolini

All in favor. **Motion carries.**

d. Approval of Each Pulled Item – N/A

7. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items

8. Board Comments

a. Russell Feldman

- Mr. Feldman asked the Board if they felt it necessary to have an interim evaluation of the Executive Director as the timeline that was approved would mean that she would go one and a half years between evaluations. Lisa DeVine explained that she had talked to Tony Robinson on the phone in regard to this matter, and as Personnel Committee chair, he recommends that an interim evaluation not take place. The Board agreed to follow the evaluation tool passed at the last meeting and wait until next December.

9. Motion to Adjourn at 7:14 pm.

Minutes Prepared by: Lisa DeVine Approved by: Russell Feldman Dated 3/9/23
Lisa DeVine Russell Feldman