



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
The Academy Charter School (TACS)
May 2026

Date: Thursday, May 28, 2026

Time: 6:03 pm – 6:47 pm

Facilitator: Robert Stewart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Robert Stewart, Chairman
Dawn West, Vice Chairman
Marie Graham, Trustee
Claudette Harrison, Trustee
Carol Beckles, Trustee
Stephen Rowley, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Haughton, President
Nicholas Stapleton, Chief Academic Officer
Suzanne Scarlett, Director of Compliance (presented for
(Sandrea Oneil, Chief Legal & Compliance Officer)
Alwayne Burke, Group Chief Financial Officer
Felicia Barracks, Chief People & Operations Officer
Bishop Barrington Goldson, Chief Executive Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Stewart at 6:03pm.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting was reviewed and approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment recorded.

4. REPORTS

The following reports were presented:

a) President Report

Presenter: Wayne Haughton, President

The Board received an organizational and performance update as follows:

- All Academy schools serving grades 3–8 had completed New York State assessments and has entered end-of-year closing protocols.
- Board reminded of the upcoming Career and Technical Education Symposium scheduled for June 4–5 at the Cradle of Aviation. Representatives from Charter School Growth Fund and prospective funding partners were expected to attend and observe student projects and experiential learning activities.
- The Academy received accountability summaries from the Charter School Institute and all schools remained in good standing.
- Academic planning for the 2026–2027 school year and summer enrichment programming was actively underway. Budget projections for the upcoming year has been completed and would be discussed further by the Chief Financial Officer.
- Regarding expansion initiatives the Legal Counsel for the Academy had recently met with Counsel representing the Charter School Institute to discuss strategy related to charter litigation.
- Enrollment efforts remained ongoing throughout the network, with particular focus on Wyandanch. Uniondale was reported to be essentially full, while Hempstead retained limited kindergarten capacity.
- Updates were received for the progress regarding international teachers seeking Letters of No Objection from the Jamaican government and the facility approvals for the Wyandanch site.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the President’s Report. Moved by Trustee Harrison and seconded by Trustee Graham. Motioned passed unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the President’s Report, followed by a brief discussion.

b) Chief Academic Officer Report

Presenter: Nicholas Stapleton, Chief Academic Officer

The Board received a comprehensive academic performance and accountability update:

- Regarding the attendance trends, it was noted that despite nationwide challenges associated with chronic absenteeism, the Academy schools continued to demonstrate improvement. The projected year-end attendance is between 92% and 94%, placing the schools in a strong accountability position.
- The Charter Schools Institute Accountability Performance Summaries were reviewed. Uniondale achieved 14 of 15 accountability measures and Hempstead achieved 13 of 15 measures. The few measures missed were narrowly below benchmark levels and expressed confidence in continued improvement.

- Additional updates included implementation planning for the new WIDA English Language Learner assessment, ongoing Cognia STEM accreditation efforts, Shark Tank student business competitions, summer school programming, and student athletic achievements at county-level competitions.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Academic Officer's Report. Moved by Trustee Graham and seconded by Trustee Beckles. Motioned passed unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the Chief Academic Officer's Report, followed by a brief discussion.

c) Chief Legal & Compliance Officer Report

Presenter: Suzanne Scarlett, Director of Compliance (presented for Sandra Oneil, Chief Legal & Compliance Officer)

The Board received a detailed update on legal, compliance and community engagement:

- Updates were provided on active litigation matters including employee relations cases, student-related matters, and property-related litigation. The Board was advised that the Academy has received favorable developments regarding motions and consolidation discussions.
- Compliance updates included regulatory reporting requirements, facility audit preparations, development of compliance documentation, and risk-management activities.
- Family and community relations initiatives included Mental Health Awareness Month programming, PTO elections, Red Cross partnership activities, 529 College Planning workshops, and parent ambassador engagement supporting Academy events and outreach efforts.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer's Report. Moved by Trustee Harrison and seconded by Trustee Rowley. Motioned passed unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer's Report.

d) Group Chief Financial Officer Report

Presenter: Alwayne Burke, Group Chief Financial Officer

The Board reviewed financial statements for the month ending February 28, 2026:

- The 2026–2027 budget had been completed and was under review by the Finance Committee and Board Treasurer prior to submission.
- The April's financial statements reflected a temporary negative position, however, year-to-date performance remained positive.

- The Balance Sheet remained strong. The required financial covenants continued to be met, and accounts receivable collections improved significantly after April. The Financial Resolution was presented because the Finance Committee had not yet completed review of April's financial statements.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Group Chief Financial Officer's Report. Moved by Trustee Harrison and seconded by Trustee Rowley. Motioned passed unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the Group Chief Financial Officer's Report, followed by a brief discussion.

e) Chief People & Operations Officer Report

Presenter: Felicia Barracks, Chief People & Operations Officer

The Board received updates on human capital, operations, and organizational systems:

- Updates were received on domestic and international recruitment efforts, including a successful Talent Summit that attracted dozens of instructional and operational candidates.
- Reports were also received on onboarding activities, staffing updates, leave of absence data, retention statistics, professional development initiatives, evaluation timelines, and employee engagement activities.
- There were updates on the Teacher Appreciation Week activities, social media performance, marketing initiatives, and numerous student and family engagement events conducted across the network.
- Trustees discussed staffing plans and anticipated hiring needs for the upcoming school year.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief People & Operations Officer's Report. Moved by Trustee Beckles and seconded by Trustee Harrison. Motioned passed unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the Chief People & Operations Officer's Report, followed by a brief discussion.

f) Chief Executive Officer Report

The Board received updates on organizational accomplishments:

- The staff was commended for their leadership and the organization's accomplishments were highlighted.
- Updates were received on grant development, long-term financial sustainability, expansion planning, and preparations for the Board Retreat.
- Trustees were informed of the passing of a family member of Trustee Dale James and condolences were extended.

- There was an extensive update on the Purple Carpet Experience, highlighting student participation, sponsorship efforts, community engagement, and organizational visibility. Importantly the event was emphasized as both a fundraising and public-awareness initiative. Trustees were encouraged to attend and support the event.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Executive Officer’s Report. The motion to accept the report was made by Trustee Rowley and approved unanimously.

After the motion was accepted, the floor was opened for questions and comments on the Chief Executive Officer’s Report, followed by a brief discussion.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Resolution No. 5001-2026 – Financial Resolution

A Resolution to formally authorize an increase in the organization’s line of credit.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- Chairman Stewart – Yes
- Vice Chairman West – Yes
- Trustee Graham – Yes
- Trustee Harrison – Yes
- Trustee Beckles – Yes
- Trustee Rowley – Yes

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

b) Resolution No. 5002-2026 – Administrative Resolution

A Resolution to ratify and approve a structured hybrid work arrangement for the Chief Executive Officer that ensures continued leadership effectiveness.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- Chairman Stewart – Yes
- Vice Chairman West – Yes
- Trustee Graham – Yes
- Trustee Harrison – Yes
- Trustee Beckles – Yes
- Trustee Rowley – Yes

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURMENT

Chairman Stewart thanked the Board, leadership team, staff, and attendees for their continued support and encouraged participation in the upcoming Purple Carpet Experience.

With no further business, the Board Chairman Stewart requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Trustee Rowley and seconded by Trustee Harrison. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 6:47 pm.

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**ATTACHMENT TO 2026
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions hereafter was given a document number and voted on by the Board of Trustees accordingly.

- **Resolution No. 5001-2026 – Approval of Financial Resolution**
Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.
- **Resolution No. 5002-2026 – Approval of Administrative Resolution**
Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.