



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
The Academy Charter School (TACS)
October 2025

Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:44pm

Facilitator: Robert Stewart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Haughton, President
Nicholas Stapleton, Chief Academic Officer
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 6:30pm.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting was reviewed and approved.

3. REPORTS

The following reports were presented:

a) President Report

Presenter: Wayne Haughton, President

The Board received strategic updates on the safety plans and Grants including the following:

- Fire evacuation drills completed for Hempstead; Uniondale drill pending.
- Grants:
 - Department of Labor: teacher training; workforce development site; 2-year probationary phase; certification pathways.
 - Healthcare worker training grant: \$4,794,379 over five years; focus on minority representation in healthcare.

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:

i. Dashboard Report:

- Free/reduced lunch and economically disadvantaged rates:
 - Hempstead: increased from 79% last year to 82%.
 - Uniondale: increased from 47% two weeks ago to 72%, slightly below last year’s 75%.
- Implications: Title I funding for academic intervention teachers; alignment with similar schools for reporting purposes.

ii. Academic Assessment Updates:

- Beginning-of-year assessments completed for screening purposes.
- Renaissance Star and WNE assessments planned for January.

iii. Graduation & Portrait of a Graduate:

- New statewide graduation requirements to be fully implemented by 2029.
- Current Regents’ exams (4 + 1) will be sunset by 2029; new pathways and endorsements will be emphasized.
- Collaboration with Howard University for K-12 curriculum backward planning, teacher training, and curriculum development.
- Cambridge University Press consulted for alternative assessments.

iv. Instructional & After-School Programs:

- After-school programs operational at secondary and elementary levels.
- Instructional goals for 2025-26:
 - Graduation rate target: ≥95%
 - Elementary/middle school ELA & Math targets: 80–85%

- Daily attendance improvement and reduced chronic absenteeism.
 - Civic Readiness Project to be added to 8th-grade Social Studies.
 - New reading assessment for Grades K-2 (NWEA) implemented; pilot of Wit and Wisdom curriculum in Grades 3–5.
 - STEM: pursuit of Cognia national certification for CTE programs.
- v. College & Scholarships:
- College application season underway; SAT prep ongoing.
 - Candidates submitted for Posse Scholarship (3) and Quest Bridge (7).
- vi. Graduation Requirement Transition:
- Transition in three phases:
 - Phase 1 (2025–2027): Exemptions for Regents’ exams due to life incidences; graduation requirements remain unchanged.
 - Phase 2 (2027): One statewide diploma with seals/endorsements; assessment requirements sunset.
 - Phase 3 (2029): Full implementation of diploma, seals, endorsements, and proficiency in learning standards.
 - Current initiatives: expand AP, college credit, CTE, work-based, service learning, and SEL offerings.
 - Stakeholder engagement planned through focus groups with staff, students, families, and community.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Academic Officer’s Report. Moved by Vice Chairman West and seconded by Trustee Graham. 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: Sandra Oneil, Chief Legal & Compliance Officer

The Board received an update on pending litigation and compliance matters:

- No new claims; active cases ongoing.
- SUNY CSI complaints addressed.
- Community initiatives: blood drive, library partnerships, fire prevention collaborations, PTO Board development, and events.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Chief Legal & Compliance Officer’s Report. Moved by Trustee Beckles and seconded by Vice Chairman West. Motioned passed unanimously.

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

d) Group Chief Financial Officer Report

Presenter: Alwayne Burke, Group Chief Financial Officer

The Board reviewed Monthly Financials and Audited Financials.

- Monthly financials and audited financials reviewed; all bond covenants met.
- Outstanding receivables from Hempstead School District being addressed.

Chairman Stewart requested a motion to accept the Group Chief Financial Officer's Report. Moved by Trustee Graham and seconded by Vice Chairman West. 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:

- i. Human Capital:
 - Ongoing recruitment. Some vacancies remain.
 - Evaluations and training platforms being assessed; development pathways initiated for principals.
- ii. Marketing & Engagement:
 - Social media engagement reviewed; content segmented by platform and audience.
 - Newsletter transitions to community relations team; scholar recruitment campaigns analyzed.
- iii. Special Projects & Events:
 - Uniform quality and customer feedback addressed.
 - Academy intranet launched; early-stage cross-collaboration underway.
 - Event planning streamlined via forms submitted to event coordinator Ms. Gonzalez.

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

Presenter: Bishop Barrington Goldson, Chief Executive Officer

The Board received updates on expansion initiatives and community outreach.

Expressed gratitude to the board for approval of three new charters and financial support.

- i. Community and expansion initiatives
 - Community and political outreach commitments maintained.
 - Assessment with the uniform will be done.
 - Site selection tours planned. Additional sites in Wyandanch under consideration.
 - Expansion initiatives ongoing with careful risk assessment.

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

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Resolution No. 10001-2025 – Financial Statements

A Resolution to ratify and approve the school’s Financial Statements for the months of August and September 2025.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| - Chairman Stewart | - Yes |
| - Vice Chairman West | - Yes |
| - Trustee Beckles | - Yes |
| - Trustee Harrison | - Yes |
| - Trustee Graham | - Yes |
| - Trustee Burton | - Yes |

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

- b) Resolution No. 10002-2025 – Audited Financial Statements

A Resolution to ratify and approve the Audited Financials for the year ending June 30, 2025.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| - Chairman Stewart | - Yes |
| - Vice Chairman West | - Yes |
| - Trustee Beckles | - Yes |
| - Trustee Harrison | - Yes |
| - Trustee Graham | - Yes |
| - Trustee Burton | - Yes |

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no formal Executive Session entry or exit times recorded.

7. ADJOURMENT

With no business concluded, Board Chairman Stewart requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Trustee Graham and seconded by Trustee Beckles. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:44 pm.

**ATTACHMENT TO 2025
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

RESOLUTIONS

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

- **Resolution with document number 10001-2025 – Financial Statements**
Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.

- **Resolution with document number 10002-2025 – Audited Financial Statements**
Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.