

**THOMPSON EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 18, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

Board members in attendance were Kim Akeley-Charron, Bre Carpenter, Denise Chapman, Brian Cullins, Will Delmar, Bob Herrmann, Lori Hvizda Ward, Barb Kruse, Markee Ramirez, Tracy Roller, and Matt Thies. Board members unable to attend were Rick Bowles, Bret Heller, and Sarah Walgast. Staff members Eowyn Sanders and Lesa Biedron were also in attendance.

Brian opened the meeting by introducing new board member Markee Ramirez.

Upon motion duly made by Bob Herrmann and seconded by Barb Kruse the Consent Agenda - consisting of the June 16 board meeting minutes, the June and July Investment Management Account statements, the June and July ED reports – was approved.

Brian updated the board on the finance committee meeting preceding the board meeting. TEF's investment manager Doug Rechkemmer was in attendance to give the committee a biannual report. The finance committee approved a 6% payout of investment earnings to the endowment accounts TEF holds.

The TEF staff has been working on planning a networking event – Education After Hours. This event will be held on November 12 from 5-6:30 p.m. The intent of this event is to connect with sponsors and donors and provide updates about the state of the foundation. The turnout is expected to be 75-100 RSVPs. Will recommended holding the event at the Forge Event Center. Lisa will reach out to reserve the space.

This was the most profitable Scheer Golf Tournament at \$47,000 in revenue. The new check in process with BetterUnite worked well. Kim will have the final budgets for Help Kids Succeed and the Scheer Tournament ready for the September board meeting. Will suggested including a teacher golf foursome sponsorship for sponsors that would like provide the opportunity for TSD staff to golf at the event.

The fundraising goals are typically set between 2-5% of the previous year's goal. The board agreed that there does not need to be an increase of the fundraising goal for Help Kids Succeed and the Dr. Stan Scheer Memorial Student Opportunity Fund as they consistently fulfill their purpose. The board would like to see an increase in General Unrestricted fundraising so TEF can continue to provide more support throughout the school district. Kim suggested that proceeds from the Scheer Tournament can be split

between the Scheer Fund and General Unrestricted. The board agreed to splitting the golf tournament proceeds between the two accounts and suggested a fundraising goal of \$70,000 for General Unrestricted, with no increase to Help Kids Succeed and the Scheer Fund. Upon motion duly made by Matt Thies and seconded by Lori Hvizda Ward the 2026-2027 fundraising goals were approved.

Eowyn let the board know that the upcoming Great Idea Grant, WOW Grant, Educator of the Year, and scholarship timelines have all been posted on the board page. The Great Idea Grant application will open on August 20. The 2025-2026 Great Idea Grant final reports have been posted on the board page.

Kim updated the board on Help Kids Succeed packing and delivery. The packing was completed in 1.5 hours. EPI sent the wrong type of backpack – smaller and not padded. They will not be charging TEF for the backpacks, saving roughly \$2,500.00. The branded tissue boxes TEF ordered did not arrive in a complete order. Only 200 of the total 1,500 were delivered at the time of the event. The subsequent deliveries have not been complete. Kim is working with the manufacturer. The TSD warehouse has been storing the tissue boxes until the order is complete and will assist TEF in delivering those to school sites. 1,200 students in total will be supported by the program this year.

Kim has had continuous meetings about the upcoming SGO program. Final guidelines are expected in September. It is suggested that TEF will join the Colorado Schools Foundation Association (CSFA) SGO rather than creating its own. Kim, Dr. Heller and the CFO met with the leaders of TSD's charter schools to let them know they have the option of participating.

Brian opened the floor to other business. The October board meeting will need to be moved from 10/20 to 10/13 as Kim and Eowyn will be out of town at a conference. TEF has hired a new accounting firm – Watson, Coon, and Ryan. They will be doing TEF's audit and 990. The 2027 board meeting dates have been posted on the board page. Eowyn will be sending calendar invites.

The TEF staff exited the meeting and the board entered an executive session regarding the Executive Director's performance review starting at 5:22. Upon motion duly made by Will Delmar and seconded by Bob Herrmann the Executive Director review was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.