

DISCOVERY ACADEMY OF LAKE ALFRED, INC.

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

August 11, 2015

The following Board Members were present

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Kitty Walker	Community Member
Aimee Diaz	Community Member
Linda Williams	Community Member
Cheryl Wilkinson	Secretary
Katelyn Nykiel	Teacher Representative 2015 – 2016

Minutes

Charlotte Butler welcomed Katelyn Nykiel as the 2015-16 teacher representative and asked her to please make the DALA staff aware that she will be their voice on the board during this school year.

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Butler asked if there were any corrections or addition to the minutes. It was the first time the board packet had been sent on line and was received by everyone electronically. There were no corrections or additions.

Kitty Walker made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Linda William seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report.

George C. Miarecki, CPA let the board members know that Discovery Academy had finished the 2014-15 year with over \$4,000,000.00 in assets mostly in cash and investments. He then went over the financial statements line item by line item. All line items ended the year very close to budget. The bus loan is being paid down, the dining hall made around \$58,000.00 and as of now we are not sure of the amount DALA will be receiving from the E-rate. Discovery ended the year under budget and should be able to balance the budget next year. The Title 1 budget was zeroed out. We were under budget for the dining hall and once dining hall reaches the maximum amount to carry over and funds over that amount must be spent for improvements for the dining hall. Discovery did very well this year and hope to do even better next year due to increased funding from the state.

President's Report

Carol Fulks went over the enrollment figures for the 2015-16 school year as of now Discovery has 1,021 students enrolled with 321 6th grade, 380 7th grade, and 320 8th grade. DALA had a target of 1,040 students going into FTE in October. Carol Fulks stated there had been a lot of student movement over the summer with students withdrawing and applying.

Carol Fulks handed out a list of all new personnel actions and asked the board for approval. She let the board members know that education is almost in a crisis at this time. Teachers are very hard to find the ones that do accept positions work for a while and then leave. There are a lot of challenges facing education at this time and Discovery is doing their very best to find the best teachers. Staff members have

been in state and out of state to recruit new teachers. At this point all new hires are in field and we have no new staff members out of field except for Reading and ESOL endorsements. Mike Jones asked about staff not reappointed and Carol Fulks went over the reasons for not reappointing them.

Linda Williams made a motion to accept all personnel action forms. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks handed out Discovery Academy's 2015 yearbook to board members and reflected on the school year.

OLD BUSINESS

Board members were mailed a flash drive that had all 600 pages of the new charter application that was submitted to the Polk County School Board. The upcoming time line will be applicant interview September 10th, September 23rd the superintendent presents her recommendation to the PCSB members and October 6 will be the vote by the PCSB board to approve or deny the Discovery High School charter application. Carol Fulks handed out the four page document that she will be giving to the PCSB along with a letter of support from John Wood. She also discussed a revised description of her position for Discovery High School. She feels there should be a more defined description for the long range high school plan. Mrs. Fulks also discussed the application for the loan to build Discovery High School and how already owning the property will make it easier to obtain that loan. (Mrs. Fulks – they voted to approve your new job description – oversee operations of both schools, serve as the liaison between the Board and the schools, and act in the capacity of Director of Discovery High School until a director can be selected.

Kitty Walker made a motion to approve Carol Fulks new job description for Discovery High School. Linda Williams made a motion to second and the motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

The board approved August 28th for RFP to receive bids from construction companies as of today there have been three bids turned in that are being processed. There will be another meeting the first of September to approve the construction company that is chosen. Carol Fulks went over the public announcement that was made for bids to be accepted. She asked the board to approve the scoring criteria for choosing the construction company.

Linda Williams made a motion to approve the scoring criteria. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. Motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Carol Fulks asked the board for permission to go over new insurance proposals and to be allowed to select the best insurance coverage for the Discovery Academy staff.

Linda Williams made a motion to give Carol Fulks approval to select the insurance benefits that are best for the Discovery Academy staff. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Kevin Warren went over the Title 1 update and how it was going developing the School Improvement Plan that is due to the state October 1st. He also went over the Parent Involvement Plan that is a separate plan that the teachers and staff are working on at this time. As always Discovery is looking for new ways to get parents involved more at Discovery.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

Katelyn Nykiel stated that she thinks the new staff members will be a good group this year and is looking forward to working with them.

Kitty Walker is looking forward to an exciting year and working with the new DALA Leadership Team.

Linda Williams has only been on the board a short time and really appreciates all of the hard work that Carol Fulks and the staff are doing.

Charlotte Butler thinks that the new high school is a huge undertaking and appreciated all of the effort that has gone into making it a reality. She is also looking forward to working with the Leadership Team and is in the process of getting dates and places to visit worked out. She is also working on dates to open DALA's Closet.

Motion was made to adjourn.

Next meeting: **October 13, 2015**
8:30 a.m. Discovery Academy Media
Center

