

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 8/2/16

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Mike Jones	Community Member
Linda Williams	Community Member
Jill Dunbar	Secretary
Lori Ramsey	Teacher of the Year- Non-voting

Minutes

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM. Mrs. Butler commented on how the High School was looking great with the addition of sod, trees, fencing and awnings.

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. A motion was made by Mike Jones to accept the minutes as written. Linda Williams seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

George Miarecki, CPA, reviewed the financial statements with the board line item by line item. DALA ended the year in June well with \$1.9 million in assets. Investments did not go as high as expected; however, he believes that July has been a good month so the investments look good. He stated that DALA has \$600,000 of DHS funds that will be spent on DHS equipment. The District owes DALA \$23,000 for Title 1 funds. Miarecki stated that we added 4 new buses to the fleet and furniture as capital assets. He reviewed current bus loans with the Board. DALA did not spend all of IDEA funds this year; the State is very restrictive on purchasing. The Dining Hall made money last year, and DALA will be buying necessary equipment for the dining hall. George stated that it was a successful year with the budget being very close to the actual accounting.

Miarecki discussed the progress with Capital Resources and the refinancing of DHS phase 1 and new loan for phase 2. The phase 1 loan will be a little higher rate due to the fact that the building has already begun and requires a 20% down payment. DALA has already invested \$2.4 million, therefore once the loan closes, DALA may see a refund of part of that money. The loans on the other two phases would be Direct loans with 100% financing. It is the plan to attempt to close on both Phase 1

and Phase 2 loans at the same time. Carol Fulks stated that she may need to call a special Board meeting to vote on the closing of the loans.

President's Report

Carol Fulks reviewed the enrollment figures for the Board. DALA currently has 334 students enrolled for 6th grade, 321 for 7th grade, and 341 for 8th grade, with a waiting list for all 3 grades. Linda Williams asked if DALA usually has a waiting list, and Carol Fulks responded that DALA has always had a waiting list in the past.

Carol Fulks reviewed the Personnel Actions for the Board. Linda Williams asked if the positions were all full, and Carol stated that DALA still needed to hire a Language Arts teacher.

Linda Williams made a motion to accept all personnel actions and Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Carol Fulks added an item to the agenda. She explained to the Board that she would like to adjust the school contact people to the opposite school they were designated to originally, making Jill Dunbar the contact person for DALA and Mark Whitehead the contact person for DHS.

Linda Williams made a motion to place Dunbar and Whitehead in the recommended positions. Mike Jones seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

Carol Fulks explained that the medical insurance proposals were not completed yet. Carol stated that she expected the proposal to be close to what DALA has now with an increase.

Mike Jones made a motion to authorize Carol Fulks to negotiate and select the best medical insurance proposal. Linda Williams seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Kevin Warren updated the Board about Title 1. He stated that DALA is working on the online template. He plans to reform a new group of teachers to discuss the template. The draft for the template is due the end of September and the final template is due the end of October.

Carol Fulks explained the new salary schedule for teachers. DALA meets or exceeds the District salary schedule and Carol explained how the increases were made to DALA's salary schedule and for returning teachers. Linda Williams had some questions about Performance Adjustment. Carol Fulks explained that teachers are reviewed annually and they receive a performance adjustment in their salary at the

rate of 1.5% for effective teachers and 3.0% for highly effective teachers. Williams then asked how many teachers were highly effective last year. Warren responded that DALA had a higher than usual highly effective rating of teachers (about 20) due to the school becoming a "B" school. He then went on to explain Florida VAM (value-added models).

Linda Williams made a motion to accept the new salary schedule for teachers; Mike Jones seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Board Member Report

Charlotte Butler asked about the use of transgender bathrooms that has been in the media and what DALA planned to do about the issue. Mark Whitehead stated that the district had not released the updated Code of Conduct for this year and last year's had no mention of this issue. Carol Fulks stated that DALA plans to deal with this on an individual basis as it arises.

Butler added that she, along with the help of Michelle Frabotta and Kitty Walker, are working on getting DALA's Closet ready for parents. It will be open August 8-11 this month. Butler also mentioned that she planned to have a Leadership Team again this year and will meet with students the first week of school.

Mike Jones offered his assistance with the Leadership Team or any other event during the year. Linda Williams offered to help as well.

Mike Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 AM; it was seconded by Linda Williams and passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: October 11, 2016
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy
of Lake Alfred Media Center

Board Approved
10/18/16
Date