

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 1/12/16

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Mike Jones	Community Member
Kitty Walker	Community Member
Linda Williams	Community Member
Katelyn Nykiel	Teacher of the Year- Non-voting

Minutes

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The Board planned to honor Cheryl Wilkinson at this meeting due to her retirement at the end of January; however, Cheryl was not in attendance due to a medical issue. Jill Dunbar acted as Secretary to the Board for this meeting. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

A motion was made by Linda Williams to accept the minutes as written. Mike Jones 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. Discovery has paid off the 2008 bus loan, and they are due to receive Title one and IDEA reimbursements. He stated that we budgeted for 1020 students and we currently are accepting up to 1041 students, so all budgets are right on track or under budget. Mike Jones asked about the food service budget, specifically about how much money Discovery can have available. George said that we are still under the allowed amount and we are planning for purchases for the dining hall in the near future to spend that money, as those items can be high priced.

George Miarecki stated that the budget has been adjusted due in part to the following:

- Increase to 1041 students,
- Market decreases,
- Fewer Paraprofessionals hired,
- Increase in personnel costs,

- Change of costs for medical insurance costs and worker's comp,
- Increased curriculum and development
- General Admin increase,
- Addition of truck for operation of school,
- Savings for busses projected to purchase in June 2016,

Kitty Walker made a motion to accept the budget amendments. Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Miarecki is hoping the market will increase and if so, the budget will be adjusted accordingly.

The Annual Audit, dated June 30, 2015, had no problems. Miarecki explained the new government auditing standards in place to compare assets to liabilities, to locate the unfunded liabilities. This was the reason the audit was presented to us later in the year than usual.

Discovery increased the bottom line for the year. There were no deficiencies in Federal Programs and the audit went very well. Mike Jones asked if the new standards or the FRS added more to our audit this year; Miarecki stated that it did, however next year FRS will have the numbers earlier next year. They were not given enough time this year to have everything completed.

Linda Williams made a motion to accept the Annual Audit as presented. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

President's Report

Carol Fulks stated that the enrollment of the school is 1034 students and we are in the process of enrolling more students to be at the 1040 number.

She then discussed Open Enrollment stating that it began January 11 and we received 180 applications the first day. This year we are accepting applications online only, with computers available for use in the front office.

Personnel Actions were discussed. Fulks reviewed a list provided to each board member, including resignations, new hires and changes in assignment. Mike Jones questioned if Clark was in the same position as before and Fulks stated yes, half ESE Facilitator and half ESE Math teacher.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept all listed personnel actions; Linda Williams seconded it. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Charlotte Butler asked why the Pickup truck purchase was in old business since the board had not discussed it in the prior meetings. Carol Fulks suggested it be moved to New Business for later discussion and the board meeting continued.

Kevin Warren gave the update for Title 1 and the Parent Involvement Plan. He invited the board members to come to Discovery's Breakfast Under the Stars on the evening of February 3, 2016. This is a night that parents can receive their student's report card, have a mini conference with the teachers and participate in events going on around the school, including a pancake breakfast, Humane Society pets for adoption, and technology demonstrations.

New Business

Carol Fulks announced to the board that Discovery Academy had received a school grade of "B" this year. The school will be receiving A+ Funds for the improvement. She explained that the school has to have the dispersal plan in place before February 1. She explained how the Board had previously voted to disperse the A+ Funds as follows:

After meeting with representatives from all departments of the school, it was decided that approximately 50% would fund Technology and approximately 50% would fund Staff Bonuses, with any extra to fund Student Recognition.

The Board agreed to continue with this same process.

Carol Fulks explained how DALA is moving forward for financing Phase 1 of Discovery High School. CenterState Bank has agreed to give DALA/DHS (co-borrowers) a Construction Loan for Phase 1, paying interest only on the first two years of the 7 year loan with an interest rate as specified in the handout.. DALA's attorney has all documents concerning the loan and is in the process of creating a letter of opinion. Fulks also stated that CenterState Bank is willing to give us a separate loan for furnishings, computers, etc. in the amount of one million dollars throughout all three phases of construction.

Mike Jones made a motion to approve financing for DHS contingent upon approval from the attorney. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Carol went on to explain that the bank is not willing to begin dispersal of the loan until DALA has the Charter Contract signed/approved with PCSB. She explained that negotiations with PCSB have been completed and the next board meeting for approval from PCSB would not be possible until the end of February, and that would be too late to begin construction for an August 2016 completion. She asked the board if it would be possible for DALA to pay for preconstruction and construction

costs until such time that the Charter Contract is approved and DALA would be paid back from the Construction Loan at that time.

Butler asked what funds the Board had already approved to be loaned to the construction of DHS. Fulks stated that DALA had already approved \$70,000.00 for start-up costs and \$400,000.00 for operations. Carol Fulks explained that the number of students to be enrolled at the high school had been increased and that would help with funds later as well.

Kitty Walker made a motion for DALA to pay up to \$500,000.00 for pre-construction and construction costs until the time that the Charter Contract is approved and the construction loan can disperse funds to pay back DALA. Mike Jones seconded it. The motion was passed unanimously.

Carol Fulks explained the need for the new Ford F250 pick-up truck purchased and that she had shopped around to get the best possible price for it. Linda Williams made a motion to approve the purchase of the Ford F250 pickup truck. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mike Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 AM. Kitty Walker seconded it. The motion was passed unanimously.

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

Board Approved
3/8/16
Date