

DISCOVERY ACADEMY OF LAKE ALFRED, INC.

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

March 10, 2015

The following Board Members were present

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Mike Jones	Community Member
Kitty Walker	Community Member
Aimee Diaz	Community Member
Linda Williams	Community Member
Cheryl Wilkinson	Secretary
Beth Fontaine	Teacher Representative 2014 – 2015

Minutes

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She welcomed Linda Williams as a new board member. Mrs. Butler asked the board to table the award presentation for Kristina Buhrman due to her illness that day she could not attend the board meeting. Mrs. Butler asked if there were any corrections or addition to the minutes. There were no corrections or additions.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Linda Williams seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report.

George C. Miarecki, CPA went over the financial statements line item by line item. He discussed the items where Discovery Academy had spent funds pertaining to Discovery High School. The funds that were spent at some time will be paid back or forgiven. The funds spent for the land will be held as an investment and at the end of June will become a fixed asset. Mr. Miarecki pointed out that the bus loan was being paid off and all line items were looking very good. He went over the IDEA and the Dining Hall expenditures vs actuals. Dining hall funds are looking very good with a nice balance and if that balance goes over \$140,000.00 Discovery will have to spend all funds over that amount on furniture or equipment for the dining hall. He stated that Discovery's FTE count was 1,042 and we would not have to pay back any of the up-front money that we received from the PCSB. Discovery is looking very good to finish out the school year on or under budget.

Mr. Miarecki went over Discovery's investments and new investment policy. Board members had received a copy for their review. The new plan included real estate investments along with loans to other institutions including interest rates that may be charged for any loans given.

Aimee Diaz made a motion to accept the new investment policy. Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

President's Report

Carol Fulks went over the enrollment figures Discovery now has 1,037 students enrolled with 402 6th grade, 329 7th grade, and 306 8th grade. At this time incoming 6th grade acceptance letters are being sent out and acceptance cards are being returned for the 2015-16 school year.

Carol Fulks handed out a list of all new personnel action forms and asked the board for approval. At this time no new staff members have been hired that are out of field.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Carol Fulks informed the board that environmental studies are being done on Discovery's land purchase. The 59.5 acres with 10-12 of those acres being lake are being studied for skinks. Boards are being place all over the property for this study the results of this study will be shared with the board when the study is complete.

Mrs. Fulks brought the board members up to date on the Discovery High School Charter appeal. After two successful trips to Tallahassee the state sent their approval of the charter to the Polk County School Board. The PCSB will put it on their meeting agenda to approve the charter application. After approval Discovery will go into contract negotiations with the PCSB.

Kevin Warren brought the board up to date on the Title I survey. The survey is out and the data that Discovery receives will be used for next year parent involvement. All questions on the survey are consent to the Title I program and how the school will be able to help parents.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Jones discussed the revised Wellness Policy. He shared with the board who the other members of the committee were (dining hall staff, coaches, and administrators) along with the changes that were made to the policy. The Wellness Policy must be reviewed yearly. Linda Williams suggest some verbiage be changed in the policy and that was noted.

Kitty Walker made a motion to accept the updated Wellness Policy. Aimee Diaz seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks went over the contract for Discovery's annual audit. The cost for the annual audit did not increase. Mrs. Fulks asked the board to approve the audit contract from McCrady/Hess Certified Public Accountants.

Mike Jones made a motion to approve the McCrady/Hess audit contract. Linda Williams seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks talked with the board about the need to appoint a director for the new Discovery High School. After discussion it was decided that due to legal aspects it was necessary for the high school to have a director. Carol Fulks volunteered to act as Director for Discovery High School.

Aimee Diaz made a motion to appoint Carol Fulks Director of Discovery High School. Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks pulled the next item on the agenda, Architect Selection Policy. After talking with the engineers from Envisors it was determined that due to the type of construction that was going to be needed for a new school it would be best for the engineers and architect to work together and the selection policy might need to be changed. Linda Williams asked about the size of the new high school and Charlotte Butler asked to be part of the architect selection committee.

Carol Fulks discussed the modification of the high school staffing plan. The PCSB has concerns that Discovery High School was starting too slow. Therefore, DHS would like to raise enrollment for the end

coming 9th grade to 100 students for 2015-16. The modification of the original plan has to be approved by Discovery Academy's board along with the PCSB board. DHS would be run separately from Discovery Academy and audited separately also. The more students enrolled would allow more state funding for the high school. Linda Williams asked about the 25 collegiate students attending Discovery High School and Polk State College to earn their AA degree.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept the new staffing plan for Carol Fulks to present to the PCSB. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks invited the board members to participate in the Panera Bread Fund Raiser for Discovery Academy.

Carol Fulks asked for an additional board meeting on April 23rd due to the school board meeting to approve the new Discovery High School and the need to start having two board meetings.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

Charlotte Butler reported that the leadership group had a nice tour of the courthouse in Bartow and were looking forward to the tour of the Lakeland Ledger and Bok Tower.

Linda Williams stated that she is delighted to be on the board.

Mike Jones thanked everyone for their hard work on the new high school. He also helped chaperone a field experience with the students and wanted board members to know how well behaved the students were and how much he along with the students enjoyed the trip.

Charlotte Butler thanked everyone and said how exciting it is to be part of the new high school. The administration leadership team has done a great job.

Aimee Diaz is hopeful and happy that Discovery High School students will have an opportunity to be successful.

Beth Fontaine is looking forward to beginning the high school and starting the next step in that process.

Kevin Warren invited the board members to join Discovery Academy in celebrating student achievements at the Admin Luncheon and Morning Madness.

Mike Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Next meeting: **Thursday, April 23, 2015** 8:30 a.m. Discovery Academy Media Center