

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 10/18/16

The following members were present:

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

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

Election of Chair / Officers

Mike Jones nominated the following members for the Board positions: Chair- Charlotte Butler, President- Carol Fulks, Treasurer- Carol Fulks, and Secretary- Jill Dunbar. Kitty Walker seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Presentation of Annual Audit

Stacey McCrady presented the Annual Audit to the board focusing on the major points of the audit. She stated that the audit was more complicated this year due to the high school. The School is in strong financial health with the net position at 2.5 million dollars. The audit went very smoothly with no comments or deficiencies. Ms. McCrady stated that she is available throughout the year if anyone has any questions concerning the audit.

Kitty Walker made a motion to accept the audit as presented; Mike Jones seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Minutes

There was one correction to the minutes. A motion was made by Mike Jones to accept the corrected minutes. Linda Williams seconded the motion. The motion was accepted by unanimous vote.

By-Laws – Adjustment

George Miarecki explained that the bylaws needed to be amended to be in compliance for the USDA Loan for the High School. Both DALA and DHS Articles of Incorporation and By Laws were adjusted to meet the requirement. This was voted on in the DHS Board meeting for both schools:

Mike Jones made a motion to change both DALA and DHS Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws as stipulated. Kitty Walker seconded the motion and was passed by unanimous vote.

Rodda Contracts – Phases II & III

Carol Fulks gave each board member handouts of Rodda Contracts and expenses for Phases II & III. She then explained the contracts and expenses necessary for construction of both phases.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept Rodda contracts for Phases II & III and approve the expenses necessary for both phases. Kitty Walker seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

George Miarecki, CPA, reviewed the financial statements with the board line item by line item. He stated that the budget looks good and Discovery is very close to its mark on all budgets, with the larger budget items being right where they should be at this time of the year. \$508,000 is still owed on the bus loan. Mike Jones asked how many buses are on the loan and Miarecki stated there are 4 buses.

Mike Jones asked about the dining hall budget with the high school opening. George said that it will be fine- Discovery is catching up on the budget and it will take a little longer to be right on target for the year. Dala has made purchases from the dining hall account because we are required to spend any money over the established limit.

Miarecki stated that investments are steady right now. The budget is at a conservative estimate of \$30,000. He is hoping investments will do even better than that.

Miarecki discussed IDEA Budget. Allocation went up this year, with Dala spending some of the money on a para, contractual services and supplies. There is restricted use of spending from IDEA. Anything purchased with IDEA funds can only be used for ESE students, excluding gifted students.

Miarecki discussed the Title I Budget amendment. Dala replaced some positions in Title I. There was a change in salary because the teacher trainer position was filled with an employee with a master's degree. The district is being audited this year so they are monitoring quite closely.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept the IDEA & Title I budget amendments. Kitty Walker seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Miarecki discussed the progress with Capital Resources. Dala is in the process of refinancing for all three phases of the high school. The loan is through the USDA and has a lot of requirements. Carol Fulks expressed concern that Dala needs to begin phase 2 construction soon to complete it on time. Miarecki stated that everything is being done to get the go ahead to begin construction prior to the loan being completed and that the loan is worth waiting for because the rate is 2.38% at this time. Rodda has expressed confidence that they will be able to complete the project on time.

President's Report

Carol Fulks reviewed the enrollment figures for the Board. DALA currently has 1008 students with a waiting list of 140 students. She stated that we would be accepting more students very soon.

Carol Fulks reviewed the Personnel Actions for the Board.

Mike Jones made a motion to accept all personnel actions and Kitty Walker seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Carol Fulks gave a handout to the board concerning the medical insurance the school had chosen for this year. There was an increase of 5.34% for the insurance this year, but the coverage is the same. Carol Fulks was happy to be able to keep the same plan with such a small increase.

Kevin Warren updated the Board regarding Title 1. Parent Involvement has been good. Dala has had family Literacy Nights and the first Parent Night is in a couple of weeks. The school improvement plan (SIP) draft has been submitted and Dala is waiting on feedback. The report is ready to go and the final SIP will be submitted by the end of October.

Kevin Warren went on to explain the amended Leader and Teacher Evaluation Systems for both Dala and DHS. The changes made were necessary due to statute changes.

Kitty Walker made a motion to accept the revised evaluation systems for teachers and leaders for both DHS and Dala. Mike Jones seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Carol Fulks added an item to the agenda regarding the care of the grounds. There is a need for more grounds work at DALA and DHS. Fulks would like the Board's permission to look at options of hiring one person to care for both grounds with our equipment. By hiring someone, it could possibly eliminate the grounds company DALA has now.

Mike Jones made a motion to give Carol Fulks permission to hire a grounds person to care for both DALA and DHS grounds. Kitty Walker seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

Board Member Report

Mike Jones stated that he enjoyed the DHS tour. He has had positive feedback from students and community members regarding the high school.

Kevin Warren noted that he too has had positive feedback from the personnel at the City of Lake Alfred. They are proud that Lake Alfred now has a high school.

Charlotte Butler has had positive feedback as well.

Kitty Walker stated that she appreciates all that Carol Fulks has and is doing for the high school project.

Lori Ramsey told the board she is expecting a baby in February. She also reminded the Board about the DALA Dash on Saturday, October 22.

Charlotte Butler said that the Leadership Team is a great group of students and is representing the school well. They enjoyed the trip to see the Auburndale Police and will be doing several other trips this year, including Bok Tower. She mentioned that Dala's Closet is doing well and has lots of clothes to sell.

Mike Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 AM; it was seconded by Kitty Walker and passed by unanimous vote.

Board Approved
1/10/2017
Date

Next Meeting: January 10, 2017
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy
of Lake Alfred Media Center