

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 8/13/2019

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Mike Jones	Community Member
Aimee Diaz	Community Member
Laura Nolan	Teacher
Mary Pulse	Secretary

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM.

Minutes

A motion was made by Aimee Diaz to accept the 6/11/19 minutes as written. Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

George Miarecki, CPA, reviewed the financial statements with the Board line item by line item.

Miarecki then updated the Board regarding the current liabilities. George said the current liabilities and balance sheet look very good. George also mentioned that the bus loans have decreased, however, we have added three new buses. George said the construction is being paid down on schedule and the Food Service Loan will be paid in full in 18 months.

Miarecki then reviewed the Operating Budget and the Title I Budget. Mr. Miarecki said the actual budget is very close to the projected budget in enrollment numbers, instructional and personnel. Transportation is slightly over. Title 1 and IDEA are on target. Mrs. Butler asked Mr. Miarecki to expand upon what the IDEA grant is and how the money DALA receives is determined. George stated that the money received is based on prior year; ESE student numbers.

President's Report

Carol Fulks stated that enrollment for the first day of school was 904 with 297 6th grade, 299 7th grade and 308 8th grade. Mrs. Fulks stated the goal is to have 325

Board Approved
10-22-2019
Date

students per grade. DALA will be accepting more students from the waitlist, which currently has 121 6th graders, 41 7th graders and 87 8th graders on it.

Carol Fulks then reviewed the Personnel Actions for the Board. Mrs. Fulks explained how “out of field” teachers are working towards certification and what they need to do to accomplish this.

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

Old Business

Kevin Warren gave an update on the Title 1 Parent/Family Engagement Plan. Mr. Warren said they would be using a new federal index, which rates schools on components such as ESE and ELL as well as demographics including race/ethnicity. Test scores will be used to rate the school and if DALA is found to have less than a 41% passing rate, a plan will be put into place for improvement. Mr. Warren assured the board that DALA has never come close to having less than a 41% passing rate.

DALA has also upgraded its plan to get parents involved more, especially in the area of how a parent can help their child. There is also a plan in place to help teachers, in particular brand new teachers to better communicate with parents.

Mr. Warren also gave an update on the School Compact Plan. Mr. Warren said the plan very specifically lays out what can be done by parent, student and teacher to help each child. The plan is in the Student Planner.

Aimee Diaz made a motion to accept the School Compact Plan and Mike Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Mark Whitehead gave a Safe Schools update.

Mark Whitehead said there is a Critical Response Plan being developed and DALA is working closely with the district on this plan.

There will be increased security on campus this year as every classroom will be equipped with a Fire Pull Station. There are also hard corners/safe zones being designated for each class.

Mr. Whitehead also discussed the Mental Health Plan being developed. It will begin with five staff members being trained in dealing with mental health issues. A mental health counselor will be assigned to the school.

Aimee Diaz made a motion to accept the Safe Schools Plan. Mike Jones seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

Carol Fulks told the Board about the upcoming 5th Annual DALA Dash to be held on Saturday October 19th.

A new teacher salary schedule is being developed based on the Polk County new teacher salary schedule. This will be brought before the board at the October meeting.

Board Member Report

Charlotte Butler told the board how she will no longer be heading up the Leadership Discovery Team. Aaron McElwee, a 6th grade teacher will be the new lead for LDT. Mrs. Butler will be helping Aaron pick dates and events for the 2019-2020 school year. There will be an assembly for 8th grade students on 8/14/19 to provide information to all 8th grade students on how they can join the Leadership Discovery Team.

Mike Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 AM; it was seconded by Aimee Diaz and passed by unanimous vote.

Next Meeting: October 15, 2019
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy
of Lake Alfred Media Center