

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 1/14/2020

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Charlotte Butler	Chairperson/Community Member
Gregory Holloman	Community Member
Aimee Diaz	Community Member
John Taylor	Community Member
Linda Williams	Community Member
Laura Nolan	Teacher
Mary Pulse	Secretary

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

Minutes

A motion was made by Aimee Diaz to accept the 10/22/19 minutes as written Gregory Holloman seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report

George Miarecki, CPA reviewed the annual financial audit that was done by McCrady & Associates. Mr. Miarecki reviewed various sections of the audit with the governing board and reported that Discovery Academy was compliant in every area. The auditors did not have any suggestions or criticisms.

The vote to accept the audit results was made in a motion by John Taylor, seconded by Linda Williams and passed by a unanimous vote.

George Miarecki, CPA, reviewed the financial statements with the Board line item by line item. Investments increased and liabilities stayed the same. Discovery Academy is still owed Title 1 money from the Polk County School District.

Miarecki then reviewed the Investments in more detail saying the food service loans and bus loans have decreased significantly causing investments to increase.

Board Approved
3-10-2020
Date

George Miarecki also discussed that revenue in on target with what was in the original budget. Construction costs have come in 5% less than were originally budgeted and personnel costs also are less than budgeted.

Mr. Miarecki informed the board that IDEA money was received that is to be allocated to staff and supplies. There is money in the budget to hire another ESE Para educator.

The Dining Hall revenues have decreased but the expenses have also decreased. Mr. Miarecki attributes this to the students eating habits.

A vote was put before the board to approve the IDEA and Dining Hall Budgets. John Taylor made the motion to approve, seconded by Aimee Diaz and the vote was unanimous.

President's Report

Carol Fulks stated the current enrollment for Discovery Academy is 962 with 321 in 6th grade, 320 in 7th grade and 321 in 8th grade. We are still accepting students in all grades with a target enrollment of 975.

Open Enrollment occurred November 4, 2019 through November 18, 2019 and was successful with a total of 487 applications received. 6th grade applications totaled 418, 7th grade - 37 and 8th grade - 32. Of the 418 6th grade applications received, acceptance letters are being prepared to be sent to 262 applicants. Those letters will be sent the week of 1/20/19.

Mrs. Fulks then presented the personnel actions saying two 7th grade teachers have resigned but one has already been hired as a replacement. Applications and resumes are being reviewed for the 2nd position.

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

Mrs. Fulks also presented Ms. Nancy Daley as a potential new Governing Board Member. Ms. Daley is a highly regarded member of the community and is currently the Mayor of Lake Alfred. John Taylor made a motion to accept Ms. Daley as the newest board member for Discovery Academy. The motion was seconded by Linda Williams and unanimously voted on by the remaining board members.

Old Business

Kevin Warren gave a Safe Schools update. Mr. Warren said the state and district are concentrating on mental health awareness and training for current staff members. A psychologist has been assigned by the district and will be visiting all schools.

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Mrs. Fulks added to the Safe Schools update by telling the board that she is still working with district officials to install a security gate here at Discovery Academy similar to the one at Discovery High School.

New cameras will be installed in the front office for additional security to staff and students.

New Business

Mrs. Fulks addressed the Best and Brightest money received from the state. Mrs. Fulks is working with the other principals at Discovery on criteria to distribute the money so that the most teachers will qualify to receive money from the state.

Exact details on the distribution of Best & Brightest Money will be available at the March board meeting.

Board Member Report

The board members thanked Mrs. Fulks for the continued hard work being done at Discovery Academy. Mr. Taylor said he has been a substitute teacher at many other schools and based on his experience, the students and staff at Discovery Schools are the "best of the best". Students are always respectful. Mr. Holloman added that the staff and teachers here at Discovery go above and beyond every day. Mr. Holloman feels honored to have been asked to serve on the Governing Board.

Laura Nolan said the staff really enjoyed spirit week and hopes to have more activities of this nature.

John Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 AM.

Next Meeting: March 10, 2020
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy
of Lake Alfred Media Center