

# Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

## Governing Board Meeting Minutes 1-11-2022

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Nancy Daley	Community Member
Charlotte Butler (acting chair)	Community Member
John Taylor	Community Member
Doretha Tillman	Community Member
Mary Pulse	Secretary

Charlotte Butler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:28 AM.

### Minutes

A motion was made by Nancy Daley to accept the 10/12/21 minutes as written. John Taylor 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 said the PPP loan has been formally forgiven.

Mr. Miarecki said the actual budget vs the projected budget is within 4%. We should have 63.3% left in the instructional budget and we have 63.5%.

Mr. Miarecki said we have a \$60,000 cash balance from IDEA. We are also still awaiting \$36,000 for Title 1. FTE is lower than what we estimated so we will lose some money from that.

Mr. Miarecki presented the formal audit results to the board and a vote was taken to approve the audit results. John Taylor made the motion to accept the audit and Doretha Tillman seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Miarecki said two benchmarks were achieved, we had a goal of having 30 days of cash on hand and we have 94. Also, we have available money to pay down debt.

Board Approved  
3-8-2022  
Date

## **President's Report**

Carol Fulks stated the current enrollment for Discovery Academy is at 940 students. There are 309 6<sup>th</sup> graders, 304 in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 327 in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

There are 61 on the waitlist (6<sup>th</sup>-29, 7<sup>th</sup>-17, 8<sup>th</sup>-15).

During Open Enrollment we received 422 applications for 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 18 applications for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 19 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Mrs. Fulks then presented the personnel actions. Nancy Daley made the motion to accept the Personnel Actions and Doretha Tillman seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

## **Old Business**

Kevin Warren gave a Title 1 update. He said they are having a parent meeting called High School 101 which is very popular. It will be presented by Robin Haight.

The parent surveys will be sent out in March and are open to everyone.

There was a discussion from the previous board meeting (10/12/21) regarding the Board Members Responsibilities & Bylaws. A vote was not needed as this was an informational discussion only.

Mrs. Butler said on page 2 of the Bylaws, it states the board is supposed to review insurance information and we've never done that before. Mrs. Fulks said we will begin to do this with the August, 2022 meeting in preparation for the new school year. Our current policies do not begin until that time.

## **New Business**

Mrs. Fulks discussed the new Bereavement Policy that each employee would receive up to 2 days off for family bereavement purposes.

Mrs. Butler asked if the 2 days include the actual funeral day? Mrs. Daley asked if we need more specific information from an employee before granting an approval on the 2 days and how they will be spent.

Mrs. Fulks said the intent was for the 2 days to include attendance of the funeral.

A vote was taken to establish a Bereavement Policy at Discovery High School. Nancy Daley voted to approve and John Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote.

Mrs. Fulks discussed the new Teacher Salary Schedule for extra work time. The rate will be \$25.00 per hour for a Bachelor's Degree, \$27.00 per hour for a Master's Degree and \$29.00 per hour for a Specialist Degree/Doctorate Degree.

Mrs. Butler wanted to confirm that this was above the PCSB rate and it is.

A motion was made by Charlotte Butler to approve the new Teacher Salary Schedule for extra work time, Nancy Daley seconded the motion and a unanimous vote passed the motion.

Mrs. Fulks introduced the Premium Pay Policy and explained how this will work for employees. The new policy will pay an additional \$1000 per year (divided over 2 paychecks in January and June) for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school year. The money is received from the ESSER3 grant from the state due to the COVID pandemic and its effect on schools and staff.

Mrs. Daley also asked if this was prorated?

Mrs. Fulks explained that yes, it is prorated and breaks down to \$100 month. If an employee only worked for DHS for 7 months, they would receive \$700 for the year.

Mrs. Butler asked how we received the grant, was it something we applied for and Mr. Miarecki replied that yes, we applied to get the grant.

A motion was made by Doretha Tillman to approve the new Premium Pay Policy. John Taylor seconded the motion and a unanimous vote passed the motion

Mrs. Fulks presented the board with the upcoming testing schedule for their review and information.

### **Board Member Report**

Charlotte Butler asked about the current COVID policy with staff and students. Mary Pulse informed the board of what the protocol is when a staff member tests positive.

Mrs. Butler asked if filters were being changed more and if more cleaning is taking place.

Kevin Warren informed everyone that part of the ESSER grant money will be used to add an air purifier to each classroom.

Aaron McElwee thanked the board for approving the new Bereavement Policy and also the new. COVID policy.

Mr. McElwee told everyone about the Solar Bear Teddy Bear Challenge. DALA donated 7% of all teddy bears donated to the challenge. BayNews 9 did a story on the DALA students participating. Mr. McElwee plans to do it again for Christmas 2022 since it was such a huge success.

The meeting was adjourned by Charlotte Butler at 10:01 AM

**Next Meeting: March 8, 2022**  
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy  
of Lake Alfred Media Center