

Discovery Academy of Lake Alfred

Governing Board Meeting Minutes 3-9-2022

The following members were present:

Carol Fulks	Executive Director/Treasurer
Nancy Daley	Chairperson/Community Member
Charlotte Butler	Community Member
John Taylor	Community Member
Doretha Tillman	Community Member
Mary Pulse	Secretary

Nancy Daley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:59 AM.

Minutes

A motion was made by Charlotte Butler to accept the 1/11/22 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.

Mr. Miarecki said our investments are almost back to pre-construction amounts which is great.

Mr. Miarecki said the actual budget vs the projected budget is under 3%. Instructional is under 8% and Operations under 6%.

Mr. Miarecki said we have received all our cash up front from IDEA. We will use this money before the end of the current school year.

Mr. Miarecki said the bus loans are now under \$250,000.

Charlotte Butler said what is the status of replacing old buses? It was discussed a few years ago but we never heard anymore.

Mrs. Fulks said buses are very expensive. We ordered one new bus in October 2021 and it cost \$110,000 and will not be delivered until March of this year. Mrs. Fulks said Admin is in discussion about the best way to phase out old buses and either buy or lease new ones.

Board Approved
6-21-22
Date

George Miarecki said the dining hall can only have 3 months of revenue saved up, the state will take any money in excess of that. We are going to look into using these funds to offset the purchase of new equipment that is currently outdated.

Discovery signed a waiver for this 2021-2022 school year saying all students will be receiving free lunches. Next year (2022-2023) we will be back to paper applications for Free/Reduced lunches.

Charlotte Butler made a motion to pass the budget, John Taylor seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

President's Report

Carol Fulks stated the current enrollment for Discovery Academy is at 937 students. There are 309 6th graders, 304 in 7th grade and 324 in 8th grade.

We have received 514 applications for 6th grade for the 2022-2023 school year.

Mrs. Fulks then presented the personnel actions. John Taylor 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 in the process of conducting the Parent Survey, so far over 100 have been received. One question on the survey asks what parents think of Discovery Academy, poor, good, great? Over 90% have said good or great. All survey results will be available for the June meeting.

Reyna will be meeting with parents the week of 3/15/22 to discuss the survey.

Mr. Warren said an open house will be held on April 28th from 4:30-6:30 for all new Voyagers. It will be similar to the previous 5th grade visits.

There is now a new Voyager page on the website.

Charlotte Butler said parents enjoy these nights as it allows them to visualize their children on campus and in the classrooms.

Doretha Tillman suggested we ask parents what mode of communication they prefer. Mr. Warren said interestingly enough, parents are asking for text messages which is much easier than phone calls.

Aaron McElwee said we should look into the Remind App. It's how his current team communicates with parents. It's even set up to send messages in different languages.

New Business

Mrs. Fulks presented the 2022-2023 calendar. John Taylor made a motion to approve the calendar, Charlotte Butler seconded the motion, it was passed unanimously.

Mrs. Fulks informed the board that the 8th Grade Awards Ceremony will take place at Lake Eva in Haines City on May 26, 2022 at 9:00 AM.

Mrs. Fulks presented the nominations for the Governing Board Chair. Doretha Tillman nominated Charlotte Butler who declined. Charlotte Butler nominated Nancy Daley who accepted the nomination. Doretha Tillman seconded Mrs. Butler's nomination and the board voted unanimously to make Nancy Daley the Board Chair.

Board Member Report

Charlotte Butler told the board there is a former DALA student who is now on Broadway in West Side Story.

Mrs. Butler said the palm trees near the DALA sign look bad. Mrs. Fulks responded saying that the county is responsible for this landscaping and a work order was placed to fix this.

John Taylor asked if we have a set contract for bus fuel or do we pay market price? George Miarecki responded by saying the buses are fueled at the county depot so hopefully prices will be somewhat less than market price.

Mr. Taylor asked if we are considering solar energy as a potential investment that will keep costs down. Mrs. Fulks said the installation of solar is extremely expensive and is not being considered at the current time.

Aaron McElwee told the Governing Board how the Leadership Discovery Team loved their visit to BOK Tower. They examined self-esteem in light of the John Bok story. The Leadership Discovery Team would like to invite community members to the end of year celebration.

The meeting was adjourned by Charlotte Butler at 9:02 AM

Next Meeting: June 14, 2022
8:30 AM in the Discovery Academy
of Lake Alfred Media Center