

Minutes of Board Meeting
April 16, 2019
6 p.m.

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Luke Markham, Karli Hughes, John Weber, Adil Khan, Jillyan McGraw and Sam Houghton. Staff members present included Cindi Parker-Pearson and John Burton.

Approval of Minutes

Luke Markham chaired the meeting and called it to order at 6:01 p.m. John Weber moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019, Board meeting. Karli Hughes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Parent's Report

Cindi Parker-Pearson gave the Parent's Report for Mary Holjes. The Yearbook has been completed and will go on sale once it returns from the printer's. A Visual Supports workshop will be offered on May 8. Parents are preparing for "Staff Appreciation Day," which is scheduled for May 10. It looks like this year's Field Trip will be to the Glazer Children's Museum in Tampa. Mary is working on details, including the day the field trip will take place as well as related costs. We received a check from Fish City Grill for our "Spirit Night" activities: \$1,291! According to Fish City Grill, is the largest check they have written! Congratulations and "Thank You" to all parents, Board members, staff and friends who participated!

Financial Report

Since Mike Brossart (City of Lakeland Retreat) and Deborah Sulsona (illness) were absent, the Financial Report was deferred. A printed Financial Report was included in the Board packets for the meeting and included the following information: for the month ending March 31, 2019, we had an overall net income over expenses (before depreciation) of \$233,183. Last year at this time we had a net surplus of \$355,478. The largest factor in the difference is the \$150,000 grant we received by this time last year. Please remember that we do not receive any charter school funding from the state during the month of June so we need a surplus to cover expenses that month.

Development Report

Since Stacy Williams was representing Achievement Academy at the United Way of Central Florida (UWCF) Annual Meeting, John Burton gave the Development Report. We were again pleased to host the Leadership Lakeland program for a tour of our Lakeland facilities as part of their "Human Services" Day. More than 30 members of the program's Class 36 joined us on April 11 for their tour, an overview of our Charter School and Birth to Three programs and a personal testimonial from former student and longtime Board member Mark Miller. The latest Newsletter has been published, with a copy in each Board member's meeting packet.

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A Publix "Day of Caring" took place on Saturday, April 6, with new mulch being spread in various locations on the Lakeland campus, new plants put in place, new sod along the breezeway, a new bench and floral pots in the area between Buildings B and C. Classroom cabinets and book shelves were also painted in Buildings B and C. Thanks to Cindi Parker-Pearson, Ashlee Cofer and John Burton for coordinating and working alongside our Publix Volunteers! Publix also donated \$2,000 to defray costs. Thank you, Publix!

Eight (8) grants totaling \$209,500 have been submitted to various entities. To date only one (\$3,500) has been denied. Donor Impact letters have been sent to Major Donors. We welcomed Mari Aguilera to the Achievement Academy staff where she will serve as our new Development Assistant.

Principal's Report

Cindi finished her last Teacher Evaluation this week. Now the focus will be on completing performance evaluations on all other staff members. We have 51 students graduating this year – 38 in Lakeland, eight in Winter Haven and seven in Bartow. Graduation dates are Tues., May 14 in Bartow from 6 to 7 p.m.; Thursday, May 16 in Winter Haven, also from 6 to 7 p.m.; and Monday, May 20 in Lakeland, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. We invite and encourage all Board members to attend as many of these graduations as they can. In preparation for the next school year, we have completed classroom placement meetings at all three campuses. We look at placing returning children into appropriate classrooms and then we begin contacting families who are on the waiting list so we can offer their children space(s) in a developmentally appropriate classroom. We have been conducting informational meetings and tours for families who are on the waiting list for Lakeland since January. We have averaged 10-15 families per meeting to date. The last of these meetings/tours for this year is scheduled for May 3, and we expect a much larger group.

With the 51 children graduating we have a transition meeting with each one of them – a total of (at least) 51 meetings. That involves our staff attending meetings with parents at their neighborhood receiving schools. Our role in that meeting is to share information, provide support and help advocate for services.

On Tues., April 23, we will be participating in the Heartland for Children vendor fair for community providers at the Bartow Civic Center. This offers an opportunity for us to share information about our Charter School and Birth to Three programs along with other providers

Executive Director's Report

After completing their due diligence and inspection, SHD Properties informed us they are no longer interested in purchasing our property on CR 540A. However, we received two inquiries on the status of the property – one from a local Realtor whose son had attended Achievement Academy more than 20 years ago . . . and the other from our former Real Estate Associate at Keller-Williams (Alex Delannoy). Alex indicated we would likely be receiving a letter of intent (LOI) to purchase our property from one of his clients soon.

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We have terminated our contract with Vanguard Cleaning Services and brought on Office Pride of Lakeland and Winter Haven. The new cleaning crews from Office Pride began on Monday, April 8. We are also in the process of installing a control access door, security cameras and DVR on our Lakeland campus to enhance overall safety and security. Additionally, our Birth to Three Program staff made its formal "Request for Allocation" to the UWCF's Community Impact Team (CIT) on Tuesday (April 9); Achievement Academy's Advisory Council met on Wednesday, (April 10); and, as reported earlier, our Lakeland campus hosted Leadership Lakeland Class 36 on Thursday (April 11).

Committee Reports

The Nominating Committee will meet on April 25 to consider (at least) two new Board members. The Finance Committee will be meeting with GiveWell Community Foundation President Terry Simmers in the near future to hear a presentation on a new GiveWell investment program.

Unfinished Business

Sam Houghton asked about the Board's "Brainstorming Session" and John replied that he will be sending a reminder notice to all Board members including day, time and location.

New Business

None

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Burton

Executive Director and Meeting Scribe