

**Minutes of Board Meeting
October 18, 2022
6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Adil Khan, Janice Jones, Joe Furnari III, Mike Brossart, Elizabeth Kerns, Matt Hinton, Ana Kalman, Sheilitha Williams, Steve Earley and Amanda Barnett. Heath Frederick, and Jill Haladay participated via Zoom. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Deborah Sulsona, Mandy Fulton and Cindi Parker-Pearson.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Brossart called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Adil Khan moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 Board meeting. Elizabeth Kerns seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Strategic Plan Status

Kristin Aiken thanked the board for their time and participation at the board retreat on Saturday. The direction of the Birth to Three program is still rather broad with many potential avenues. If anyone would like to join the Birth to Three initiative committee please let Kristin know. Kristin is also working on gathering more information on Part C requirements of our staff as well as funding that will be shared prior to the next board meeting. Kristin will also share the summary of the board retreat from facilitator, Chuck McDanal.

Financial Report

Elizabeth Kerns presented the financial report for the three months ending September 30, 2022. We have just over \$1.6 million in cash with total assets of \$3 million. Total liabilities are \$189K. We ended the month with \$792K in revenue and \$959K in expenses leaving a net deficit of \$168K. Revenue is down \$200K largely due to the fact that ESSER funds received that we expected to record as revenue this fiscal year was actually recorded for last fiscal year. We also have not begun to receive our capital outlay funds. We have some savings in expenses because we included the Assistant Principal position in the budget which may not be filled this year. Last year at this time the net deficit was \$160k.

Development Report

The Development Committee met before the board meeting. Mandy Fulton is working on grants and listed several that have been submitted or will be soon. We continue to conduct tours if anyone would like to invite a potential donor to come visit.

We are still in need of silent and live auction items for Top Chef. If any of you have a company that would like to sponsor, Mandy can get you a sponsorship packet. We have eight confirmed chefs with the addition of a new restaurant, Charm City in Bartow. Thanks to Steve Earley for his help securing them. The chef/community leader pairing was postponed to November 8 at Bartow Ford at

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5:30pm and we would like board members to attend.

The Development team is also working on the fall newsletter and annual appeal letter.

Principal's Report

All staff positions had been filled with a new Para in Bartow and a contracted Occupational Therapist and then a teacher tendered her resignation yesterday. Thankfully, another teacher had already expressed interest in working at Achievement Academy so Cindi Parker-Pearson reached out to her. She can begin November 1. In the meantime, former teacher Claire Schwartz, as well as Cindi will substitute in that classroom.

We were full for FTE week and should see our FTE revenue increase due to changed student matrices.

The Bartow playground was installed and fill dirt added. Mulch will be next then the project will be complete. The Bartow campus has been hit hard with COVID with several staff and students out sick.

The Fall Festival will be held Friday, October 28 from 5:30-7 for all three campuses. Board members are also welcome to attend.

President's Report

United Way is asking for grant requests for Community Wellness funding received from Polk County. They have asked that requests be \$50K or more. We plan to submit what we can for expansion of services of the Birth to Three program, to cover the loss of Medicaid reimbursement revenue, and to fund a new playground(s). The requests are due the end of November (delayed from the beginning of November) and awards will likely be given in January.

We received notification of our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award from the City of Lakeland. We were awarded \$10K which is down \$5K from last year. The decrease appeared to be across the board to recipients.

Committee Reports

The Executive Committee met to review the President/CEO Kristin Aiken's first year of employment. Her evaluation was very good. The Executive Committee recommends a merit salary increase of 3% be given retroactive to July 1. We do not need a budget appropriation since we have payroll savings elsewhere. Janice Jones seconded the Executive Committee's motion and it passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

None.

Matt Hinton moved to adjourn at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sulsona
Administrative Services Manager