

**Minutes of Board Meeting
November 14, 2023
6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Mike Brossart, Adil Khan, Janice Jones, Haley Ross, Sheilitha Williams, Brant Masters, Karli Hughes, Ana Kalman, Zelda Abram, Jill Haladay, Joe Furnari III, and Nick Sellars. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Deborah Sulsona, Mary Holjes 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 October 17, 2023 Board meeting. Karli Hughes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Strategic Plan Status

Kristin reached out to Don Selvage and his assistant, Becky, about the search for a Development Director. They have two pricing levels. They noted that we are not the only ones in the area looking for a Development Director.

Kristin met Chuck McDanal to discuss rescheduling the board retreat. She will send out a poll of April and May dates to the board to see when the majority can attend.

Financial Report

Zelda Abram presented the financial report for the four months ending October 31, 2023. Total assets are \$3,409,880 and total liabilities are \$120,798. Total cash and investments is \$2,045,101. Total revenue was \$1,229,052 and total expenses were \$1,326,548. Total revenue is under budget but so are total expenses. Net income was a deficit of \$97K which is under budget by about \$9K. Deborah Sulsona noted that our one-time IDEA funds installment should come next month and is about \$27K more than budgeted.

Parents Report

The Fall Festival was well-attended and everyone had a good time. We are going to have our first in-person workshop since COVID at the end of this month. It will be on Positive Behavior Supports and put on by CARD.

The parents group is sponsoring a holiday luncheon for staff. It will be held on November 29 at Cleveland Heights Country Club.

We will not have a holiday party for students this year but we will still have a Santa visit each classroom with a small gift. The drawing for the fall basket will be held tomorrow. The parents group raised over \$1,000.

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Principal's Report

We are closed next week for Fall break and December 15th is the last day of school before Winter break. Teachers and therapists will be meeting with parents to go over progress reports.

Laurie Turner, RN, became an instructor for the new required training Stop The Bleed. Legislation requires five staff at each location but so far Laurie has trained 47 staff and will have another training in January.

President's Report

Top Chef committed sponsorships are up to about \$37K. This is less than last year at this time but not due to fewer sponsorship. Instead several sponsorships have come in lower than last year's amount. Please let Kristin know if you will make a sponsorship. We have seven community leaders committed. We held a meeting with the community leaders to talk about the ways they can raise money.

Giving Tuesday has not brought much in donations in the past. This year we would like to promote it on social media with incremental posts of why each of you give to Achievement Academy. Please send a short message to Kristin so we can include you.

The Birth to Three candidate accepted our employment offer. She will begin in January. There are a couple more potential candidates to interview for another Early Interventionist in preparation for Becky Jacklin's retirement at the end of the fiscal year.

We had Leadership Polk and Leadership Bartow tours last week. It was the first time visiting for the majority of attendees. Representative Tomkow visited last month and Representative Canady will visit after Thanksgiving.

Publix Super Markets Charities notified us that we were approved for \$94,800 designated for capital improvements. Our plan is to use the funds for new a/c units in Bartow and Winter Haven, a sunshade for the Lakeland Building C playground, new commercial washing machines, a new van for Lakeland's lunch pickup and a new food warmer.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Included in the board packet was a schedule of holiday bonuses that was approved as part of the overall budget. Janice Jones made a motion to approve the holiday bonuses as presented. Zelda Abram seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adil Khan moved to give the Executive Committee voting authority in place of the full board of directors from now through the January board meeting. Ana Kalman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sulsona

Chief Financial Officer