

**Minutes of Board Meeting**  
**April 23, 2024**  
**6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Adil Khan, Karli Wilkinson, Ana Kalman, Trish Buchanan, Heath Frederick, Steve Earley, Haley Ross, Paige Campbell, Janice Jones, Jill Haladay and Nick Sellars. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Mary Holjes, Deborah Sulsona and Cindi Parker-Pearson.

**Approval of Minutes**

Trish Buchanan called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. Steve Earley moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2024 Board meeting. Paige Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**Strategic Plan Status**

The board retreat was postponed until the fall due to conflicts with schedules. In the fall, we will have new board members installed. Kristin is working with Chuck McDanal to provide a couple of dates to the board.

**Financial Report**

Deborah Sulsona presented the financial report for the nine months ending March 31, 2024. Total assets are \$3,905,061 and total liabilities are \$104,713. Total revenue was \$3,562,727 and total expenses were \$3,016,452. Net income was a surplus of \$546,274 which is \$238K more than budgeted. The timing issues we had in prior months have worked themselves out. Deborah reminded the committee that we do not receive funding from the school district in the month of June so we need that surplus to cover expenses that month. Deborah has also added a column for the year-end projection and we should net around \$295K.

**Parents Report**

The parents group is providing a staff appreciation luncheon for each campus. It will be catered locally and will be Lakeland on 5/3, Bartow on 5/8 and Winter Haven on 5/10. Parent group meetings are being held this week. The meeting for May will be a combined meeting held at The Joinery.

A potty training workshop will be held on May 9. Cap & Gown pictures are starting up. The parents group is looking into a possible field trip at Bok Tower. It would be the first week of June. Parents are excited about the free yearbooks this year. Thank you Ana!

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**Principal's Report**

We currently have 46 students graduating this year. Graduation dates are as follows:

Lakeland – Tuesday, May 14 from 6-7:30pm

Bartow – Thursday, May 16 from 6-7pm

Winter Haven – Wednesday, May 22 from 6-7pm

We have one more monthly parent informational meeting for potential families to come tour and learn about the school. Teachers and therapists are conducting end of year testing for all students. Transition meetings have to occur for all the graduates. The classroom placement meetings have been completed so we are now reaching out to families on our waiting list.

Teacher observations and evaluations are complete and now working on remaining staff evaluations. The last day for students and staff is May 30. May 31<sup>st</sup> is a teacher workday.

**President's Report**

The United Way CIT visit for the allocation application is scheduled for Friday, May 3 at 1:00pm. We are able to hold it at Lakeland Regional Health like we did last year. Thank you Jill! We encourage all board members to attend if possible. Board participation is noted by United Way.

Also, there is a concerted push for United Way agencies to have a presence at United Way's 80th anniversary annual meeting. Senior staff is attending and all board members are invited to attend. It will be on May 23 at 5:00pm at the Polk Theater.

Next year's Top Chef is scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2025 at Bonnet Springs Park. We will have the Top Golf fundraiser again next fiscal year. It is scheduled for Thursday, September 12. Sponsorship letters will go out in May. Many grants have been submitted as well.

Our Birth to Three Early Interventionist who had planned to retire at the end of this fiscal year has delayed her retirement. At this time, we do not have someone who can take over her caseload. Kristin is reaching back out to former candidates who may have declined due to salary.

This summer we are looking to have the sunshade for Playground C in Lakeland installed using the Publix Charities one-time capital grant that we received. We have also been recommended by the Office of Safe Schools to have bollards installed in Winter Haven.

**Committee Reports**

The Finance Committee, Nominating Committee and Facilities Committee will all have reports next month.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Adil Khan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Deborah Sulsona*

Chief Financial Officer