

**Minutes of Board Meeting
March 19, 2024
6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Mike Brossart, Adil Khan, Sheilitha Williams, Karli Wilkinson, Ana Kalman, Trish Buchanan, Matt Hinton, Zelda Abram, Jill Haladay and Nick Sellars. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Mary Holjes, Deborah Sulsona and Cindi Parker-Pearson.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Brossart called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. Matt Hinton moved to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024 Board meeting. Karli Wilkinson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Strategic Plan Status

Kristin is planning for the board retreat to be held Saturday, April 6. She will send out the packet a week beforehand. It will be held at Chuck McDanal's new office which has its own parking lot.

Kristin has reached out to Top Golf about having a second fundraising event for next fiscal year which is part of the aspirational funding initiative.

Financial Report

Zelda Abram presented the financial report for the eight months ending February 29, 2024. Total assets are \$3,566,845 and total liabilities are \$112,563. Total revenue was \$2,900,039 and total expenses were \$2,702,524. Net income was a surplus of \$197,515 which is \$43K less than budgeted. We had budgeted a large gift (\$200K) for December that we actually received early March. Total expenses are on track with the largest variance over budget being health insurance since we pay a month in advance.

Parents Report

This Saturday, March 23 is the Rise & Shine playdate at Common Ground Park. The board is invited to attend. This is a fun event for our families.

We have more student ads than ever for our yearbook. More pages means the cost increases. Mary asked parents to try to get sponsorships and one parent was able to secure \$500. This won't allow us to give all students a copy so she asked that we ensure that we give some to the parents of Finn who passed away early in the school year.

We received a check from Fish City Grill for \$1,449, our largest yet!

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Principal's Report

We have about 40 students graduating this year. Teachers will begin having Transition meetings at the incoming schools. We continue to have monthly parent informational meetings for potential families to come tour and learn about the school. Teachers and therapists are beginning to conduct end of year testing which differs between graduating and returning students.

Teacher observations and evaluations should be completed in April and remaining staff by May. We have one teacher that is retiring at the end of this year.

We follow the Polk County Public Schools' calendar. Our only exception is that we don't do the early release days and our student orientation is a different day. Matt Hinton moved to approve the Achievement Academy 2024-25 calendar as presented. Trish Buchanan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

President's Report

Top Chef was a success! Thank you to everyone for the support in one way or another. We exceeded our fundraising goal! The feedback from chefs has been positive and they are looking forward to competing next year. Let Kristin know if you would like to share any feedback. Kristin plan to call attendees to invite them in for a tour.

The United Way application for our Birth to Three program was submitted on time. The CIT visit will be sometime in May. We would appreciate any board participation when we find out what day the visit will be.

Kristin is working on a spring appeal letter and a newsletter. She is also getting back into community outreach opportunities. Grants have been submitted for the City of Lakeland CDBG grant and a similar grant with the City of Winter Haven for next fiscal year.

Spring Break was busy with several facilities improvements. A new roof was put on Building C in Lakeland, new air conditioning units were installed in Bartow and Winter Haven, and identifying a solution for Building B plumbing issues continues.

Committee Reports

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Kristin is out of town during our next scheduled board meeting. After discussion was held, the April meetings will be held as follows:

Executive Committee meeting – Tuesday, April 23 at 5:30pm

Board meeting – Tuesday, April 23 at 6:00pm

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sulsona

Chief Financial Officer