

**Minutes of Board Meeting
September 17, 2024
6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Adil Khan, Trish Buchanan, Paige Campbell, Sheilitha Williams, Heath Frederick, Mike Brossart, Ana Kalman, Jill Haladay, Carly Reifenrath, Joe Little and Karli Wilkinson. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Deborah Sulsona and Cindi Parker-Pearson.

Approval of Minutes

Trish Buchanan called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. Trish thanked all the board members who attended the board retreat and/or offered their input. It was a great day. Paige Campbell moved to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024 Board meeting. Mike Brossart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Financial Report

Paige Campbell presented the financial report for the two months ending August 31, 2024. Cash is \$2,195K and total assets are \$3,509K with net assets of \$3,495K. Total revenue was \$588K and total expenses was \$756K resulting in a net deficit of \$168K. We typically carry a net deficit for the first few months of the fiscal year. Fundraising is just ramping up so we are not concerned at this time. We also have ample reserves in the meantime.

Parents Report

Cindi Parker-Pearson gave the report in Mary Holjes' absence. We had our first parent breakfast this week in Lakeland. The room was packed with parents. Bartow's and Winter Haven's parent breakfasts are next week. Mary is contacting vendors for our annual Fall Festival which will be held October 25. Our first Fish City Grill spirit night will be Tuesday, October 1st and we receive 15% of the entire day's sales.

Principal's Report

This is the fifth week for students but was the first week Cindi has been able to be out of a classroom. We are finally fully-staffed. We thought we would have an out-of-field teacher which the board would have had to approve but as the FLDOE shows her temporary certificate she is now in field.

Teachers are testing students. These are the scores we use for the School Improvement Plan that Cindi talked about at last month's meeting. We currently have 154 enrolled and three that are scheduled. We should be fully enrolled by FTE week, October 7 – 11.

We received eight new Dell PCs donated from Saddle Creek. Thanks to a staff member's husband! We are updating them with Windows 11 and updating many therapists' work stations.

President's Report

Birth to Three staff are working through a three phase training program that includes mentoring, practicum and evaluation metrics as we prepare to build their individual caseloads. We have noticed a drop in referrals from the Winter Haven NICU and are developing an outreach plan to renew that connection.

Kristin is setting up tours of the campus for those that have expressed an interest including a representative of The Lakeland 100, a new philanthropic group that has gifted us two \$10,000 donations. Let Kristin know if you know of anyone who might want to come see us in person.

Kristin has hired a Development Director. She will be starting sometime next month. Staff are excited.

Our TopGolf fundraiser is back this week for its second year. We have twelve teams and are excited to make new friends. Next, the Development team will focus on the Top Chef event and has put together a Top Chef Committee to keep the event fresh and relevant. We currently have five chefs and three community leaders committed.

The Development team is also working on a donor stewardship plan and keeping up with United Way campaign speakings. If your company has a United Way campaign, we encourage you to request Achievement Academy for the agency speaker.

We are still working with KeyHr on some lingering tax issues. Staff have completed open enrollment and seem excited about the new health plans.

The a/c unit that the board approved last month will be installed on the next teacher work day in October.

Committee Reports

Deborah Sulsona will let the audit committee know when the audit is complete so we can set up a zoom meeting with Moss, Krusick & Associates. Audit committee members are Paige Campbell, Zelda Abram and Ana Kalman.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None.

Mike Brossart moved to adjourn the meeting was at 6:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sulsona

Chief Financial Officer