

**Minutes of Board Meeting
February 18, 2025
6 p.m.**

The meeting was held at the Lakeland Achievement Academy. Board members in attendance were Trish Buchanan, Adil Khan, Ana Kalman, Nick Sellars, Carly Reifenrath, Zelda Abram, Mike Brossart, Janice Jones and Steve Earley. Sheilitha Williams participated via phone. Staff members present included Kristin Aiken, Deborah Sulsona, and Kelly Lane.

Approval of Minutes

Trish Buchanan called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m. Adil Khan moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025 Board meeting. Mike Brossart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Financial Report

Paige Campbell presented the financial report for the seven months ending January 31, 2025. Cash and investments total \$2.2 million. Total assets are \$3.52 million with net assets of \$3.51 million. Total revenue was \$2.43 million and total expenses were also \$2.43 million resulting in a net income of \$4K. Our February FTE payment reflected the corrected FTE count in October.

Parents Report

The next Fish City Grill fundraiser will be on Tuesday, March 11. The Achievement Academy parents group receives 15% of the entire day's sales.

Mary is finishing up the yearbook. She is still looking for a sponsor for the yearbook like we had last year that allowed us to give all families one copy. A Winter Haven family offered to purchase yearbooks for all of the Winter Haven students.

Mary's daughter, Hannah Khem, is a community leader for Top Chef this year. Mary encouraged the board to attend Hannah's fundraiser, Bourbon Night at Cob & Pen.

Development Report

Kelly is learning the ropes of the Top Chef event so she can manage it next year. She has written RFP's for grants from the City of Lakeland, the City of Winter Haven and the City of Bartow. She currently has \$85K outstanding in requests.

After Top Chef is over Kelly's goal is to solidify the development plan with goals on getting new and current donors in for tours and to increase our visibility.

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Principal's Report

FTE survey week has passed and we were fully enrolled and counted with 157 students. Cindi has begun teacher observations and evaluations.

President's Report

The Birth to Three team first collaboration with the Down Syndrome support group that meets at Bonnet Springs was very well received. We had one family decide to enroll their child in the Birth to Three program following the session.

The part-time Early Interventionist, Odette, has put in her resignation in order to finish her PhD. We will reassess the retirement plans of EI Becky to know if we should hire a part-time or full-time Early Interventionist.

Top Chef is next week. We have concerns that the amount raised by Community leaders will not be at the same level as it has been in the last couple of years and how we will make that up. There are several events coming up this weekend. We would love your support at any of these.

Bourbon Night @ Cob & Pen on February 21, 5:30 – 8pm

Cornhole Tournament @ Adrenaline Body Works on February 22, 12 – 5pm

Family Fun Day @ Uliana Estate on February 23, 11am – 5pm

Our grant writer's efforts have secured one small award so far and a phone call with a foundation that allows invitational requests only. That foundation is education-oriented and has invited our charter school to submit a grant request.

We will be a part of Leadership Lakeland's Human Resources Day in April. Kristin spoke to Leadership Polk on their Bartow day.

The new a/c unit was installed yesterday in Lakeland's Building A by Alexander Air Conditioning. The City of Lakeland is preparing an area to install our own dumpster. A tree had to be removed. Rodda Construction will donate the concrete pad and enclosure.

Kristin is still in communication with Vogel Brothers about the drain system for the Building B playground. They are trying to work us into their schedule.

Committee Reports

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Congratulations to Janice Jones for winning the prestigious George W. Jenkins Citizen of the Year award from the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce.

Mike Brossart moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26pm. Janice Jones seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Sulsona
Chief Financial Officer