

YLA Board Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019

Board Members Present: Allen Sherwood, Becky Hooper, Lloyd Silva, Steve Duzan, Kerry Tucker, Cathy Moore, Stephanie Price, Lee Hammonds, Boyce Dunn, Matthew Littleton

Others Present: Sandee Blankenship, Principal; Patsy Smith, Director

Call to Order: The YLA board held its monthly meeting on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Youth Learning Institute Board Room #1. Steve Duzan, chair, called the meeting to order.

Public Report: NA

Previous Month Minutes Approved: Board members reviewed and approved minutes from November 11, 2019. Lloyd Silva made motion to accept, and Lee Hammonds seconded, with unanimous approval.

Financial Statement: Matthew Littleton made a motion to accept financial statements, Stephanie Price made motion to second, with unanimous approval. Director Patsy Smith reported that the collateral agreement with Pickens Savings and Loan is now in effect.

School Report: Principal Sandee Blankenship presented a school report:

The November Interest Meeting was successful, and as of this date, 72 applications have been submitted for the rising 6th grade next year. February 10, 2020, at 3:00 pm is the deadline for consideration. All Board members are encouraged to attend the January Interest Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, January 21, at 6:00 pm. The Winter Wishes campaign came up \$250 short of our goal; however, Principal Blankenship sent an email to all YLA families asking for donations. The check presentations will be on December 19.

The House Council members enjoyed a field trip to Chick Fil A Headquarters in Atlanta, GA, as well as the CFA College Football Hall of Fame.

Winter MAP testing showed positive growth across grade levels.

7th graders visited the Pickens County Courthouse, where Clerk of Court Pat Welborn explained jury duty, then allowed students to participate in a mock trial. 8th graders will soon tour the new Detention Center, where they will also hear about career opportunities in law enforcement.

The second round of teacher observations are complete, with the highest scores to date. Leigh Fine returned from maternity leave this week, and her long-term substitute, Julie James, has agreed to take the 6th grade math position that will be available next school year.

Three teacher cadets visited YLA from Pickens High School, two of whom are alumni, and all three requested to do their practicum assignments with us.

New business: In an agreement with the Youth Learning Institute, the Board voted unanimously to expend funds from the school checking account to pay for modular buildings. The ARC grant will reimburse funds for the two new double moduls, and YLI will credit the school for payments for the

remaining seven single modular classrooms. The motion to approve was made by Matthew Littleton and seconded by Stephanie Price.

Old business: Board members reviewed the resume of Jane Hodgkin as a candidate for the vacant STEM Board appointee. Following discussion, Lee Hammonds made the motion to appoint Ms. Hodgkin to the vacant Board position, and Becky Hooper seconded. The Board unanimously approved the appointment, which was brought forward by Kerry Tucker.

Questions, Comments, Concerns: Board members discussed the expansion of YLA staff and expressed their support of Principal Blankenship.

Executive Session: NA

Adjournment: Matthew Littleton made motion to adjourn. Stephanie Price seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patsy Smith

Filling in for Secretary Cathy Moore