

YLA Board Session: February 10, 2025
YLA Classroom C 4:00pm

Board Members Present:

- Nick McClellan
- Betsy Anthony
- Drew Nations
- David Orr
- Tasha Gilstrap
- Jason Lucas
- Amanda Murray
- Michael Sims
- Sydney Cox
- Brittany Kelley
- Shannon Ellenburg

Additional Present:

- Sandee Blankenship- Director of School Based Programs/Community Outreach
- Melissa Kennedy- Principal, YLA
- Bryan Lively- Principal, Summit Academy
- Nathan Swords- Special Projects

Call to Order: 4:00 pm by Board Chair Nick McClellan

Public Input: None

Review of Minutes

- January 2025 minutes were provided in Drive.
- Motion to approve from Michael Sims. Second by Jason Lucas.
- Unanimous approval.

Review of Financials

- Approval of January Financial statements
 - Motion to approve by Tasha Gilstrap. Second by David Orr.
 - Unanimous approval.

Old Business:

- 2025-2026 Calendar Second Read
 - Adjustment made to start school on Monday, August 4. Day made up with Job Shadow day in January.
 - Motion to approve calendar from Sydney Cox. Second by Shannon Ellenburg.
 - Unanimous approval.
- YLA Alumni Scholarship Update
 - Applications sent to former YLA students. Due Feb. 28, 2025
 - Scholl will send out reminder email/obtain new email addresses.
 - Target is for two \$1500 scholarships

- YLA Board is asking businesses and parents for sponsorship to support the scholarship. Email will come from school if needed. Sponsors are tax deductible and count towards parent points if needed.
 - Pledge amounts by April 1, 2025
 - Checks to school by May 1, 2025
- Scholarship interviews will be held in March 2025.
- 2025 Community Service Project Update
 - Wheelchair accessible swings- confirmation from Clemson community they will accept swing and maintain.
 - Final location TBD
 - YLA is purchasing the swing. Fundraising still on going. This will allow time for swing to be manufactured and shipped.
- Hot Pursuit 5k
 - Ongoing communication with Pickens County law enforcement to improve 5k and ensure maximizing the run's potential
 - Approx. 50 runner signed up, many more expected closer to the run date.

New Business

- YLA leadership is actively planning two site improvement projects
 - Revamp/pavement of the school's pick-up line
 - Repainting of the YLA school gym
 - ***Additional project is being evaluated to redo the flooring in the gym
 - All projects are very expensive, the YLA is looking for support/sponsorship from the community, parents, and/or businesses. Please contact Sandee Blankenship if willing to support. All support is welcome!

Principal's Report:

- Lottery tonight, the administrative team is extremely excited for the new perspective students
- The school is actively working the HS registration process
 - IGP Meeting
 - Each High School has its own approach for registration, suggest coordinating with YLA and High Schools to ensure registration
- Intent to return forms have been sent out to staff and students
- School purchased a Snow Cone machine to raise money

Questions, Comments, Concerns:

- None

Executive Session:

- Called into Session by Brittany Kelley. Second by Nick McClellan
- Called out of Session Sydney Cox. Second by Jason Lucas.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn Tasha Gilstrap. Second by Michael Sims.