

## YLA Board Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

**Board Members Present (highlighted):** Betsy Anthony, Nick McClellan, Chris Elrod, Matthew Kutilek, Rebecca Willis, David Orr, Sydney Cox, Brittany Kelley, Brittany Clark, Ryan Smith, Janel Crowder

**Others Present:** Sandee Blankenship, Principal, Melissa Kennedy, Assistant Principal; Nathan Swords, Special Projects Coordinator for YLA; Bryan Lively, Summit Academy Principal

**Call to Order:** The YLA Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in Mrs. Kutilek's classroom. Betsy Anthony called the meeting to order.

**Public Input:** N/A

**Previous Month Minutes Approved:** Orr made motion to approve. Elrod seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Statement:** McClellan made a motion to approve the December financials. Elrod seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business:

Blankenship reports, Vince is currently in training for his School Therapy Dog Certification. Once certified he will be able to come on campus. The trainer will be coming to do follow up trainings on campus. Vince will call the CrossFit room his home as all the kids come through the CrossFit room. He will also have a home in Blankenship's office to use as needed. Monthly costs associated with Vince will be a line item in the financial report.

### New Business:

School Districts of Pickens County 2024-2025 school calendar handed out for Board to review. Changes proposed for YLA's school calendar are as follows: first day of school will be 3 days before Pickens County School District which will be 7/29/24. This will allow YLA to accommodate the rope's course activity for all students at the beginning of the school year. In exchange, 12/19/24, 12/20/24 and 5/27/25, 5/23/25, originally half days on SDPC, will become days off. The Disney trip will be planned for 2/22-3/1/25. Job shadow day will be on 1/3/2025. The Board will vote on the proposed 2024-2025 YLA School Calendar at next month's meeting.

Planning for the Fentanyl Awareness Rally is in full swing. 40 people have signed up today. Sandee would like the Board to coordinate/contribute door prizes to attract alumni. The event is 2/19/24. McClellan offers to donate a family of 4 Greenville Drive package. Door prize ideas and donations can be emailed to Nathan Swords.

YLA lottery is coming up, 2/12. Interest meeting is tonight.

### Principal's Report:

Kennedy reports Spirit Week was a success! The students really enjoyed it.

Surveys were completed by the students for each teacher. They have been reviewed and were overall very good. Further discussion and review with individual teachers is ongoing. Orr asked

if these surveys affect annual teacher reviews. Sandee shared how they look for patterns in the reviews to help understand how the teachers may better serve their students.

**Director's Report:** see new business

**Questions, Comments, Concerns:** N/A

**Executive Session:** N/A

**Adjournment:** Cox made motion for the meeting to adjourn; Elrod seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by

*Rebecca Willis, Board Member*