

YLA Board Session: January 13, 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

- November 2024 minutes were provided in Drive.
- Motion to approve from Sydney Cox. Second by Tasha Gilstrap.

Review of Financials

- Approval of October, November, and December Financials
 - October motion by Shannon Ellenburg. Second by Jason Lucas.
 - November approval motion by Michael Sims. Second by Tasha Gilstrap.
 - December approval motion by Jason Lucas. Second by Shannon Ellenburg.

Old Business:

None today

New Business

- Ensured we were taking active minute notes.
- Sandee discussed the 3rd Party auditor. Auditor can be added to online financial account and can verify our account every month. Goal is to proactively keep us from any negative finding.
- Melissa covered descriptions of expenses.
 - Legal and Professional Services- Audit

- Rent/Contracts/Salaries
- Provided copy of 2025/2026 School Calendar
 - Vote on Calendar next month
- Questions, reach out to Mrs. Kennedy
- Medical Homebound #1- Student has medical issue requiring support.
- Medical Homebound Student #2- Student needing homebound services. Additional discussion held in executive session.
- YLA Scholarship- Want to show support to kids after they have left the school. Last year created the scholarship. Provided to a Senior in HS. Required paper applications plus interviews, YLA Staff and Board Members review and vote, presented at Awards Night. Student has to finish YLA to be eligible. Had 11 applicants last year, interviewed multiple. Only good for freshman year. Funding came from General Fund- By the Board. Donations for Scholarship is tax deductible. Requesting the board look for sponsors. Maybe looking at (2) student at \$1.5K each. The school will come up with a sponsorship form that the board can go find money.
 - YLA Board Members: Jason, Tasha, Drew and Shannon to help support and review applications.
 - Gilstrap Roofing will provide \$1,000 towards scholarship.
- Upcoming 5K Race with Pickens County Law Enforcement. Sandee wants to continue the 5K race after this year, very good outreach and very good connecting the community with both YLA and Law Enforcement, raises funds for student civil project in community, i.e. Handicapped Swings.
- Arc Grant- Combined YLA and Summit- \$250k, it's a matching grant. May see on the financials. Everything will run through the YLA checking account, but checks will go to Summit. Cannot have two checking accounts on the grants.

Principal's Report:

- Provided in email Dec. 2024
- Kids raised \$3k on Winter Wishes- Presidents went shopping for local communities.
- Cybersecurity incident with PowerSchool- PowerSchool to provide more information to families.
- Lottery Feb. 10th- parents do not have to be present.
- Interest meeting was cancelled tonight. Rescheduled for 1/28
- Shout Out to YLA Staff. Staff came in with torches, blowers, etc. to get the campus safe today due to the winter weather.

Questions, Comments, Concerns:

- None

Executive Session: Called into Session / Called out of Session

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Jason Lucas. Second by Brittany Kelley

**Minutes Submitted by Drew Nations
YLA Board Secretary**

