

**YLA Board Meeting**  
**05/12/2025**

**Board Member Present:**

Betsy Anthony  
Drew Nations  
David Orr  
Tasha Gilstrap  
Jason Lucas  
Sydney Cox  
Amanda Murray  
Brittany Kelley

**Additional Attendees:**

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

**Call to Order:** 4:00 pm by Vice Chair- Betsy Anthony

**Public Input:** None

**Review of Minutes:**

- March 2025 Minutes provided in Drive for review and comment.
- Meeting minutes were discussed, previous month's minutes were also approved due to lack of numbers for a vote last month.
- March Meeting Minutes- Motion by Tasha Gilstrap, Second by Jason Lucas
- April Meeting Minutes- Motion by Sydney Cox, Second by Jason Lucas

**Financials:**

- Discussed financial showing Field Trip fund
- Discussed financial showing the Grant to Summit Academy and it flow through YLA
- March Financials- Motion by David Orr, Second by Amanda Murray
- April Financials- Motion by Tasha Gilstrap, Second by Jason Lucas

**Old Business:**

- The YLA Board Scholarship with \$3,200 pledged:
  - Scholarship of \$1,500 each provided to two students
  - Additional \$200 setup in the YLA budget as a line item for next year
  - Board plans to document timeline of scholarship events for next years team

**New Business:**

- Comprehensive Need Assessment used to prioritize the needs for a school district
- Discussed the recent YLA Test Scores
- Discussion around the need to refocus the FY25-26 YLA staff to better instill the YLA culture

- Answered questions around YLA test scores and how to read the figures/graphs
- SC State Funding for Charter Schools
  - Email Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> of May, went out to YLA parent urging them to reach out to their State Representative and Congressmen
  - Virtual schools going from .65 to .35 funding application
  - Fear is that the next step would be the State doing the same to brick/mortar Charter facilities
  - Trust- State schools per pupil is higher than Charter schools + the State and District schools receive additional funding streams, where Charters school come from one-line item
    - Comparison: Charter School get \$12,891 per student. State schools get \$19,376 per student
  - Right now, State Legislators are struggling to understand how Charter schools are actually funded and the disparity, this is just a lack of knowledge.
  - This is will be big push for the YLA administration, to stay on top of funding and help educate State Legislators

**Principal Report:**

- Wrapping up the school year
- End of Year celebration
- Staffing Changes in FY2025/2026
  - Coy Atkins- Leaving
  - Tonya Wilson- Leaving
  - Kevin Loudermilk- Moving to Administration
  - Working on Temp Backfill for PE

**Questions, Comments, Concerns:**

- None

**Executive Session:** Yes

**Adjournment:**

- Motion to Adjourn by Tasha Gilstrap, Second by Brittany Kelley

**Minutes Submitted by Drew Nations**

**YLA Board Secretary**