

YLA Board Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2017

Board Members Present: Howard Brown, Roslyn Holcombe, Mark Mogge, Stacy Powell, Stephanie Price and Henry Wilson.

Board Members Excused: Michael Hendrix, Brian James, Matthew Littleton and Lloyd Silva.

Others Present: Sandee Blankenship, YLA Principal, Patsy Smith, YLA Director.

Call To Order: The YLA Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Youth Learning Institute Board Room #1. The meeting was called to order by Treasurer, Stephanie Price.

Public Input: None

Previous Month Minutes Approval: Henry Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2017 Board Meeting as presented. Mark Mogge seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Statement: Patsy Smith presented the Financial Statements for August 2017. Ms. Smith reported that there was nothing on the financial report that required explanation. Howard Brown made a motion to accept the report as information. Tiffany Stewart seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

School Report: Sandee Blankenship, Principal, reported that all students were issued a Chromebook to be used for classroom assignments as well as homework. Teachers attended a summit this summer and a parent training class was held in preparation of the use and monitoring of Chromebooks. Everything seems to be going well. A parent has volunteered to host a Chess Club for students and Coach Swords has offered to be the teacher representative for the club. The Drama Club held its first meeting and will be working on a play production. Ben Hyder has volunteered to host a running club for participants to train for the 5K planned for the Azalea Festival in the spring. The first Volunteer Training session will be held tonight as well as the first PTO meeting. Kindness is being emphasized, with a Random Act of Kindness Box being placed so that students can place notes of random acts of kindness in. A drawing will be held every other week, with the winner being treated to lunch and the submitter receiving a Spots Card. The 8th grade will be taking a trip to Dollywood as a field trip with activities regarding velocity, speed, gravity, etc. Dollywood will send an activities packet prior to the field trip with details of activities. Ryan Smith, of the Pickens YMCA, has offered for YLA students and parents to be involved in the YMCA Mentor Upstate program. Students can also contact the YMCA about completing their Community Service hours. Also, a field trip will be planned to the Pickens YMCA for students to learn about health and water safety. Open House is planned for November 6, 2017. On October 16 the Pickens County Sheriff's Office will be providing active shooter training, ALICE, to the staff during the Teacher In-Service Day. This training

may also be offered to students during Open House, with parent approval. One new teacher will be attending the Ron Clark Academy with the Tall Pines staff. The rest of the staff will be attending various other trainings specifically for their teaching area.

New Business: None

Old Business: Patsy Smith reported that the amendment in the charter to double the YLA student body size for next school year has been put on hold for now due to lack of facility space. Negotiations continue with the School District.

Questions, Comments, Concerns: Sandee Blankenship reported that Lori Gwinn facilitates an invitational program for accelerated high school students, in which students can complete college credit courses. Almost half of this year's participants were former YLA students. Also a large portion of the students participating in classes at the Career Center were former YLA students.

Executive Session, if necessary: Not necessary.

Adjournment: Henry Wilson made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Mark Mogge seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roslyn Holcombe

Roslyn Holcombe
Recording Secretary