

Academy of Moore County Board of Directors Meeting August 16, 2023

Board Members Present: Janet Lowry, Chair; Thomas Beddow, Vice Chair; Michael Holden, Treasurer; Natalie Wetzelberger (zoom), Dale Buie. **Absent:** Adrienne Collins; Dave Kaylor **Others Present:** Crystal Bonville, Daniel Romero, Sarah Lehberger, Sue Ellen Runyan.

Chair Lowry called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. A quorum was present. A moment of silence was followed by Mr. Beddow's leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Buie introduced Jennifer Beadell, a Family Military Life Counselor (FMLC), who will work with our military children on campus two days a week if the family so elects.

Mrs. Lowry introduced Daniel Romero and Sarah Lehberger, TAMC parents, and then nominated them as parent representatives to the Board, Mr. Beddow seconded their nomination. He introduced and nominated Lou Ellen Runyan to the board, Mrs. Lowry seconded. These three board nominees will be voted on at the September meeting.

Secretary: Mr. Holden made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting July 17; seconded by Mr. Schoen, approved.

Treasurer: Mr. Holden reviewed July financials.

Director of Education: Dr. Buie reported that current enrollment is 483. Students may enroll through the 20th day, August 21. The school's open house brought a good turn-out. After school activities have begun with Gymnastics for K-2 and 3-5, offered by the PE teacher; Lego Club, First Tee Golf; Girl Scouts; Battle of the Books.

Dr. Buie reported on a three-way conversation with Trent Carpenter of First Citizens Bank and Alexis of Acadia regarding our purchasing insurance against bank fraud at a cost of \$135/month. Mr. Beddow made a motion to purchase this fraud protection, Mr. Schoen seconded, approved. Dr. Buie will talk with Alexis about their purchasing this protection. Perhaps the bank should provide it. Mr. Schoen will check with them.

Mr. Beddow asked when the test results should be back. Dr Buie replied that it would likely be in September and that it looks as if the school's score is 83 (high B). The calculation is complicated. "A" is 85 or better.

Old Business:

Safety Committee: Mr. Beddow reported that the bi-annual walk through indicates TAMC is secure with the exception of full camera coverage in a few areas upon which we are working.

Renovation report: Mr. Schoen stated that John Heckethorn should have bids for renovation of the first building within a few days.

K-2 Playground: Mr. Schoen has checked about providing shade for the new playground. The cost for this playground structure is high because the school needs a non-standard size to shade the playground. Mr. Schoen watched the installation of a similar structure at STARS. He will continue to work to determine where a structure would be most effective and its dimensions. This will not be provided this summer, but is needed primarily during July and August next year.

Land: Mr. Schoen said Mr. Lee is not interested in selling the school more land. Mr. Schoen suggested that the school should get a topographical survey of the land we current own to determine its suitability for a middle school. He will check on the cost of such a survey.

After School Activities: Mr. Beddow said Mike Dubbs has returned to full time employment. At this time, he is unsure about his availability to offer chess or photography after school.

New Business:

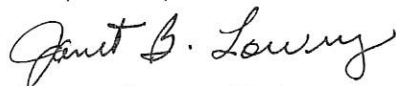
Grounds Committee: Mr. Schoen will chair this group and do much of its work, but he would like an identified committee. He spoke of how important the school's curb appeal is. The grounds must look good. He recommends asking parents to help with an October grounds clean up. Mr. Beddow reminded the board that the "Garden of Weeds" needs attention. Mr. Schoen is mowing regularly. The grounds need fertilizing.

Teacher Maternity Leave: Dr. Buie distributed a news article from WUNC 91.5 about parental leave. Mrs Lowry will send the board information from Allison Schaefer, attorney for the State Board of Education.

Mr. Beddow noted that if TAMC gets the tax relief we applied for, it would be 1.2 million dollars minus a fee of \$181,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 following Mr. Holden's motion, seconded by Mr. Schoen and approved. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet B. Lowry, Chairman