

## Academy of Moore County Board of Directors Meeting June 21, 2023

**Board Members Present:** Janet Lowry, Chair; Thomas Beddow; Dave Kaylor; Bill Scholtes (phone); Dale Buie. **Absent:** Adrienne Collins, Michael Holden, Natalie Wetzelberger.

Chair Lowry called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. A quorum was present. Mr. Beddow led the pledge of allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence.

**Secretary:** Mr. Kaylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting May 17; seconded by Mr. Beddow, approved.

In the treasurer's absence, we did not review May's financial statements. Mr. Schoen had examined them before the meeting and predicts that this year will see about \$200,000 gain after expenses are met.

**Director of Education:** Dr. Buie reported that next year's enrollment is 495 at this time with another three students who may come. Students may enroll through the 20<sup>th</sup> day. There will be four classes in each grade K-4 and 3 in grade 5 with enrollments of 82-96 children in each grade. Teachers return July 17<sup>th</sup>, and the first day of school is July 24<sup>th</sup>. Training for all staff with Requirements of PL 94-142 and Section 504 will be conducted July 19 beginning at 8:30. Board members are invited to participate.

Mr. Beddow made a motion to hire new personnel: teachers Erin Kirk for 1<sup>st</sup> grade and Katherine Campbell for 5<sup>th</sup>; Jennifer Locke for STEM; teacher assistant Jennifer Taylor replacing Mrs. Locke; and finance, Suzanne Johnson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Schoen and unanimously approved. Staff leaving TAMC include Mr. Bursey, counselor; Mrs. Fifer, bookkeeper; Mrs. Peal 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and Mrs. Whitley, part time EC.

Following a motion from Mr. Beddow, seconded by Mr. Scholtes, the Board approved Dr. Buie's signing the Statement of Assurances from DPI.

After two weeks of intense remedial instruction, 18 of 22 children passed their End of Grade tests. The state scores 77-78% as a B with 85.% as A. The summer retest should bring TAMC close to A. Mr. Beddow asked if we use any Pierson text books that might be controversial. The school uses their math texts.

### Old Business:

**K-2 Playground:** The playground is being installed today. It should be finished before school begins.

**HVAC:** Mr. Schoen stated that three of the oldest HVAC's have been replaced in the upper building. The one in the gym should be easily maintained for a longer time.

**Safety:** Mr. Beddow reported that Mrs. Bonville has updated the 97-page safety manual. He will request that she provide an executive summary of this document to the board. Mrs. Lowry commented that Ken Byrd had written a comprehensive document.

**Election of Board Member:** Mr. Kaylor, who is completing a one-year term, was nominated last month. He was unanimously elected to begin a new term in July. Mr. Scholtes, who is leaving the board, expressed his appreciation to the board for everyone's commitment to this task. He thanked the past three chairmen and Mr. and Mrs. Schoen for their leadership. Mrs. Lowry said that Mr. Scholtes he had been a great asset to the board and invited him to return in the future.

**New Business:**

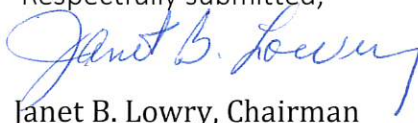
**After School Activities:** Dr. Buie said that most clubs meet once a month for up to 90 minutes after school. Clubs and activities available include: Lego, Soccer, Art, Tennis, First Tee, Girl Scouts, Battle of the Books, and the Military Club. Mr. Beddow indicated that the Rev. Mike Dubbs who taught photography and chess after school in the past might be willing to do so again. Both of those activities were especially popular with the children. Rev. Dubbs might also be willing to teach the Bible as literature, which he did last year in Montgomery County Schools. Mr. Beddow will speak with him about doing so.

Mr. Beddow suggested that now that our K-2 playground project is a reality, paid for by the PTO and the school with cash, we should firm up plans for future capital expenditures. They include renovation of the older building and expanding the gym. Mr. Heckethorn has done most of the design work for such an expansion. Mr. Beddow made a motion to proceed to bid-able documents for the renovation, Mr. Schoen seconded, approved. The board should seriously consider adding both a middle school and pre-K program which might be located close to the school on a separate piece of land. Timing of these projects is subject to market conditions, continued population growth near the school, availability of land. Our plans should be solid when opportunity comes.

Mrs. Lowry stated that Habitat for Humanity has purchased over 100 acres of land close to the school that might provide a good site for a middle school or pre-K program. She will ask that Mr. Beddow be invited to the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting with Habitat about potential development of that land.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45. The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Wednesday July 19 at 1:00.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janet B. Lowry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet B. Lowry, Chairman