

# ATHENIAN eACADEMY

## Board Minutes

### Tuesday September 15, 2020

**1. Welcome,** Ron Bateman welcomed Board members, school staff, and community to the Board Meeting.

**2. Announcement** Ron thanked the State Charter School Board for challenging Athenian to correct errors from the past and continuing to hold us to the fire until we had met the requirements. That challenge caused the school to look hard at changes that needed to be made. Ron also thanked the Board, the Superintendent, staff, students, parents, the two charter associations – Utah Charter Network and Utah Association of Public Charter Schools, Catapult learning for their dedication to making the changes swiftly with an eye single to supporting student learning. Ron pointed out that the school recognizes its partnership with the State Charter School Board and reemphasized our commitment to abide by the terms of the Charter. Jared Ferguson echoed Ron’s gratitude for Athenian stakeholders rallying behind this challenge.

**3. Call to Order** The meeting of the Board of Athenian e Academy was called to order at 4:05 PM.

#### **4. Roll Call**

Present: Ron Bateman, Carol Andersen, Karen Ellingson, Don Guyman, Arriving late  
Parker Fawson and Jennifer Remy.

#### **Quorum Present**

**5. Public Comment, if any (Comments limited to 3 minutes)** no public comment

#### **6. Approval of August 18, 2020 Board Minutes.**

One correction was noted by Carol Andersen,

A motion to approve the minutes with the noted change was made.

First: Carol Andersen

Second: Don Guymon

Motion Unanimously carried

#### **7. Treasurer’s Report / Financial Statements / Audit Status**

The business office has completed our external audit with Eide Bailey virtually.

Currently, Jared, and staff have been and are continuing to apply and complete funding from Utah Grants and uploading plans and budgets for our state and federal revenue. Athenian's Transparency Annual Certification, UPEFS Certification, and Transparency Payroll Data will be submitted by the business office to the USBE this month.

Days Cash on Hand: 90

Unrestricted cash as of August 31, 2020 is \$1,127,138, representing 90 days expenditures based upon the total annual expenditure budget of \$4,559,717, divided by 365 days.

Total liabilities and fund balance total \$1,187,680. We have a SpEd carryforward of \$13,783 that will be applied to this year’s revenue.

Income Statement: Net Income is \$ 293,356.

As of 8/31/20, 16.67% of the fiscal year has expired.

Line 021: Revenue is expected. We received our Land Trust Grant in our July Allotment.

Line 137 is high due to start-up expenses. This is to be expected.

Line 178 is high due to start-up expenses with curriculum. This is to be expected.

The percentages of budget used YTD is as it should be, with expenses trending as expected for the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Since July 1st, we have expensed \$525,802 of our budget of \$4,559,717 which is 11.53% of our annual budget YTD.

A motion to approve the Financial/Treasurers report was made.

First: Karen Ellingson

Second: Carol Andersen

Motion Carries Unanimously

### **Unfinished Business -**

#### **8. State Charter School Board**

Jared Ferguson reported on the State Charter School Board Meeting held on Sept. 10, 2020. AeA was removed from probation. All Board governance issues had been resolved and Academic probation items were resolved. AeA was invited to return to SCSB next year to show our continuing response to student learning issues.

#### **9. School Academic Items**

Jared Ferguson reported that there were no new issues related to Covid 19 this month. Teachers and staff are doing a really great job at keeping campuses clean and sanitized. Teachers and students are wearing masks and facial coverings.

He reported that Catapult training dates have been identified. The first will be virtual, but we have a grant to cover trainings face to face. We are hopeful that the COVID situation will allow this. Training dates are October 16, January 8, June 1. The February/March meeting date has not yet been set. Board members are invited to attend these trainings.

The campus overview of the month is Ephraim Campus, and the report was given by Pamela Larmouth. Her report shows a high level of special need students and a high turnover rate. She reviewed academic progress, what a day looks like at the school, and how teachers and students interact.

The Grade Advancement Policy - Pamela suggested a grade advancement policy be considered by the Board for early start kindergarten. Policy considerations would include - Is a student ready, has a sibling already enrolled, turns 5 years old within 90 days of the date school starts, measures as kindergarten ready on Acadiance, is there room in the kindergarten class for the student, etc.?

The Board questioned Social Emotional readiness as well as Academic Assessments for early enrollment. Does the state have any requirements regarding early kindergarten enrollment? Cheryl Mietchen, Special Ed director shared that she has instruments for Social Emotional readiness for school. Nebo School district has a policy requiring one year of preschool for students enrolling early.

### **New Business -**

Staff changes: Tracy Hendrickson has left her position of Principal at Tremonton. Jared posted the position, put together a team of interviewers representative of stakeholders in the organization, created a rubric for evaluation, interviewed some candidates. Katie Atkins, a long-term teacher asked to be considered for the position. Upon reviewing all candidates, Jared requested the Board approve Katie Atkins for the position of principal.

Ron requested a motion to approve Katie Atkins as principal of Tremonton with compensation to stay within the budget.

First: Parker Fawson

Second: Don Guymon

Motion Carries Unanimously

Tracy Hendrickson will stay and teach necessary courses that are required. This will keep us under budget.

Ron requested a motion to hire Tracy Hendrickson to teach four essential classes on contract.

First: Don Guymon

Second: Karen Ellingson

Motion Carries Unanimously

Zach Hancock contract needs to be updated. Zach helps with Special Education and teaches 8 classes and follows students when they leave the school.

Ron requested a motion to approve Zach Hancock's contract.

First: Don Guymon

Second: Parker Fawson

Motion Carries Unanimously

Stevens Henagar furniture donation: 8 tables with popup outlets, a few round tables, office chairs for staffers and guests. The Board and staff expressed a big thank you to the Stevens Henagar for their kind donations.

Computer Chrome Book delays: H-Wire, a state approved consultant, advised that we would not receive the Chrome Books until June 2021. The staff computers are delayed 45 days, with increased prices.

Nephi playground equipment: The school was able to purchase the equipment they wanted for \$15,000. It is installed and being enjoyed by students.

#### Simplification of curriculum:

IREADY is a strong assessment tool for student diagnosis and has an instructional component. Students have taken the IREADY math diagnostics and teachers are using the instructional piece. AeA received a grant to purchase the 325 math seats.

IREADY also has a reading piece, which we can purchase. A license for 325 seats can be obtained for a reasonable price. However, a Site License for both math and reading, for all students, (not just the 325 seats) would cost \$10,170. No students have used NWEA this year. We have requested a refund from NWEA. We are short \$5,170 to purchase site license for IREADY. Staff is requesting the Board approve the additional budget expense of \$5,170 to receive the site license. Special Education agrees and will use IREADY. Blended Ed prefers IREADY over NWEA. The budget can accommodate this change.

Ron requested a motion to approve the IREADY site license for all students, for math and reading, and the added budget expense of \$5,170

First Carol Andersen

Second Jennifer Remy

Motion Carries Unanimously

Ron asked to go into closed session. An individualized roll call was taken as follows:

Ron Bateman     yes  
Carol Andersen   yes  
Karen Ellingson   yes  
Jennifer Remy     yes  
Parker Fawson     yes  
Don Guymon       yes

Session ends 5:27pm

Return from Executive Session at 6:03 PM

A motion was made to retain the law firm of Jackson Lewis as general legal counsel.

First Carol Andersen  
Second: Don Guymon  
Motion Carries Unanimously

Motion to Close the Board Meeting

First: Jennifer Remy  
Second: Don Guymon

Meeting Adjourned 6:07 PM

**The next Regular meeting scheduled will be Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Andersen  
Board Secretary