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Athenian eAcademy Charter School

Board Minutes

November 17, 2020 4:00

WELCOME: Ron Bateman welcomed members, staff, and guests to the Board meeting at 4:00 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Jared is excused for health reasons and we hope he feel better soon.

ROLL CALL: Present: Ron Bateman, Carol Andersen, Karen Ellingson, Don Guymon, Parker Fawson

Not Present: Jennifer Remy

Quorum present

Others attending: Rebecca Strait, Mande Thompson, Aegis, Joel Wright, Kaylee Farr, Heather Clinton, Natalie Smith, Margo Walker, and a representative from UAPCS.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There is no public comment.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17 BOARD MINUTES: No changes or comments were made.

A motion to approve was put forth by Carol Andersen.

Second: Parker Fawson

Motion carries

Financial Report: Rebecca Strait, Reporting

During October, the auditor on-site fall enrollment count was completed, as part of our annual audit. The auditors will be sending us our FY20 financial statements which I will upload to the state's Auditor website, along with 2 other new reports that are being requested for upload. (Independence Documentation and Schedule of Adjusting Entries.) All quarterly payroll taxes and transparency reporting was completed for the 3rd quarter. The business office and other admin staff are continuing to apply and submit plans and documentation for various state and federal revenue funding. Budget revisions and adjustments will begin next month.

Notes

Balance Sheet:

Days Cash on Hand: 89

Unrestricted cash as of October 31st, 2020 is \$1,115,755, representing 89 days expenditures based upon the total annual expenditure budget of \$4,559,717, divided by 365 days.



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Total operating cash is \$1,115,755. Total liabilities are \$184,738. Total liabilities and fund balance total \$1,169,255, with a SpEd Add-On carryover of \$13,783.

Income Statement:

Net Income is \$ 194,133

As of 10/31/20, 33.33% of the fiscal year has expired.

Line 021: Revenue is expected. Draws will be made on several funding streams this month, including TSSA, K-12 Coronavirus Relief Grant, K-12 PPE Grant and the School Turnaround and Leadership Development Act Grant.

Line 137 is high due to startup expenses. This is to be expected.

Line 175 is high due to startup expenses regarding printing services for curriculum. This is to be expected for the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Line 196 is high due to startup expenses and COVID supplies. This is to be expected.

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

Through October, we expensed \$1,384,657 of our budget of \$4,559,717, which is 30.37% of our annual budget YTD, with 33.33% of the fiscal year expired.

Mandee Thompson of Aegis Corporation gave a review of the finances in the first quarter of the school year. She validated that all funds are properly allocated. Her job is to review the reports looking for unusual trends. Aegis holds monthly training meetings which Rebecca attends. While there were a few findings which will be corrected, they were not material.

Margo Walker presented the Purchasing report. She announced that the new teacher computers were in and that the Chrome books which had not been anticipated until June of 2021 were in fact being made available now. She also commented on a company in Linden that takes salvage computers, determines the extended life, sells what they can and disposes correctly of the others. They also give AeA 60% of earnings from the sales of the computers!

SCHOOL BUILDINGS PURCHASE: Joel Wright was asked to present the status of the building purchase. He presented a brief history of the buildings which are in question. His comments follow: When AeA was looking for space, there was only one bid to offer us with buildings. There were no competitive bids, due to the nature of the school (small, rural population in six locations.). The bidder was able to get EB5 financing, which meant the school's ability to buy the buildings was put off. All charter schools enter contracts that are Net Net Net (NNN) which means the schools are responsible for the maintenance. Buildings come with a two year warrantee from the builder typically. But that time has passed. The school qualifies for a USDA loan because it serves communities with populations with less than 28 000 people. The interest on a USDA loan is around 3%. These loans are subsidized by the US taxpayer.



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The savings to the school would amount to about annually with no property tax, fixed payment with low interest. In addition the school would build up equity in the buildings. The owner is ready to sell, and there is a buyer, who would become our new landlord.

Going forward, the first move is to have an appraisal of the buildings done, establish a purchase price, apply for the USDA loan, then in about 4 months we would close on the building.

Ron commented that it is prudent for us to move forward on the purchase, to realize cost savings, and to not have to contend with an additional landlord. We need the appraisal and inspection. Carol commented that back in September 2019, the Board as it existed then, voted to approve moving forward with the appraisal.

ACADEMICS: Heather Clinton reported on the Catapult Training that took place in person this month. She said it was well received by all who attended. There are tentative dates for February of 2021 for a follow up meeting. She also gave a report on the literacy testing measures that are used for the school.

Natalie Smith reported on COVID 19. The decision to reopen after Thanksgiving was due to the areas where the school is operating, and the low incidence of COVID in those areas. They are continuing to monitor this situation. If there is a decision to do a soft opening after Winter Break, that will need Board approval which we will discuss at the December 15 Board meeting.

Heather Clinton gave a campus report on the Nephi School. There are 31 students total. There may be outreach in Mona and Eurika. There are three divisions. K3 class is taught by Jana Boyd, the 4-8 class is taught by Cindy Roberts, and the High School has 4 students who study on campus and 4 students who study at home with close supervision of the High School teachers.

Students with needs: in K-8 there are 17% with SPED, 4% with ELA and 17% with RTI. In the High School there are 29% SPED. Attendance problems seem to be issues between students and parents. The school is incentivizing attendance to draw students to the school. Most parents are extremely supportive. The new curriculum seems to be having a positive effect on the students.

There are monthly field trips and Friday EPIC days. The school engages in community service projects.

GOVERNANCE: There were two job descriptions brought before the Board for approval. The Education Specialist for the Blended education program and the Principal Job description. These job descriptions came before the Board last month. The Board had no additional comments to make. A proposal to accept these job descriptions was made.

First: Carol Andersen
Second: Karen Ellingson
Motion Passes



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One Policy was brought before the Board: Hiring Standards and Practices: Background Checks. Natalie presented this Policy which requires all employees and volunteers, including Board members, who may come in contact with students must have a background check. After time for a discussion, Ron called for a motion to approve this Policy.

First: Parker Fawson
Second: Carol Andersen
Motion Carries.

At 5:11 pm a roll call vote was taken to enter Executive Session. All present, by name voted to enter executive session.

Return to Open session 5:37 pm

Ron presented the Board with Parker Fawson's resignation from the Board. We will miss his wealth of information that he presented. Ron asked that a motion be made to accept Parker's resignation.

First: Carol Andersen
Second: Don Guymon
Motion carries.

Ron then presented the move to close the Board meeting.

First: Don Guymon
Second: Carol Andersen
Motion carries

Meeting closes at 5:40 pm.

Next regular meeting scheduled will be on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 4pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Andersen

Secretary

Athenian eAcademy Board of Trustees