

YLA Board Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2021

Board Members Present (highlighted): Allen Sherwood, Steve Duzan, Cathy Moore, Becky Hooper, Stephanie Price, Jane Hodgkin, Joe Burgett, Trent Frazor, Susan Chapman, Nick McClellan, Jessica Burnett

Others Present: Sandee Blankenship, Principal; Patsy Smith, Director

Call to Order: The YLA board held its monthly meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. Allen Sherwood (vice chair) called the meeting to order.

Public Report: NA

Previous Month Minutes Approved: Nick McClellan made motion to approve the minutes from January 11, 2021. Trent Frazor seconded; the Board approved previous meeting minutes unanimously. Chair Steve Duzan was able to attend, and Allen Sherwood turned the meeting over to him.

Financial Statement: Allen Sherwood made motion to approve financial statements from December 2020 & January 2021; Jane Hodgkin seconded; Board approved unanimously.

New business:

- Updated School Calendar: Pickens County has approved their calendar. Principal Blankenship will start YLA on August 3, 2021, the same date as Pickens County. She is still finalizing YLA's calendar and will have that for approval soon.
 - Principal Blankenship is working to arrange some field trips for students toward the end of the year, keeping them in their class groups. This will aid students in understanding school expectations and prepare them for next year with the norms of YLA they have not been able to experience this year.
- New Staff:
 - Lauren Hodge – teaching 7th grade math and science next year
 - Shasta Looper – 7th grade ELA and Social Studies
 - Tonya Wilson – Related Arts
 - Kevin Loudermilk – PE Teacher
 - Nathan Swords (new position) – Special Projects Coordinator (.5) and Technology Assistant to Joel Chavous (.5)

Old Business: Lottery protocol: We will be streaming on Zoom and Google meet; sent out numbers this morning and have both links publicly posted with the time on YLA website; Jane Hodgkin will pull the numbers and Principal Blankenship will post the numbers on the board; 118 applications with 32 being preferential. Chair Steve Duzan asked if there were any concerns. Principal Blankenship responded that technology is the only concern. She notified the Board

that we are recording on both Zoom and Google Meet, and we have a MiFi box prepared to pick up internet service if the internet goes out.

School Report: Principal Sandee Blankenship presented a school report:

No new information to report. No questions were raised.

Questions, Comments, Concerns: Question raised by Nick McClellan – regarding an early start date for 2021-2022, how can he and his church help teachers transition because they are losing part of their typical summer? Principal Blankenship responded that the teachers love coffee and Chick-fil-A, and that the YLA teachers are resilient and have high morale; she has consistently reminded teachers that this year we are focusing on culture.

Executive Session: Not necessary

Adjournment: Cathy Moore made motion to adjourn. Jane Hodgkin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by

Catherine R. Moore, Secretary