

## YLA Board Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2019

**Board Members Present:** Mark Mogge, Allen Sherwood, Becky Hooper, Allison Osteen, Lloyd Silva, Matthew Littleton, Steve Duzan, Tim Fuller, Stephanie Price, Cathy Moore (maternity leave)

**Others Present:** Sandee Blankenship, Principal and Patsy Smith, Director

**Call to Order:** The YLA board held its monthly meeting on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in the Youth Learning Institute Board Room #1. Mark Mogge called the meeting to order.

**Public Report:** None

**Previous Month Minutes Approved:** Matthew Littleton made a motion to accept the minutes from the November meeting as presented. Allen Sherwood seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Statement:** The Financial Statements for November/December were presented. Patsy Smith indicated that the records reflect that YLA did not have a Clemson invoice due to the holidays and one will come out next month. This leaves a balance that is larger than normal. Allison Osteen made a motion to accept the reports as information. Allen Sherwood seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**School Report:** Sandee Blankenship presented a school report.

The school had their first inclement weather make up day. Teachers must give 5 days to complete the work either through Khan Academy or USA Test Prep – which are linked to students' individual MAP scores. The school has determined that the use of these programs that are aligned with standards or student MAP scores will best assist students in a virtual learning experience so that it will not be necessary to make up the days at the end of the school year. Parents and students were notified that a 3 hour virtual day was a YLA expectation. Students were expected to log physical activities and service to others in their journals, along with the completion of online assignments. These will not be graded, but will count against the student as an absence only if they choose not to do the work. The new procedures were presented at the last Coffee with the Principal with parents overwhelmingly supportive.

"Winter Wishes" check presentations were held. \$250 checks were presented to various charitable organizations selected by the students.

Ms. Smith conducted a very successful Writer's Workshop for students.

MAP testing is complete and Mrs. Blankenship reports great gains across the board. She gave a brief overview of the growth model.

Will Littleton, former YLA student and current 9<sup>th</sup> grader, came back to visit YLA and talked to students about the transition from YLA to high school. His remarks were encouraging and well received by the students.

The School Report Card, issued by the State Department of Education, has YLA ranked as an "Excellent" school. The school's EVAAS score (which measures student growth over time) is a 5 – the highest level

one can achieve. In addition, according to the District School Performance Index, YLA ranks as the highest achieving school within the district.

The school held an interest meeting for prospective students and parents where school scores were shared. At present, the school has received 95 new applications with 24 legacies. There are still legacies that are expected to apply prior to next month's lottery.

There will be a drama performance tonight and the Jr. Beta Club leaves Wednesday to attend the state convention in Myrtle Beach. They will compete in the song competition to the theme of High School Musical. Students are very excited and serious about the competition. It will be live streamed on Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

**New Business:** The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) proposal got through the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the grant proposal. Additional information must be turned in by January 28<sup>th</sup> for the purchase of new classrooms. We will know something regarding the funding by the end of March. The proposal is now on its way to Washington DC. Patsy stated that the school could not afford to increase the size of the school without this funding. The Youth Learning Institute is currently looking for buildings that we can afford to move onto the property.

**Old Business:** SIC still needs 1 parent representative. Jessica Max has agreed to serve. One student, Patrick Carlton, brought forth his own nomination. The board agreed that Patrick should be allowed to be a member of the SIC. Mrs. Blankenship will appoint one additional parent.

**Questions, Comments, Concerns:** None

**Executive Session:** Not necessary

**Adjournment:** Matthew Littleton made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Tim Fuller seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for February 11 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Stephanie Price*

Treasurer