
Ascend Leadership Academy

May 2023

Wednesday, May 23, 2023

Location: In Person

Virtual Option Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88375328602?pwd=S1dwWmMvaldJSUhTUFlTFo4c2NUUT09>

Members Present: Jason Smith, Brandy Grindle, Melanie Jacobs, Rex Scott, Drew Goodson

Members Absent: Mike Iskandar

Non-Members Present: Justin Smith (Director), Cory Draughon (CSP), Damien Perez

Call to Order: Jason Smith called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

School Mission:

The mission of Ascend Leadership Academy is to develop successful student leaders by growing their self-efficacy, intellectual understanding, and social competence. ALA will accomplish this by applying innovative teaching methods, incorporating student cultural realities and cultivating student ownership in the learning community.

Agenda

Open Session

1. **Recitation of Mission by Justin Smith**
2. **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Consent Agenda

- [Approval of April 2023 Minutes](#)
- Approval of May 2023 Agenda

Motion made to approve April minutes and May agenda by B. Grindle, seconded by R. Scott. Unanimous approval.

3. **Public Comment: None**
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Public comment is a time for the community to provide feedback to the Board of Directors. For in-person meetings attendees must sign up at the start of the meeting in order to give public comment. Each community member is limited to 2 minutes of comment, with a total time allotted to public comment of 10 minutes. During remote meetings attendees may add their public comments to the chat feature which will be sent directly to the Board of Directors. Board members will then share the comments with the meeting attendees for up to 10 minutes.

Public comment is also a time for the Board of Directors to listen to the feedback of the community. Board members can not respond to public comments during the meeting. However, the Board recognizes that each stakeholder is a vital part of our community and will take comments into consideration when making decisions, planning, providing feedback to administration, and completing committee work.

4. Finance Report: Presented by C. Draughon

[Finance Report - April 2023](#)

Comments: If per student funding is increased any changes in salaries etc will be brought to the board for approval. Laptops/ipads will be provided by the students for the upcoming school year. There will be used items for purchase at a discount for those with financial need.

5. Administrative Report: Presented by Justin Smith


[School Administrative Report - May 2023](#)

6. Facility/Capital Improvements Bond Finance Funds Update

- a.  KBT Contract - ALA_Field.pdf Presented by Justin Smith
- b.  ALA Field Renovation Presented by D. Perez
- c.  ALA Athletic Field Renovation Presented by D. Perez

Comments: Concern for using non-athletic clubs funding for an athletic process. Idea is to look at this as a campus improvement that will benefit everyone. Recommendation for a role to drive the sponsorships/fundraising, and to push athletic teams to fundraise as the key benefactors of this project. Consider adding a scoreboard to the proposal. Concerns over funding being available for completion of the project. C. Draughon looking into funding requirements.

7. Charter Agreement Renewal with State Board of Education: Presented by Justin Smith

- a.  Ascend Leadership Academy Lee County Charter Agreement 2023.2030.pdf
- b.  Ascend Leadership Academy Request for Signatures.pdf

8. EOY Student Achievement Preliminary Data: Presented by Justin Smith

- a.  ALA EOY Student Achievement Report 2023

Closed Session (If Needed):

Purpose of Closed Session Discussion Item #3: 143-318.11. Closed sessions.(a) Permitted Purposes. - It is the policy of this State that closed sessions shall be held only when required to permit a public body to act in the public interest as permitted in this section. A public body may hold a closed session and exclude the public only when a closed session is required:

(6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee...

Motion made to go into Closed Session made by Jason Smith

Entered into closed session at 8:04 pm

1. New Employee Approvals

Motion made by R. Scott to approve the proposed new hires. Seconded by B. Grindle.
Unanimous approval.

2. Board Member Applications and interview requests

- a. Mr. Smith will provide printed resumes at the meeting
- b.  ALA Board Candidates 2023

Justin to ask for the screening questions from CSP so that the board can rank the candidates, and invite for interviews at our June meeting.

Motion to adjourn Closed session made by R. Scott, B. Grindle seconded.

Closed session ended at 8:24pm

Next meeting is June 28.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting made by B. Grindle, seconded by R. Scott.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25