
Ascend Leadership Academy

November 2022

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

Location: In Person

Virtual Option Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89806926746?pwd=dTZxR2dVdFZnZGRLbWY4bDZySnRPdz09>

Members Present: R. Scott, Jason Smith, B. Grindle

Members Present Virtually: D. Goodson

Members Absent: M. Iskandar

Non-Members Present: Justin Smith (Director), Cory Draughon (CSP), R. Sims, M. Jacobs

Call to Order: Jason Smith called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

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:** Motion made by R. Scott to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Jason Smith. Unanimous approval.

Consent Agenda

- [Approval of October Meeting Minutes](#)
 - Approval of November 2022 Agenda
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3. Motion made by Jason Smith to approve Melanie Jacobs as a new member of the board, seconded by B. Grindle. Unanimous approval.

4. Public Comment: No public comment was made.

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.

Brief discussion of drop-off, 8-12 first set of doors, 6-7 main entrance.

5. Administrative Report: Presented by Justin Smith

[School Administrative Report - November 2022](#)

6. Finance Report: Presented by C. Draughon

[Finance Report -October 2022](#)

7. ALA FY 2021 Audit Review: Presented by C. Draughon

- a.  **Ascend Leadership Academy 2022 Audit Report.pdf**
- b.  **Ascend Auditor Communication Letter (AUC 260).pdf**

8. Charter Renewal with Charter School Update: Discussion led by Justin Smith.

Justin attended the Charter Renewal meeting with Jason Smith and Rex Scott. We were recommended for a 7-yr renewal due to our academic achievements. Decision will be made official in early 2023.

9. **Real Estate Opportunity:** A house neighboring the school campus is for sale, and the owners contacted Administration offering first right to purchase. Discussion of ideas for use, will be addressed with the owners. Possible uses would be updating/repairing the house with carpentry classes, administration offices, additional parking, etc.

10. ALA Admissions and Enrollment Policy Review: Presented by Justin Smith

The board reviewed the policy and made no changes. Motion made by R. Scott to accept the revised policy, seconded by Jason Smith. Unanimous approval.

a.  **Ascend Board Minutes October 2022.pdf**

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...

Entered into Closed session at 7:54pm

1. [Horran Cameron Employee Approval](#)

Close session ended at 7:59pm

A motion was made by Jason Smith to approve the hiring of Horran Cameron, seconded by R. Scott. Unanimous approval.

The next meeting is January 25, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn by Jason Smith at 8:02 pm, seconded by R. Scott. Unanimous approval.