
Ascend Leadership Academy

April 2023

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Location: In Person

Virtual Option Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84899960413?pwd=Yms1ZFBS2xLOGkwaXA3UmxiNVA5QT09>

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

Members Absent: N/A

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

Call to Order: Jason Smith called the meeting to order at 6:29pm

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 March 2023 minutes](#)
- Approval of April 2023 Agenda

Motion made to approve the March 2023 minutes and the April 2023 agenda made by Jason Smith, seconded by B. Grindle

3. Public Comment: None

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: C. Draughon discussed the updated financial position of the school based on the March financial report.

[Finance Report - March 2023](#)

5. Administrative Report: Presented by Justin Smith: J. Smith presented the administrative report for the month April including highlights of the schools operations, culture, and academic progress.

[School Administrative Report - April 2023](#)

6. Charter Renewal Update: Presented by Justin Smith: J. Smith shared the letter received from the State Board of Education related to the 7 year charter renewal.

- a.  53B Ascend Leadership Academy Lee County Renewal SBE Vote Confirmation Letter ...

7. 2023-24 ALA Operating Budget - Second Read: Presented by C. Draughon

- a.  ALA FY24 Budget Draft Template - FY24 Draft.pdf

Motion made to approve the Operating Budget as proposed made by D. Goodson, seconded by R. Scott. Unanimous approval.

8. Internet Safety Policy for CIPA compliance: Presented by Justin Smith

- a.  Internet Safety Policy

Motion made the Internet Safety Policy as written was made by Jason Smith, seconded by D. Goodson. Unanimous approval.

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, seconded by R. Scott.

Entered into closed session at 7:19 pm

Board Member Recruitment and Officer positions reminder.

[New Employee Approvals](#)

Proposed new hire resumes presented by Justin Smith. Candidates are B. Palmer, M. Chu, T. Powell, and B. Hart.

Motion to adjourn Closed session made by B. Grindle, seconded by D. Goodson.

Closed session ended at 7:33pm

Motion made to approve the four new hires made by D. Goodson, seconded by R. Scott. Unanimous approval.

Reminders: Graduation is May 25th, next meeting is May 31st.

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting made by B. Grindle, seconded by D. Goodson. Meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.