

Lake Oconee Academy Board of Governors

Regular Monthly Meeting
5:30 P.M., December 6, 2016

Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mark Lipscomb, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Lipscomb called the regular monthly meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.
- B. **Establishment of Quorum/Roll Call:** Governors Byron Lombard, Richard Schmidt, Mark Lipscomb, Fatima Fields, and James Brooks were in attendance. Connie Hoyle and Kim Larkin were both out of town and absent. Also present was CEO, Otho Tucker, Upper School Director Jody Worth, Foundation Executive Director Valerie Duvall, and Greene County Board of Education Chairman Elect Mike Lynch.
- C. **International Spanish Academy:** Felix Gaspar Koch from the Embassy of the Country of Spain attended the meeting to present, in person, the official documentation granting status to Lake Oconee Academy as an International Spanish Academy.
- D. **Approval of Minutes:** Byron Lombard made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2016, regular monthly meeting. Seconded by James Brooks. The motion carried unanimously.
- E. **Finance Report:** CFO Tim Hong gave a financial report on the October 2016 financials. A motion was made to approve the report as information by Byron Lombard. Seconded by James Brooks. The motion carried unanimously.
- F. **Foundation Report:** Valerie Duvall, Executive Director of the LOA Foundation, reported the following:
1. The Denim and Diamonds fundraiser date has been set for Saturday, February 18, 2017;
 2. The Tees for Titans fundraiser date has been set for September 25, 2017;
 3. Lake Oconee Academy has formed a scholarship committee that is comprised of teachers, administrators and community leaders. The committee will present to the Foundation Board in February their proposed guidelines and application process.
 4. Lake Oconee Church, an affiliate of Northpoint Church, has donated snacks to the afterschool program;
 5. The school open house was well attended by parents, students and community members as well as out-of-towners or people representing out-of-towners interested in coming to the school.
- G. **CEO Report and Action Items:**
1. Dr. Tucker gave an update on the construction of the new high school. Currently LOA is waiting on lender approval from the USDA. The last requirement, a comprehensive environmental review has been submitted and is supposed to be reviewed by the local office in Monroe this week at which time the entire package will be ready to send to the State office for review.
 2. Dr. Tucker gave a construction update on the school. No further action has been taken pending loan approval by the USDA. It will be necessary to find other additional space for students next year due to the delay.

3. Doctor Tucker reported that a school safety project utilizing location badges for students, faculty and staff, and guests will be investigated, which will help both with security and with car line administration.
4. Doctor Tucker reported that there were 242 applications for school next year.
5. Doctor Tucker presented a sibling preference policy. The policy and the background was described by Richard Schmidt. In order to foster the most efficient and effective learning culture within each family unit, and to avoid hardship on families where all children within the same family could be required to attend different schools because of the unavailability of space at LOA, the sibling preference policy was clarified so that the new sibling preference policy facilitates maintenance of a stable family unit, fosters and facilitates an effective and productive home learning environment and provides for a reasonable opportunity for all children to attend the school. The policy is attached hereto.
6. Doctor Tucker presented a proposal to amend the bylaws to provide for up to nine Governors for the school. After discussion Byron Lombard made a motion to amend the bylaws to provide for up to 9 members on the Board of Governors, such additional members to be selected from the business community. Motion seconded by James Brooks. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.
7. Doctor Hester Vasconcelos presented a proposal to include the Capstone program in AP studies. The program allows AP students to enter upon a course of study which includes preparing, presenting and defending a dissertation during their high school years beginning in their junior year as training for further study in college and post college.
8. Doctor Tucker presented a summary of our SAT scores showing that we are in the 90th percentile nationally and that our state score is 96% .

H. There was no public comment.

I. Byron Lombard made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing real estate matters. Seconded by James Brooks. The motion carried unanimously and the Board entered into executive session along with members of the Lake Oconee Academy Foundation Board of Directors.

Byron Lombard made a motion to exit executive session which was entered into for the purpose of discussing real estate matters. Seconded by James Brooks.

J. Adjournment: There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Byron Lombard. Seconded by James Brooks. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

ENROLLMENT PREFERENCE POLICY

Lake Oconee Academy

Approved December 6, 2016

As allowed by law, Lake Oconee Academy may give enrollment preference to applicants in any one or more of the following categories in the order of priority specified in the charter: siblings of students enrolled in Lake Oconee Academy, any student whose parent or Guardian is a member of the governing board of the charter school or is a full-time teacher, professional or other employee at the charter school. In addition, as provided by law, the school recognizes a preference for students matriculating from a local school designated in the Charter, and children who matriculate from a pre-kindergarten program which is associated with the School, including, but not limited to, programs which share common facilities or campuses with the School or programs which have established a partnership or cooperative efforts with the School.

Siblings: For the purposes herein, to facilitate the maintenance of a stable family unit within the same household, and to further foster and facilitate an effective and productive home learning environment, it is the goal and policy of Lake Oconee Academy to define a sibling as follows:

A sibling is defined as any student or potential student who lives in the same household as any of the following on a full-time or part time basis:

1. Biological siblings that share parents;
2. "Half" siblings that share a single parent;
3. "Step" siblings that share a parent or parents through marriage even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution;
4. Children who share a parent or parents through adoption or guardianship; and
5. Foster children awaiting permanent placement.

Governing Board, Teacher or Employee: Any student whose parent or guardian is a member of the governing board, or a full-time teacher or professional or an employee of the School.

The student, once officially enrolled, may remain enrolled at the school provided the parent or legal guardian remains employed by Lake Oconee Academy, and the student meets the standards set forth by the Lake Oconee Academy Code of Conduct.

Upon separation of employment by the parent or guardian from Lake Oconee Academy, the established Enrollment Policies will govern the future enrollment of the student.

Students Matriculating From Associated Schools: Any child who matriculates from a local school designated in the Charter, and any child who matriculates from a pre-kindergarten program which is associated with the School, including, but not limited to, programs which share common facilities or campuses with the School or programs which have established a partnership or cooperative efforts with the School.

The foregoing preferences will be available provided that there exists space in the school for additional students and providing that admission of the applicant will not cause the maximum class size requirements to be exceeded.