

**Lake Oconee Academy Board of Governors**  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
5:30 P.M., March 1, 2018

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. March 1, 2018.
- B. **Establishment of Quorum/Roll Call:** Governors, Kim Larkin , Mark Lipscomb, Fatima Fields, Byron Lombard, and David Mapp were in attendance. Connie Hoyle and Dick Schmidt, were absent. Also present were CEO, Otho Tucker, and Upper School Director, Jody Worth.
- C. **Approval of Minutes:** Byron Lombard made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2018, regular monthly meeting. Seconded by Kim Larkin. The motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Finance Report:** Dr. Tucker presented the finance report. After discussion, Byron Lombard made a motion to approve the report as information. Seconded by Kim Larkin. The motion carried unanimously.
- E. **CEO Report (Information Items):** Dr. Tucker discussed the construction project. Due to the rainy weather the high school classroom building is a few days behind schedule. The student life center is ahead of schedule as they have been building the front wall to the gym and that has been able to move forward.

The RFP for the baseball field will be received later this week. He is expecting four bids for the completion of this project. Bidders will have the option to bid just on the field construction or that construction plus a list of thirteen add alternates. Dr. Tucker will send the board a summary of the RFP responses.

Dr. Tucker reported that Little Architects presented a design for the Arts classroom building. Dr. Tucker requested some changes and a design will be presented at a future meeting.

Dr. Tucker reported that Little Architects also presented some interior finish options at the construction meeting February 28, 2018. There were some minor changes to the 3 plan presented by Little.

Dr. Tucker has been meeting with the Paxon Group which specializes in safety programs. Paxon installed the present system that the school uses. The questions for Paxon were what is new in safety options for schools; How can LOA monitor who is on campus; and How can the new system work with what we presently use on campus? He has scheduled another meeting with their technology integrator to discuss these questions in more detail.

Dr. Tucker turned the discussion over the Byron Lombard to further explain the Adopt a Highway project that should help the traffic flow at North Campus Drive and Carey Station Road. The new traffic flow will begin next week, during afternoon dismissal.

Dr. Tucker discussed the issue with students having phones on campus during the school day. At this time he is working with students and teachers to construct a working plan and requests no action at this time from the board to construct a phone use policy.

Dr. Tucker confirmed the State of the School message to the Greene County School Board was delivered. The only question from the Greene County School Board was about the LOA use of assistant teachers.

Dr. Tucker requested confirmation of those Governors planning to attend the Georgia Charter School Conference to secure board training. It was decided that, if the training could be secured using a virtual platform, the board would prefer that format. Also that format would be a cost savings for LOA.

Dr. Tucker reported that the AdvancEd (SACS) review went well. All areas were rated well with the extensive AP program being exceptional. The SACS committee advised LOA to further develop its teacher mentoring program. The school administration has started that review and will design a more intensive program for the 2018-19 school year.

Dr. Tucker reported that, as of February 28, 2018, there were 74 Pre-K applications and 188 K-12 applications. He noted that he is expecting several more applications this month since the last month of the application window historically has seen the most activity in the number of applications received.

Dr. Tucker requested that the James Brooks Scholarship be presented at the graduation ceremony. He also requested that Mrs. Virginia Brooks, James' wife, be our special guest and present the scholarship award. The Board agreed enthusiastically. The scholarship will be a one-time gift of \$1000 and will be an annual scholarship.

The discussion continued and a recommendation was made to invite Mr. Mike Kelly, the Founding Board Chair, and the past Greene County School Board members who approved the original charter and approved the construction of the main campus along with the Founding Committee who worked so diligently to write and have the Charter approved.

- F. **Parent Association Report:** Dr. Tucker and Jody Worth gave a Parents Association report.
- G. **Foundation Report:** Dr. Tucker gave a foundation report.
- H. **Closed Session:** There were no items for closed session.
- I. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, Byron Lombard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kim Larkin. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

**LAKE OCONEE ACADEMY**  
**GRADUATION AWARDS POLICY**  
effective as of December 5, 2017

To be eligible for all awards, honors, scholarships, and other recognition that would be afforded to any other graduate, a student must take at least one course during his or her sophomore year at Lake Oconee Academy, and all remaining high school or dual enrollment classes necessary for graduation from Lake Oconee Academy.

Any student who completes all high school requirements in less than four (4) academic years, and who declares his or her intention to graduate early prior to entering school the year of such early graduation, will graduate as a senior the year the student meets the then current graduation requirements, with all rights, privileges, and honors of any other student graduating in that spring semester.

Any student who completes all high school requirements in less than four (4) academic years, and who declares his or her intention to graduate early prior to entering school the year of such early graduation, and who is entitled to a midyear (December) graduation, will graduate with and be awarded the rights, privileges, and honors of the class graduating the spring of that academic year.

**NOTE: Pursuant to motion of the Board, during its passage, the requirement herein that a student declare his or her intention to graduate early prior to entering the school year of such early graduation shall take effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> day following the completion of the 2017 – 2018 school year.**