



The Schools of McKeel Academy

*McKeel Academy of Technology
McKeel Elementary Academy (dba McKeel Academy Central)
South McKeel Academy*

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

January 21, 2014

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was held Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at The Schools of McKeel Academy Business Office. The meeting was called to order by Chair Taylor Caffey at 12:03 p.m. Trustees present included Taylor Caffey, Stephanie L. Campbell, Larry Ross, Mark Thompson, Seth McKeel, Michael Peeples and Phillip Walker. Trustees John Stargel and Cathy Wooley-Brown attended via conference call. Staff present included Alan Black, Julie Ramirez, Judi Morris, Michele Spurgeon, Linda Acocelli, Susan Black, Mary White and Olivia Hazell. Teachers of the Year in attendance included Wendy Georgevich, Rebecca Stacey, and Samantha Wilbur. Mary Toothman from the Ledger was also present.

➤ **Public Comment**

None of the members of the public addressed the Board at this time.

➤ **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Chair, Taylor Caffey, entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Upon a motion made by Cathy Wooley-Brown, seconded by Mark Thompson, the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented carried unanimously.

➤ **New Business**

Bylaws Revisions

Mr. Black explained that he worked closely with attorney Kathleen Schoenberg to revise sections of the bylaws to comply with the law and current practices of the organization. Board members discussed the bylaws and agreed to the proposed revisions. It was noted that there were some minor technical corrections that were included in the revisions.

Upon a motion made by Seth McKeel, seconded by Stephanie L. Campbell, the motion to approve the revised bylaws carried unanimously.

Public Records Policy

Mr. Black presented the Public Records Policy. Board members then discussed the policy and the importance of all staff being made aware of the policy.

Upon a motion made by Mark Thompson, seconded by Larry Ross, the motion to approve the Public Records Policy as presented carried unanimously.

Committee Responsibilities

Mr. Black presented the members of the Board with revised responsibilities of the Executive Committee and Search/Ad Hoc Committee. Board members discussed each committee and approved the revisions to both of the committees' responsibilities.

Upon an amended motion made by Larry Ross, seconded by Mark Thompson, the motion to approve the revised Executive Committee and Search/Ad Hoc Committee Responsibilities carried unanimously as amended.

Administrative Training

Mr. Black presented the Administrative Training plan and explained that training has been arranged for all employees who serve in a supervisory role. This training will take place on February 5, 2014, from 4-6 pm.

Consultation Agreement

Mr. Black explained that we are still in the process of contract negotiations with the PCSB for a 3 to 1 contract. He plans to hire Mr. Maready as a consultant to assist with the contract. Mr. Maready will not participate in the negotiations but will serve as an advisor to Mr. Black during the negotiation process.

Teacher of the Year

Mr. Black discussed the change in the bylaws and how it relates to the Teachers of the Year and their service to the Board. The Board agreed that the Teachers of the Year need to continue to participate in the Board meetings. Mr. Black was asked to write a policy for the Teachers of the Year, inviting them to attend and participate in Board meetings.

990 Returns

Ms. Ramirez will have the 990 Returns completed and submitted by the February 15 deadline. She will send the returns to all members of the Board for review before the due date.

Quarterly Financial Statements

Ms. Ramirez discussed the quarterly financial statements for each school and answered questions from Board members.

➤ **Other**

MAC Expansion

Mr. Black reported that the MAC expansion is ahead of schedule and the building should be ready by June 30, 2014.

Grade Configuration for MAT and MAC

Mr. Black explained that the Senior Administrative Team carefully reviewed the information regarding the grade configuration for MAC and MAT for the 2014-2015 school year and determined it was in the best interest of the schools that MAC remain K-6 and MAT remain 7-12.

Vision Statement Process

Dr. Ross asked that all Board members send any edits to the draft Vision Statement to Mrs. Hazell as soon as possible. The Vision Statement should be presented for approval at the next Board meeting.

Search Committee

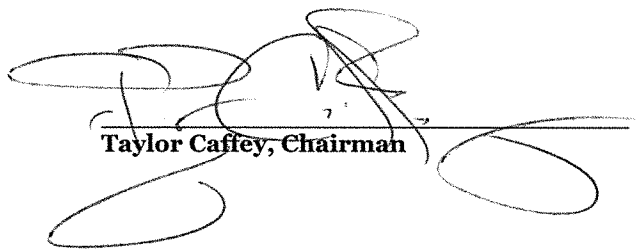
The Search Committee will schedule their next meeting for Monday, February 10, 2014, at 8:00 am in the Business Office. Dr. Ross will create an agenda for the meeting and Mrs. Hazell will e-mail it to the committee members.

➤ **School Reports**

Principals presented their school reports which will become a permanent part of the record of this meeting.

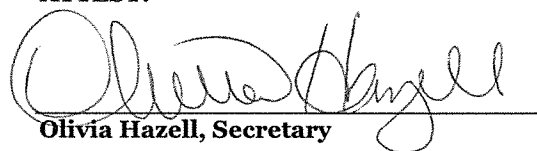
➤ **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.



Taylor Caffey, Chairman

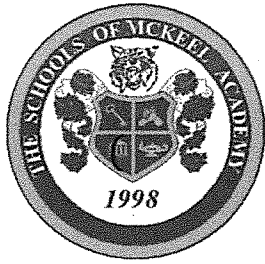
ATTEST:



Olivia Hazell, Secretary

MAT School Report
January 21, 2014

- Our Robotics team competed in the First Tech Challenge Championships the past two weekends. In Championship #1, we were 4th after the qualifying matches and competed in the semi-finals and came in 4th place. In Championship #2, we were 1st after the qualifying rounds, competed in the finals, and placed 2nd. Additionally, the team won the Rockwell Collins Innovate Award for the construction of the robotic lift on the robot. Our season is now over. The team will now be participating in outreach projects within our community to promote robotics and STEM in area elementary schools. We've been invited to Oscar J. Pope to demonstrate to a 4th grade class.
- February 21st we will be sending approximately 50 students to the USF Engineering Expo in Tampa. These students will be from our Advanced Placement math and science classes and our robotics students.
- February 7th, our AP US History students will be attending Fantasy of Flight to learn about and meet several of the original Tuskegee Airmen as they share their personal experiences of wartime military service during segregated America. In honor of Black History month, we thought this was a great opportunity to meet the brave men who fought America's enemies abroad while enduring racism here at home.
- The countywide History Fair Competition is February 28th. We are sending 67 students to compete this year.
- In February we have 47- 11th grade students going on our annual Wildcat Rules trip to colleges and universities across the state.
- 9th grade students will be going on part 2 of their mini college tour trip where we send all 9th grade students to local colleges and UCF and USF so they can get a vision of post secondary life.
- Sports- Girls soccer finished district runner-up in a heartbreak loss going into two – 10 min. overtime periods and losing in the shootout to Lake Placid. They and will play in regional play @ Tampa Prep on Thursday.
- Boys soccer starts their district tournament tonight @ Frostproof.
- Girls basketball districts are next week @ Avon Park we are the #1 seed.
- Boys basketball districts will be @ Frostproof the following week, we are the #2 seed.



McKeel Academy Central
(formerly McKeel Elementary Academy)
School Report, Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2014

- The school received a \$500 grant from State Farm Insurance. The grant is part of the company's volunteer program. If an employee volunteers 40 hours of their time at a school, the company will give the school \$500.
- Recipient of Target Field Trip Grant. The grant is \$700. Mrs. Backes and Mrs. Stephenson will take 4th grade to the Polk Museum of Art and then doing a painting of their own.
- Judy Chisholm, K teacher, was selected as the Junior Achievement Educator of the Year in Polk County. She will be recognized in February at the Hall of Achievement Celebration dinner.
- We are having a Science Fair this evening from 5-7 for grades 4-6.

South McKeel Academy
Board Report – January 21, 2014

Open enrollment started today with the normal excitement about showing up early to hopefully get accepted.

2 Days of Apple PD for all instructional staff when we returned from the winter break. We had 8 classrooms with small groups. There were many great ideas and new skills shared for using iPads.

The last week of school before break our K students visited several nursing homes to sing to the residents. Of course, they loved our cute little ones. One place called to request we be there once a month.

We had a number of classes do community service activities for Christmas such as collecting money to buy for a child on the Salvation Army 's Angel Tree. One of our teachers, Kristie Nelson has done this for several years and has any students who are interested meet her at Target one evening to select and purchase the gifts for their Angel.

Our school History Fair is next week on Jan. 31 and the school winners will join the MAT students in Bartow later this spring.

We have a team of 6th and 7th graders participating in Math Counts on Sat., Feb. 8.

Planning is underway for our DOE Best Practices Grant, which is called South McKeel Academy Active Literacy Blueprint.

Fueled with that success we submitted a small \$6000 proposal to the GLCF and found that we made the first cut for consideration. This is for videoconferencing equipment to further and improve the virtual visits with other schools as well as with national parks, the Smithsonian and a few other places that require more advanced technology than we now have.