

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMY AT MIDDLE FORK ADVISORY BOARD**

**Thursday May 30, 2024**  
**3:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER: The Academy at Middle Fork Advisory Board of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair and Chancellor on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 3:12 p.m. The meeting was conducted at the Academy at Middle Fork. Chair Denise Levy presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Denise Levy  
Donna Fiori  
James Reaves  
Melba Spooner  
Jamie Parson  
Woody Trathen  
Fabby Williams  
Amy Washburn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Poling  
Rhonda Russell

OTHERS PRESENT:

Talana Bell  
Tim Walker  
Mary Logan Yancey  
Hannah Reeder  
Meghan Wills  
Amie Snow

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Levy called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m. and read the following statement:

“Under the State Government Ethics Act, all voting members of the Board have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for today’s meeting, does anyone know that you have a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest? If so, please let me know now.” [None reported.]

### INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Chair Levy had board members and guests introduce themselves.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES:

Chair Levy acknowledged the absence of board members Dr. Lisa Poling and Dr. Rhonda Russell. Upon motion duly made by Jamie Parson and seconded by Woody Trathen, the absences were approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the March 7, 2024, meeting were presented, and upon motion duly made by Donna Fiori, and seconded by Melba Spooner, the minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: Tim Walker presented the financial report for the Academy at Middle Fork for the 2022-2023 Academic Year (AY) and the projected funds for 2023-2024 AY.

### TEACHER LEADERSHIP CADRE:

Multiple cadre members from the Academy at Middle Fork introduce themselves and present on their experience in the Teacher Leadership Cadre.

What is a cadre?

To build the capacity of teacher leaders so that they will positively impact student incomes.

Professional Development Opportunities

1. Cadre overview
2. Courageous Conversations
  - a. Co-teaching model requires consistent and clear collaboration among colleagues

- b. Friday co-planning allows for time to converse with colleagues
  - c. Leadership helps facilitate these discussions
  - d. Data helps drive our courageous conversations
  - e. Mentoring of student teachers
3. Proactively Create a Positive, Inclusive School Culture
    - a. Providing feedback to Culture and Climate Committee
    - b. Upstream work is important
    - c. SIT Goals
    - d. Mentoring student teachers and graduate clinicians
  4. Building Empowering Habits
    - a. Encouraging team members to set work-life boundaries
    - b. Teachings of empowering habits happens during PLTs
    - c. Techniques have helped with student outcome

The cadre then highlighted and thanked Dr. Hasson, Dr. Money, and Melissa Mott for their guidance and mentorship in the cadre.

ACADEMY AT MIDDLE FORK LEADERSHIP UPDATE: Dr. Hannah Reeder, Assistant Dean of Lab Schools and Principal Snow shared the following:

Dr. Reeder shares a leadership update that Dr. Snow is now the Principal at the Academy at Middle Fork, and Mr. Gaillard is now serving as the Director of Engagement & Outreach.

Dr. Reeder then highlights some of the connections that Mr. Gaillard has already made in his new position.

Dr. Reeder highlights the Block II Elementary Education students that did their internships at the Academy at Middle Fork during the Spring semester. Dr. Reeder opens the floor for discussion regarding the feedback from interns.

Dr. Reeder highlights some recent school visits:

- Governor Byers visits both lab schools
  - Tutoring program
  - Micro goal
  - Innovative model
- State Superintendent Catherine Truitt visits the Academy at Middle Fork

Conference Presentation:

- Innovative Practices-
  - National Association for School & University Partnerships

○ UNC Charlotte Literacy Summit

Dr. Reeder shares about Appalachian State hosting the May State Board of Education meeting. Multiple lab school staff members participated in a teacher panel, and shared their experiences.

Dr. Reeder highlights and thanks the board members who attended Teacher Appreciation lunch coverage this month.

Dr. Snow and Dr. Reeder transition into talking about the 2024-25 school year:

Enrollment update

- Currently we have 273 students enrolled (281 pending)
- 300 is the goal

Goals next year

- Open way learning
- Ed Direction through IPG Grant
- Building instructional practices

Center for Reimagining Education

- Scale and replicate the innovative lab school model
- Become a regional hub with Arizona State University
- Reimagine educator preparation
- Develop apprenticeship model

Dr. Snow highlights the on-campus field trips during the spring semester.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chair Levy thanked everyone for the great conversations. Chair Levy shares that this will be her last Advisory Board meeting serving as Board Chair as she has served her full term. Being no further business, Chair Levy thanked everyone for their commitment to the lab school and the advisory board.

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Donna Fiori made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jamie Parson. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Denise Levy, Chair

By:.....

MARY LOGAN  
YANCEY

*Recording Secretary*