

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

Thursday March 05, 2020
3.00pm
Academy at Middle Fork, Media Center

CALL TO ORDER: The Academy at Middle Fork Advisory Board of Appalachian State University met at the call of the Chair on Thursday March 5, 2020 at 3.00 p.m. in the media center on the campus of The Academy at Middle Fork, Walkertown, North Carolina. It was determined that a quorum was present and the Chair presided and called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Neva Specht
Melba Spooner
Denise Levy
Cheryl Dickson
Woodrow Trathen
Rebecca Jordan
Lisa Gross

MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Hostetler
M. Lee Barnes
Sam Mills (Proxy for Angela Hairston)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robin Groce
Tasha Hall-Powell
Darron Daniels
Amie Snow
Paul Megett
Aubry Dix
Vivid Oguntoyinbo

CONFLICT OF INTEREST NOTICE: Chair Specht 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.]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES: Chair Specht acknowledged the absence of board members David Hostetler, Lee Barnes and Sam Mills (Proxy for the Superintendent of the Winston Salem and Forsyth County School). Upon motion duly made and seconded, the absence was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes for December 12, 2019 meeting were presented and approved.

UPDATE ON LEE BARNES GIFT: Dr. Robin Groce provided information about the monetary gift from Lee Barnes. The fund was used to purchase books for each student from visiting authors. Each grade level made a trip to the Bookmarks bookstore to select a book that they get to take home and keep.

STUDENT TEACHER/INTERN ACTIVITY AND PLANS FOR THE ACADEMY:

Dr. Robin Groce gave updates for faculty/staff engagement as of March 5, 2020 as follows:

- Total number of ASU faculty/staff engaging at least once - 23
- Total number of ASU students engaging at Academy - 154
- Total number of colleges/divisions engaging at least once - 5

Dr. Groce talked about the collaboration and update from the office of Field Experiences (OFE) and that several clinical interns have requested a fall placement in Winston-Salem and they will be working with OFE to make placements at the Academy for the fall. They are also discussing the possibility of Block II interns at the Academy with faculty teaching on-site.

RECRUITMENT STATUS: Dr. Robin Groce gave the projected enrollment status for 2020-2021 as:

- Current - **270**
- Fifth grade moving on - **41**
- Current number of applications - **31 (Kinder =16)**
- Letters of intent to re-enroll to go home in mid-March
- Kindergarten parents will register in late spring and summer months

CONTINUING CHALLENGES FOR THE ACADEMY: Dr. Groce listed student recruitment and marketing locally as well as the need for a school counselor to cater for their social and emotional needs as current challenges faced by the Academy.

OVERVIEW AND UPDATE FROM AUBRY DIX: The Assistant general counsel recapped the duties of the advisory board. He reiterated the need to monitor the operations of the Academy, the distribution of funds allocated, to maintain transparency and access to financial updates as well as provide update to the Chancellor in order to continue to remain compliant.

It was concluded that the Chief Financial Officer, Talana Bell will be invited to the next board meeting to provide a summary of the budget.

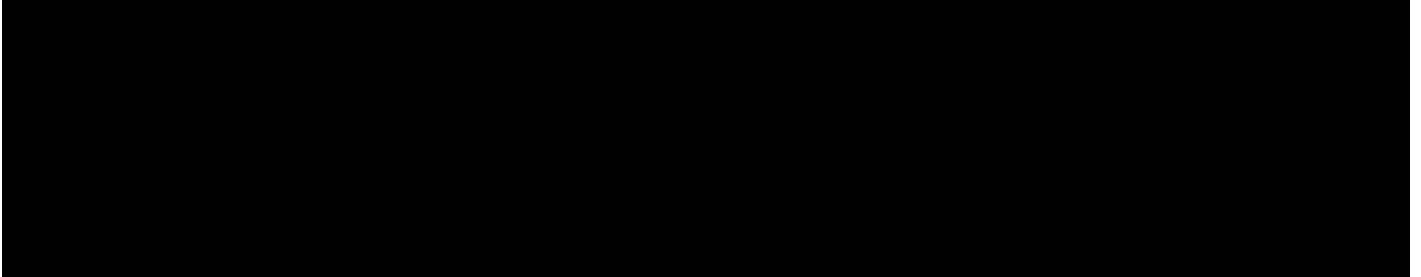
OVERVIEW AND UPDATE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM: The leadership team shared pictures and highlights from the black history month, introduction to March madness about books, Lego robotic training for teachers and students.

They also shared update on the year book, after school enrichment, maker's space and the wonderful jobs teachers and students were doing at the Academy. They had an award ceremony, honor roll certificates amongst other gifts from the social worker. The principal talked about their commitment to marketing the brand, to get more people to know about the Academy and to help the school grow. Part of the commitment includes partnership with SECCA (local art studio to provide support for art enrichment at the Academy), Big Brother Big Sisters, Boys and Girls club etc.

The board members were invited to the 5th grade graduation slated for 6pm on June 4th, 2020.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion duly made and seconded, a motion was made to go into closed session motion to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of a present employee. During closed session, the following matters were discussed.



Upon motion duly made and seconded, the closed session was adjourned and open session was reconvened.

OTHER BUSINESS- The status of the background check and finger print for Dr. Sam Mills (Proxy for the Superintendent of Winston Salem and Forsyth County Schools) is in process.

Dr. Neva Specht, Chair of the advisory board, read out the update from Dr. Tracie Salinas on the progress of the research Cluster.

- With the timing of the funding, the budget has been reorganized to allow for the purchase of some assessment materials and increased travel.
- A survey on teacher leadership and efficacy has been developed and has been sent out to faculty and staff of the Academy.
- The literacy subgroup has begun interviews and artifact collection in order to analyze how teachers' choices in their classroom materials and activities impact students' experiences in literacy.
- A subgroup looking at Academy culture has been present each week and is building relationships and building their understanding of how groups interact at the Academy. They have also been collecting artifacts related to the development of and public relations for the Academy.

CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT: Chair Specht thanked everyone for their participation and contribution. The next advisory board meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 4, 2020.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 4.15pm.