

## Lake Oconee Academy Board of Governors

Regular Monthly Meeting  
5:30 PM, Monday, March 6, 2023

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Michael Tompkins called the regular monthly meeting to order at 5:40 P.M. on March 6, 2023. Michael Tompkins led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Meeting was held in the High School building.
- **Establishment of Quorum/Roll Call:** Governors, Michael Tompkins, Quincy Chaffin, Jennifer Vaughan, Richard Schmidt, Kim Larkin, Kristina Jaskyte Bahr and Sarah Peacock were in attendance. Jennifer Vaughan, was absent. Also in attendance was Dr. Otho Tucker and Dr. Brad Bowling and Jerante Smith and Greene County Board of Education member Regina Gainer.
- B. **Approval of Monthly Meeting Minutes:** Kim Larkin made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Kim Larkin. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Finance Report:** Stella Smith with Prestige, gave the January 2023 financial reports. A motion was made by Kim Larkin to approve the report as information. Seconded by Sarah Peacock. The motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Committee Structure:** Chairman Michael Thompkins discussed the structure of the Board Committees to be put in place in the coming months.
- E. **Foundation Report:** Dr. Tucker made a short record on the Foundation. He reported that Denim and Diamonds fundraiser is underway and continues under the leadership of Kendra Van Mol.
- F. **Public comment:** Katie Howell appeared and discussed challenges with the SPED department. She suggested that federal policies are not being followed that she could not get her questions answered. She had asked personnel at LOA, the Greene County School District and the Georgia Charter School Association. Both Greene County and LOA suggested she speak with the other school. Following the meeting, she articulated that she was attempting to get clarity on terms within the charter, which Richard Schmidt, school attorney, will attempt to provide her.

Regina Gainer, Greene County Board of Education member introduced herself.

- G. **Special report on NWEA testing:** Jerante Smith gave a report on the latest NWEA testing results. NWEA tests are a tool for measuring growth. It is a test which is administered following fall and winter semesters and which shows how students are performing on a bell curve compared to all other students nationally. Nearly every student is performing at or above a passing grade. Within that statistical sampling, LOA is above the national average in all grades in reading. Mr. Smith discussed how reading,

is applied across other subjects, where both reading skills and comprehension of the other subjects are stressed.

**H. CEO Report:**

1. Waiting List: there are 393 applications received as of March 6, 2023, 84 are priority students.
2. Construction Update for the Arts Building: the Arts Building is now completed with the exception of some windows and a kiln, both of which are still waiting on supply chain issues. Both are expected to ship during the week of March 13. The USDA final loan closing is currently scheduled for March 20, 2023
3. Dr. Tucker noted that board training modules are available on the line.

**I. Closed Session:** Kim Larkin made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Sarah Peacock. The motion carried unanimously. Following closed Session, Kim Larkin made a motion to enter into regular session. Seconded by Sarah Peacock. The motion carried unanimously. The board returned to regular session. There was no action taken following executive session.

**J. Adjournment:** There being no further business, Sarah Peacock made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Kim Larkin. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.