

Lake Oconee Academy Board of Governors

Regular Monthly Meeting
5:30 PM, Monday, February 9, 2023

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Michael Tompkins called the regular monthly meeting to order at 5:40 P.M. on February 9, 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 were in attendance. Sarah Peacock was absent. Also in attendance was Dr. Otho Tucker and Dr. Brad Bowling.
- B. **Approval of Monthly Meeting Minutes:** Jennifer Vaughan made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Kim Larkin. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Finance Report:** Stella Smith with Prestige, gave the December 2022 financial reports. A motion was made by Kim Larkin to approve the report as information. Seconded by Jennifer Vaughan. The motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Foundation Report:** Kendra Van Mol was introduced as the new Director of Development. She is a parent in the school, and brings to the job a background in development and organizing. Denim and Diamonds planning continues. Kendra continues to work on Sponsors, and has not missed a beat in carrying on the event planning. Jean Brower has resigned due to health issues and will be missed. Committees are up and running and fully staffed. She gave an overview in the changes for this year's event.
- E. **Public comment:** There were no public Comments.
- F. **CEO Report:**
1. Waiting List: there are 272 applications received, 58 are priority students.
 2. Construction Update for the Arts Building: the Arts Building is now completed with the exception of some doors, a kiln and landscaping, all due to supply chain issues.
 3. Dr. Tucker gave the academic and athletic highlights as of February 1, 2023. In academics: 50% of kids are enrolled in an AP class; 20% are enrolled in dual enrollment; 83% of seniors have applied to College; 68% of seniors have been accepted to college. In sports: middle school boys basketball won their first championship; varsity boys and girls basketball is headed to the region tournament with boys having a chance of making state playoffs for the first time; baseball practice has started for middle school and varsity; middle school and varsity boys and girls club soccer have been practicing; varsity boys and girls club tennis have been practicing for 2 weeks middle school and varsity golf start February 6.

4. Dr. Tucker discussed the 2023 Georgia Charter School Conference which will take place at the Weston Buckhead Atlanta Hotel on March 13-15.
5. The Board held Full Board Training immediately prior to the board meeting with the Charter School Association trainer Anaya Clark.
6. Upper School Head, Brad Bowling gave a short presentation on dyslexia training now currently being rolled out at the school. The State of Georgia has passed or is in the process of passing a dyslexia law, which in essence requires all students to be screened for dyslexia by the 3rd grade or in upper grades, if they have not yet been screened. This will be done as a student transfers into LOA. The legislation will take effect beginning in the FY24-25 school year. The State of Georgia is working on a new evaluation model for use by school districts. Beyond such screening, the recent research on dyslexia has created a new area of study on basic, fundamental reading instruction, which has the potential to revolutionize reading instruction. The new method emphasizes phonetics. LOA has now embraced the new science and is actively training teachers to utilize that reading instruction protocol throughout LOA.

G. Closed Session: There was no closed session. Dr. Tucker reported that the settlement agreement and proposed order in the litigation with Greene County has been delivered to the judge, but has not yet been signed and filed.

H. Adjournment: There being no further business, Kim Larkin made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jennifer Vaughan. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.