

**WALTON ACADEMY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Walton Academy Charter School/Meeting also accessible via Zoom
389 Dorsey Avenue
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32435

I. Call to Order, Review of Public Notice, Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Neale at 9:04am. Board members present were Robert Neale, Ann Black and Edward Graham. Guests present included: Ray Sansom, Dr. Bill Rader, Dr. Allison Schnell, Kara Griffin, Elizabeth Daters and Jessica Yopp.

II. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Graham made a motion to approve Agenda as written. Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.

III. Approval of Minutes

The last meeting's minutes from May 25, 2023 were approved on a motion by Mr. Graham, seconded by Ms. Black. Motion passed.

IV. Public Comments by Pre-Registered guests, if any

No guests were present.

V. Reports

A. Walton Academy Director's Report & Title I Update – Mr. Sansom provided the Director's report for Walton Academy and stated that it's been a busy summer with several improvement projects going on around campus. He thanked the management team for their support over the summer as they prepare for the new school year.

B. Walton DJJ Director's Report & Title I Update – Mr. Sansom provided the Director's report for Walton Learning Center. He stated the school district has been supportive with the program this year and stated that Walton Learning Center had the second highest graduation rate for DJJs across the state.

C. Management Report - Mr. Sansom's Director reports also covered the Management Report. He reiterated the success of the school year and thanked the leadership at Walton Academy and Walton DJJ.

VI. Discussion & Action Items

A. Walton DJJ Discussion – Mr. Sansom provided an update on Walton DJJ stating that the Florida Legislature met in the spring and passed a bill in which the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice will take over education for all facilities, in 55 counties, beginning July 1, 2024. He stated that they are in the process of selecting a

contractor to provide the education, and that current legislation will hire a superintendent for the program.

Human Resources

- A. Walton Academy Personnel Recommendations for 2023 – 2024 – The personnel report for Walton Academy was presented by Ms. Daters. Walton Academy has 18 current employees. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the personnel report, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- B. Walton DJJ Personnel Recommendations for 2023 – 2024 - The personnel report for Walton Academy DJJ was presented by Ms. Daters. Walton Academy DJJ has 5 current employees. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the personnel report, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- A. Walton Academy and Walton DJJ Salary Schedules 2023 – 2024 - Ms. Daters presented the 2023 – 2024 Salary Schedules. The starting salary for teachers at Walton Academy is \$47,422.89 and the starting salary for teachers at Walton Learning Center is \$59,932.29. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the salary schedules, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.

Financials

- A. 2023 – 2024 Walton Academy Budget – Ms. Griffin presented the budget for 2023 – 2024 and stated that it was budgeted on 180 students. She stated that there were increases due to insurance, cost of supplies and Florida Retirement. The ending fund balance is projected to be \$1,294,785.67. Walton Academy also received a school improvement grant for \$70,000. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the budget, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- B. 2023 – 2024 Walton DJJ Budget – Ms. Griffin presented the Walton DJJ budget which is on a fixed rate contract with the Walton County School District. It increased by \$50,000 this year and is pending WCDS approval. She stated that there were increases in the budget due to insurance, cost of supplies and Florida Retirement. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the budget, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- C. Walton Academy Financial Report – Ms. Griffin presented the financial report which includes May and June. Walton Academy has a cash balance of \$1,138,597.55 which put them in a great position to end the school year. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the financial report, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- D. Walton DJJ Financial Report – Ms. Griffin presented the financial report and stated that they have a cash balance of \$26,463.97. Expenses were at 97.4% which is right in line with the budget. Mr. Graham made a motion to approve the financial report, Ms. Black seconded. Motion passed.
- E. Audit Update - Ms. Griffin stated that all financial documents have been submitted to the auditor and we will continue to work closely with them to provide any requested items.

General

- A. Board Membership – Dr. Schnell asked the board to keep in mind any new potential board members.
- B. Next Board Meeting – The next board meeting is the annual board meeting in October, and the exact date has not yet been determined.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35am by a motion from Mr. Graham, seconded by Ms. Black.