

---

# Ascend Leadership Academy

January 2023

Wednesday, January 25, 2022

**Location:** In Person

**Virtual Option Link:**

**Members Present:**

**Members Present Virtually:** Jason Smith, Drew Goodson, Mike Iskandar, Brandy Grindle, Melanie Jacobs

**Members Absent:** Rex Scott

**Non-Members Present:** Justin Smith (Director), Zachary Donahue (CSP), Robert Sims, Damien Perez

**Call to Order:** Jason Smith called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm

**School Mission:**

The mission of Ascend Leadership Academy is to develop successful student leaders by growing their self-efficacy, intellectual understanding, and social competence. ALA will accomplish this by applying innovative teaching methods, incorporating student cultural realities and cultivating student ownership in the learning community.

## Agenda

Open Session

1. **Recitation of Mission by Justin Smith:**
2. **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

### Consent Agenda

- [Approval of November 2022 Minutes](#) D. Goodson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by M. Iskandar.
  - Approval of January 2023 Agenda Jason Smith made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by M. Jacobs.
-

### 3. Public Comment:

No public comments

*Public comment is a time for the community to provide feedback to the Board of Directors. For in-person meetings attendees must sign up at the start of the meeting in order to give public comment. Each community member is limited to 2 minutes of comment, with a total time allotted to public comment of 10 minutes. During remote meetings attendees may add their public comments to the chat feature which will be sent directly to the Board of Directors. Board members will then share the comments with the meeting attendees for up to 10 minutes.*

*Public comment is also a time for the Board of Directors to listen to the feedback of the community. Board members can not respond to public comments during the meeting. However, the Board recognizes that each stakeholder is a vital part of our community and will take comments into consideration when making decisions, planning, providing feedback to administration, and completing committee work.*

Brief discussion of drop-off, 8-12 first set of doors, 6-7 main entrance.

### 4. Administrative Report: Presented by Justin Smith

[School Administrative Report - January 2023](#)

### 5. Finance Report: Presented by Z. Donahue

[Finance Report - December 2022](#)

### 6. Building A Tour & Capital Funds Use Update: Presented by Justin Smith

**Note:** Tours postponed to February meeting due to virtual meeting this month.

- a. Building A Renovations - Building features include: Robotics club area, small library, Aviator archives- pictures and artifacts of the school, a work area for students and staff for crafts/projects, meeting areas, school store, wellness center with sports equipment and weights.
- b. Pavillion- 20'x24' structure, work has begun to have outdoor covered seating for students/staff. Should be completed early February, costs are paid by remaining bond financing funds.
- c. Sidewalk - Sidewalk being added to connect to the existing sidewalk, work has begun. This addresses a safety concern brought by the student council.
- d. Baseball and soccer field proposals will be coming soon.

### 7. ALA 2023-24 Academic Calendar (1st Run) presented by Justin Smith

- a.  [23-24 ALA School Calendar.pdf](#)
- b. Calendar will be discussed and voted on at the February meeting

### 8. Mid-Year Academic Update : Presented by Justin Smith

- a.  [ALA Mid-Year Student Achievement Report 2023](#)

## 9. ALA Conflict of Interest and Nepotism Policy Review: Presented by Justin Smith

### a. 1.005 Conflict of Interest and Nepotism Policy (revised 4:29).pdf

**Board reviewed policy, no questions**

#### Closed Session (If Needed):

Purpose of Closed Session Discussion Item #3: 143-318.11. Closed sessions.(a) Permitted Purposes. - It is the policy of this State that closed sessions shall be held only when required to permit a public body to act in the public interest as permitted in this section. A public body may hold a closed session and exclude the public only when a closed session is required:

(6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee...

Motion made to move to closed session made by D. Goodson, second by Jason Smith.

Entered into closed session at 7:53pm

1. [Joiner-McNeil Employee Approval](#)
2. [Taylor Employee Approval](#)

Motion made to move to open session made by B. Grindle, seconded by D. Goodson

Closed session ended at 8:02pm

Motion made to hire the two candidates made by Jason Smith, seconded by M. Jacobs.

## **Adjournment**

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting made by Jason Smith, seconded by B. Grindle. Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.