

**AATF Board of Directors Minutes**  
**February 26, 2024**  
**Location: In-Person and Virtual via Zoom**

- 1. Call to Order  
Suzanne Larkin called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

- 2. Roll Call

	Apr 17	May 15	Jun 19	Jul 17	Aug 21	Sep 18	Oct 16	Nov 13	Dec 18	Jan 22	Feb 9 Special	Feb 26
Larkin, Suzanne	X	X	X	Absent	X	X	X	X	X	X	Zoom	X
Bingham, Will	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Absent	X	X	Zoom	X
Rouser, Janay	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sturwold, Earl	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lastowski, Emily	X	X	Zoom	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X
Maggard, Dana	X	Zoom	X	Absent	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X
Bussey, Rutland	X	X	Zoom	Zoom	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X
Brady, Ryan			X	X	X	X	X	Absent	X	Absent	X	Zoom

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

- 4. Public Inquiry - None

- 5. **Minutes January 22, 2024**  
**Minutes February 9, 2024 Special Board Meeting**

Earl Sturwold motioned to approve the minutes for January 22, 2024 and February 9, 2024 as presented; Will Bingham seconded; all approved.

- 6. Committee Reports

- 6.1. **Financial Report - Earl Sturwold**

Mrs. Bardin reported that the referendum supplement money came in the last day of January, additional grant money and donations that have not been spent and make up the extra funds showing on the financials for January.

Will Bingham motioned to approve the financial report for January 2024 Janay Rouser seconded; all approved.

- 6.2. Expansion Committee

- 6.2.1. **Review Committee for Bank Loan Proposals**

Dina Bardin reported that a change in banks would also include changes in deposit requirement etc. and suggested forming a committee to review which bank offers would be most suitable for AATF and present their findings to the Board.

Dana Maggard requested to abstain from voting on item 6.2.1. due to family relations.

Will Bingham motioned to form the committee; Earl Sturwold seconded; all approved.

Committee members are Will Bingham, Earl Sturwold, Rutland Bussey, Dina Bardin and Ray Polk.

- 6.2.2. **Borregard Agreement**

Dan Dwyer, legal counsel for AATF, reported that the Pre-Construction Consulting Agreement presented by Borregard Construction Inc. shows a consultant fee up to \$5,000.00 with an arbitration clause and 72 hours termination. Borregard construction provided a copy of their insurance information with the pre-construction agreement. Mr. Dwyer stated that he sees no reason that would prevent signing the agreement. Dana Maggard motioned to approve Borregard Pre-Construction consulting Agreement as presented, Emily Lastowski seconded; all approved.

6.3. New Board Member Committee

Will Bingham reported that the committee is meeting tomorrow morning to further discuss the candidates that have been interviewed and will present their recommendation to the Board at the March Board meeting.

6.4. Character and Culture Committee

Emily Lastowski reported that the committee met and went over the objectives/goals and what has been done in the past year, implement the "Mustang Messenger", family orientation and how this can be carried over to the high school and to continuously work closely with PTO and other support groups to increase our volunteer numbers. The committee will continue to work with the support and ways & means committee.

6.5. SAC Committee

6.5.1. 5th Grade Team

The 5th grade team is: Shannon Daughtery - Reading, Kaitlyn Reeves - Writing, Angel Schildt - Math, and Virgil Jones - Science.

The 5th grade team teaches subject specific, changing classrooms after each subject which helps the students to prepare for middle school. This includes a strong emphasis on advocating for themselves. It was shared that the 5th grade students have 4 field trips scheduled for the year. Many students look forward to that and work extra hard to participate.

Mr. Jones - We teach science every day unlike other schools. We teach regular science investigations along with reviewing 4th grade standards and covering 5th grade standards. Further, we incorporate hands-on science to keep students engaged, like the "Make it Move" project.

Mrs. Schildt - Shared that math needs repetition which is done through Reflex, Frax, Word Problems Wednesday and uses a daily review board. Mrs. Schildt incorporates science experiments to teach standards needed for testing along with B.E.S.T. for test preparation.

Mrs. Daughtery - Teaches reading along with spelling. Students are doing weekly reviews to increase their comprehension skills and use "Into Reading" for grammar. She shared that students are highly engaged in the Peer Reading, SSYR (Sunshine State Young Readers) and DIRT project. With these reading programs the students are able to advance on their level.

Mrs. Reeves - This year the 5th grade students will not only have to type their state test but also have to learn to write cursive. This year's writing focus is essay based. Cross curricular projects are used to tap into what students learn in other subjects. One of the projects the students are working on is to write about what they would do if they would be a president for a week. Narrative writing unit will come after the state testing in April.

5th grade is a challenging year for our students as they get tested in math, writing, reading and science.

- 6.5.2. Healthy School Committee - Samples of healthy snacks were shared.  
For the monthly healthy school committee Mr. Polk shared 2 healthy snacks with the Board members. He reported that our students are adjusting to the change and have adopted to eat more fresh fruits that are offered in the extended day program.

**7. Consent Agenda**

**7.1. Budget Amendment**

Janay Rouser motioned to add 7.1, Budget Amendment as a consent item; Will Bingham seconded; all approved.

Dina Bardin answered questions regarding the amendment.

Earl Sturwold motioned to approve 7.1. Budget Amendment 2-26-24, Dana Maggard seconded; all approved.

**8. Old Business**

**8.1. Election of Officers, March '24 - Suzanne Larkin**

Mrs. Larkin reported that the election of officers will take place at the March board meeting.

**8.2. Director's Assessment - Suzanne Larkin**

Committee is meeting this Friday.

**8.3. Director's Contract - Suzanne Larkin**

The committee will meet soon. If any board members are interested in joining the committee, please contact Will Bingham.

**9. New Business**

**9.1. Pasco County Agent of Record Letter - Coastal Design Consultants, Inc.**

Mr. Polk noted that the name on the letter is incorrect and will see if it can be corrected for the record.

**9.2. 2023-2024 School Recognition Funds Spending Plan 68224 - AATF - Information only**

The faculty has voted to receive the money in the form of a one time bonus.

**9.3. Clubs and Program List - Information Only**

Mr. Polk thanked Mrs. Ramos for doing an outstanding job in keeping our clubs and programs running smoothly.

**9.4. Review committee for Banking/Loan Proposals**

This was discussed in 6.2.1.

**Emergency Item**

Mrs. Larkin asked the Board to add an emergency item to approve the Third Amendment to the Charter Contract increasing our total student count to 762 students for the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Polk and Mrs. Bardin will attend the Pasco School Board meeting on Tuesday to answer any questions regarding the request to increase our student count for next year.

Will Bingham motioned to add the emergency item, Third Amendment to the Charter Contract; Emily Lastowski seconded; all approved.

Dana Maggard motioned to approve the Third Amendment to the Charter Contract as presented; Janay Rouser seconded; all approved.

**10. Individual Board Member Reports/Inquiry (Non-Agenda Items)**

Mrs. Larkin is asking for Board members to participate in the Teacher's Appreciation Week. If you would like to participate please contact Mrs. Larkin.

11. Faculty/Staff Inquiry (Non-Agenda Items) - None

12. Friends of the Academy

12.1. Financials

PTO President, Kacee Fagan, reported that most of the transactions are for the Clay Shoot, Golf Tournament and Mustang Ball fundraisers.

Mrs. Fagan thanked everyone participating in the Board Chili Cook Off. The event made about \$800.00. Mrs. Fagan announced the winners and presented their trophies:

1st - Emily Lastowski

2nd - Rutland Bussey

3rd. - Dana Maggard

Upcoming fundraisers are:

Virtual Double Cheese Popcorn, starting on Wednesday 2/28 through Saturday 3/2. 50% of the proceeds are coming back to the school. Purchases are going straight to the buyer. Prizes are awarded for the top sellers.

12.2. Golf Tournament Committee Update - May 7th

Mrs. Bardin reported that the golf course will be closed to the public for our event.

12.3. Clay Shoot Committee Update - April 6th

The fundraiser starts at 3:15 pm

Dana Maggard shared that they have 100 shooters signed up and roughly \$19,900.00 in committed sponsorships. If you know of anybody that would like to sponsor the event please have them contact us or go online and sign up. We are encouraging/offering for families to come out and just have the dinner and raffle with us. Sonny's is providing the BBQ and West Armory has donated the gun for the raffle and have greatly discounted other items for the raffle.

Mrs. Fagan provided more updates:

March 4 - Grands General Meeting, 8:30 - 10:30 am at the school.

March 7 - Field Day - Volunteers are needed.

April 16 - Take home dinner with book fair

Mrs. Maggard did a big shout out to thank Robin and Tim Carter and everybody involved in the Pasco and State fairs. The FFA's Community Booth won 1st prize at the Pasco fair.

13. Date of Next Meeting

13.1. BOD 3-18-24

14. Upcoming Events

2-27 New Board Member Committee - 8:00 am

2-28 Golf Tournament Committee - 8:00 am

2-29 Pictures Pre-K + MS

Clay Shoot Committee - 8:00 am

3-1 Pictures K-5th

3-4 Grands General Meeting 8:30 - 10:30 am

3-7 End of 3rd Quarter

Dollar Dress Day

Clay Shoot Committee - 8:00 am


Field Day for Students

3-8 No School - Teacher Planning Day

- 3-11 to 3-15 Penny Wars Fundraiser
- 3-11 5th Grade Field Trip - Crystal Springs
- 3-14 Clay Shoot Committee
- 3-15 Report Cards
- 5th Grade Field Trip - Crystal Springs
- 3-18 Board Workshop 8:00 am

15. Meeting Adjourned

Rouser Janay made a motion to adjourn at 6:34 pm; all approved.

Minutes submitted by:   
Emily Lastowski, Secretary

Date: 3-18-2024