

Micanopy Academy

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Micanopy Academy Board Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Micanopy Academy Cafeteria

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Frank Williams at 5:31 pm. Quorum was established with the following members Frank Williams, Nancy Brown and Bee Huff. Principal William Powell was also in attendance.
2. Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes and Agenda: The previous meeting minutes were approved as written by a vote of 3-0. The agenda was read and approved as written by a vote of 3-0.
3. Business/Finance: Nancy Brown stated that the finances looked okay and that the loan is still pending.
4. Reports to the Board:
 - a. There was no previous business.
 - b. PTO Report was presented by President Barbara Paulison who said that that the PTO is limping along and there is little parent involvement. Ms. Paulison said that sale of ice cream and sodas is doing well and there are some additional fundraisers coming up. Ms. Paulison stated that there is a store-style market set up to raise funds for the eighth grade trip to Gradventure. The next meeting of the PTO is scheduled for April 29, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. The PTO will utilize Facebook and email to contact parents.
5. Principal's Report:
 - a. The Principal's Report was presented by William Powell who stated that the FTE currently remains at 64 students. Mr. Powell is still waiting on a response from the bank regarding the refinance of the loan. Mr. Powell said that he recently received a refund check of \$18,000 from the Internal Revenue Service for an overpayment that occurred in October.

Mr. Powell said that the writing portion of the state testing has been completed. One student was not present, but we still met the required 95% participation. A schedule has been distributed for future dates of mandatory testing. The state auditors will be coming to the school for the second week of the testing.

Mr. Powell said that the newsletter is still an effective means of communication and that he continues to receive positive feedback about it.

b. Mr. Powell presented the proposed calendar for the school year 2024-2025. The board approved the calendar with a vote of 3-0. At this time, there is no update regarding prospective students or applications. Mr. Powell said that the last day of school is May 23, 2025. Summer hours for the two office staff will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Powell explained that E-rate was approved to cover technology such as WiFi and will begin in August. Mr. Powell said that we purchased 70 Chromebooks for which we will be reimbursed. This purchase will enable each student to have a laptop. Mr. Powell said Emerald Data informed him that it will be necessary for us to replace ten desktop computers. Since Windows updates are no longer supported for them, there will be no more security updates and the desktops will need to be retired.

Mr. Powell reported that he received an email from the District to move forward with accreditation. We have not completed the accreditation process and will be required to inform parents that we are not accredited. Some of our textbooks date as far back as 1997 and Mr. Powell is looking for ideas from teachers about how to obtain electronic versions. We will not receive any help from the county to purchase updated textbooks. Our math textbooks are the only ones that are up to date.

Mr. Powell stated that we got Planter boxes from the University of Florida and we have begun plant projects. This is currently a volunteer venture but could become an elective next year. Mr. Powell wants to maintain the computer science class for the upcoming school year. We are not a Title 1 school at this time and the application will require a large amount of paperwork.

Mr. Powell said there are no new additions to the Threat Management System and things remain the same in this area.

c. MACS is moving forward with their intention to add sixth grade during the 2025-2026 school year. It will be necessary for MACS to go through a renewal process to add sixth through eighth grades. The school currently does not have enough space to add all three grades. Mr. Powell continues to communicate with Brenda Maynard, Director of MACS to foster a positive relationship with their school. Mr. Powell stated that Ms. Maynard is on board with the concept of being united with the goal of focusing on student education.

6. Board Business:

a. President Report: Frank Williams commented that we will make it through the rest of the school year financially. Mr. Williams commended Mr. Powell for his perseverance. Mr. Williams explained that the school needs to thrive, not just survive. He said we already provide excellence in the classroom and have the opportunity to be innovative and creative in our methods of teaching the students. Mr. Williams hopes to continue improving our relationship with MACS.

b. Proposed Date for the Next Board Meeting: The next meeting will be on May 13, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

7. Remarks from Board Members on Non-Agenda Items: Bee Huff mentioned that she and her husband, Al Huff met with Tami Delaney, Principal of C.B. Parker Elementary School in Gainesville to promote Micanopy Academy. Ms. Huff reported that Ms. Delaney was not aware of our school, the information was well received and it was a positive point of contact.
8. Public Comment on Agenda Items: Ms. Welch, Micanopy Academy paraprofessional, commented that there has been some difficulty in our relationships with MACS in the past.
9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Board Signatures:

Minutes by Bernice D. Huff, Secretary

Frank Williams, President

Nancy Brown, Treasurer