

# Micanopy Academy

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Grades 6 – 12

[www.micanopyacademy.com](http://www.micanopyacademy.com)

## Micanopy Academy Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Micanopy Academy Cafeteria

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Frank Williams at 5:33 pm. Quorum was established with the following members Frank Williams and Bee Huff. Nancy Brown was not present. 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 2-0. The agenda was read and approved as written by a vote of 2-0.
3. Business/Finance: The financial report was received from William Powell. Mr. Powell stated that he forwarded the records to Nancy Brown and she indicated her agreement.
4. Reports to the Board:
  - a. There was no previous business.
  - b. PTO Report was presented by President Barbara Paulison who said that there has not been a meeting since February. There is a meeting scheduled for the Tuesday after Spring break (March 25, 2025) at 6:00 pm. Ms. Paulison said the Sea World trip and the school dance were both successful. There will be a fundraiser for Gradventure. The initial cost for the trip is \$130 per student including a meal voucher. The price is the same for chaperones.
5. Principal's Report:
  - a. The Principal's Report was presented by William Powell who stated that the FTE is currently at 64 and holding for the February count. Mr. Powell said that we had an unexpected expense due to the absence of Mr. Bowden. It was necessary for us to utilize the game wardens from the Florida Wildlife Commission one week and we were able to obtain the services of our previous guardian, Mr. Johnson for the additional time period. Mint was behind and we are in the process of revising the contract with them.
  - b. Attendance week was January 27 through February 7, 2025. Another e-rate is scheduled for August. Mr. Powell is working to secure a bridge loan with a five-year term from Capital City Bank. Marketing efforts are improving and we currently have thirteen new applications for incoming sixth graders from all over Florida. Mr. Powell expects a total of 74 students at the start of the new school year in August with 28 of those students enrolled in high school.



Mr. Powell said that there are no updates from the University of Florida Department of Education on the status of the student teachers. William Powell (Spanish), Charles Davis (Physical Education, Health and Middle Grades General Science), Shawna Bitton (Middle Grades Mathematics), Serena Suggs (Middle Grades English and Reading) and Paityn Arroyo (Reading) are currently working out of field and in the process of obtaining the necessary certifications. Mr. Powell previously sent a letter to notify parents. The board is aware of and approves of the out of field employment.

The University of Florida offered planter boxes for us to begin gardening and a parent offered to provide hydroponic planters.

Two newsletters went out and Mr. Powell received a good response from parents. Communication between parents is improving.

Mr. Powell explained that he is continuing to focus on improving school enrollment. Twenty-four prospective students reached out and staff is following up to obtain applications. There will be an emphasis on art, robotics and computer science next year. We are only one of two schools in Alachua County to offer computer science. Mr. Powell would like to resume sports such as soccer and volleyball in the future.

Mr. Powell is getting quotes to replace the lights and flooring in the school. There is a need to upgrade textbooks and Mr. Powell is trying to obtain funds for new laptops. We currently have thirty-four laptops with a goal of having a laptop for each student. Mr. Powell plans to contact A, T and T regarding assistance to purchase laptops. We received a donated laptop cart from Boulware Springs.

Mr. Powell said there are still five active cases in the Threat Management System, and there are no changes in this area. Mr. Powell stated that we are the top charter school in reporting.

Mr. Powell noted that the school has a need for a backup guardian and stated that Ms. Andrews is interested in obtaining certification.

c. MACS is starting a middle school during the 2025-2026 school year with the intent to begin with sixth grade only. Mr. Powell is communicating with Brenda Maynard, Director of MACS to continue a partnership with their school. Mr. Powell stated that he does not want to be in competition with MACS but wants to achieve a mutual goal of being united with the focus on educating students.

## 6. Board Business:

a. President Report: Frank Williams stated all is well and the school is on track with its goals. Mr. Williams expressed his apologies for being absent for the last meeting. Mr. Williams indicated that he has contact with the school board and Mr. Powell regularly. In addition, Mr. Williams said he has received glowing remarks from the parents. Mr. Williams commended Ms. Andrews for putting together the school newsletter and said that it had a powerful impact.



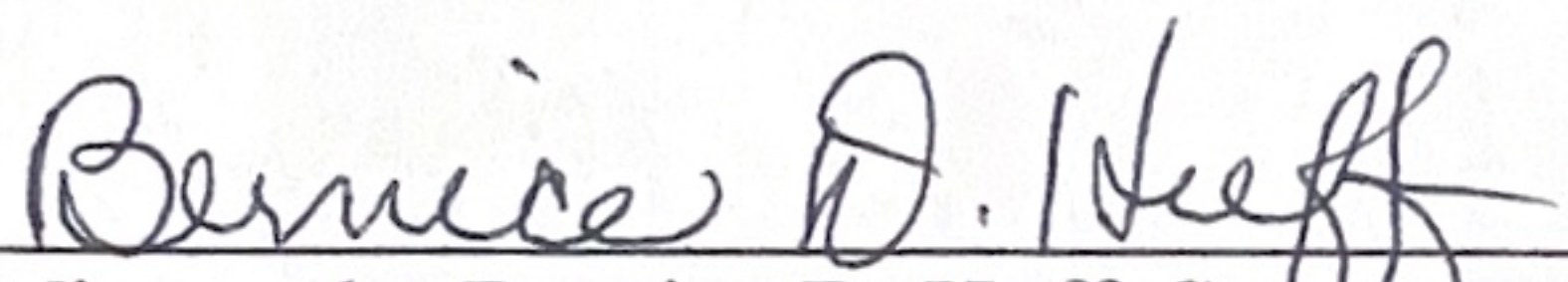
b. Proposed Date for the Next Board Meeting: The next meeting will be on April 15, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

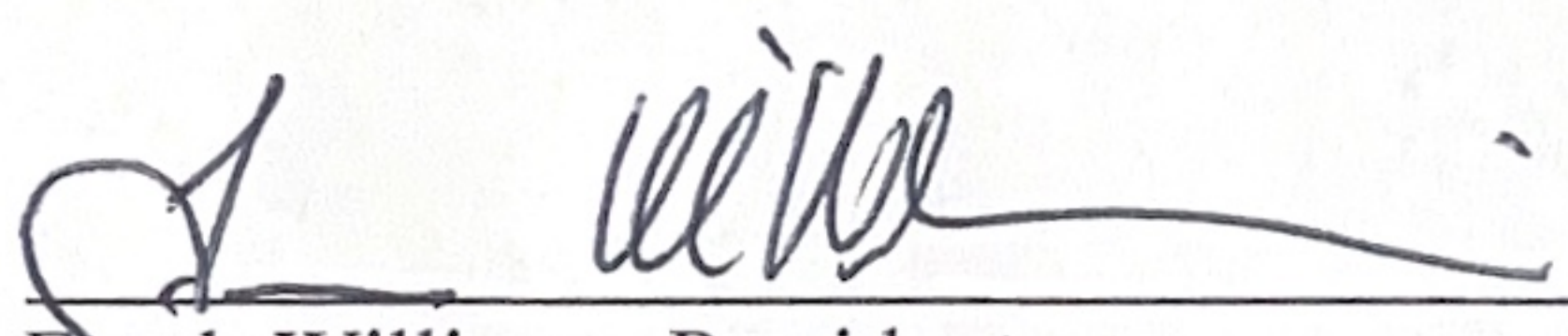
7. Remarks from Board Members on Non-Agenda Items: None

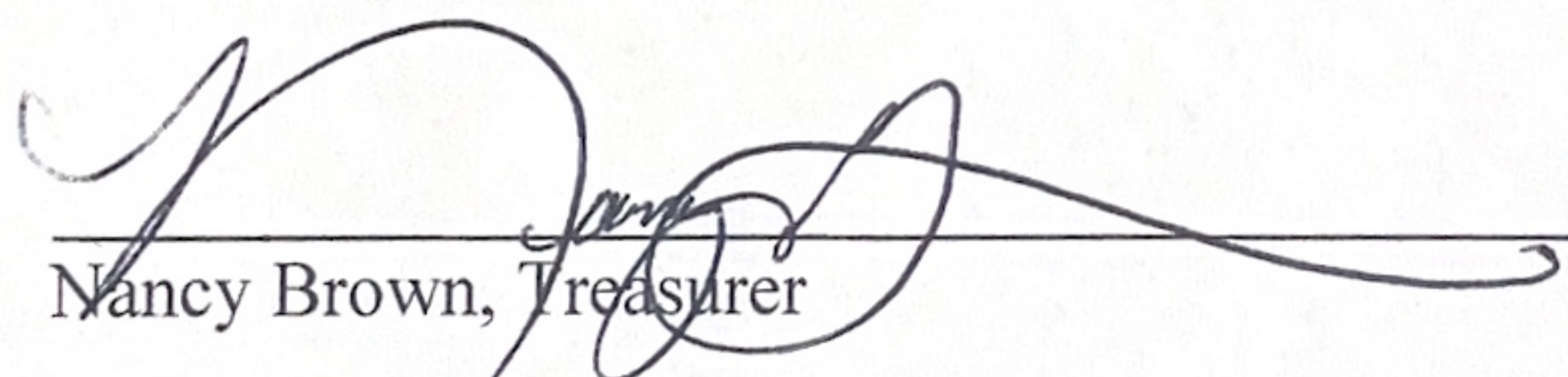
8. Public Comment on Agenda Items: Lesleigh Phillips, Micanopy Academy Math and Science teacher commented that she wants to intensify the science program with an algae academy for biology and life sciences. She is exploring the possibility of classes in chemistry next year. Mrs. Phillips played a RAP song that was created by her eighth grade class. The students created three songs using artificial intelligence. Mrs. Phillips gave a demonstration of a robot her students designed called "Trash Buddy" that was created with 3D print and robotics technology. The robot is designed to pick up and empty trash.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm.

Board Signatures:

  
Minutes by Bernice D. Huff, Secretary

  
Frank Williams, President

  
Nancy Brown, Treasurer