

LIFE BOARD MEETING 8.17.24

Members present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Mr. Gregory Spencer, Dr. William Simmons

Agenda

10:00 am

Opening Remarks and Call to Order

Financial Report

Head of School Report

CEO Report

Old Business

New Business

Questions and Answers Board and Community

Adjournment

The conversation revolved around the challenges faced by charter schools in providing special education services, including managing placements, funding, and negotiating settlement agreements. Speakers discussed financial difficulties faced by non-profit schools and strategies for managing finances, as well as challenging situations involving special education students. Fundraising efforts for school were also discussed, including an upcoming fundraiser and grant application progress.

Financial Report

Read and approved

Special education students placement and compensatory education.

- Reverend Taleeta Canady and Mr. Kevin Bivins discussed challenges with supporting students with extreme emotional issues in a charter school.
- Staff will receive legal counsel from school attorneys and the AIU.

Growing a charter school, budget, and fundraising.

- School aims to enroll 125 students to break even, with 109 currently enrolled and 23 in queue.
- updates budget to reflect 109 students, including \$585,000 in CSP funding.
- Key to success is private fundraising, maximizing CSP grant, and holding off on third floor renovation.

Upcoming fundraiser and board member availability.

- Updates on a fundraiser for the school.
- Dr. Canady invites board members to a fundraiser next Saturday in Gibsonia, with a maximum of 10 attendees, including themselves.

Funding for a school, including a grant application and meeting with potential funders.

- Mr. Bivins provides information on school start dates.
- Provides details on school orientations for new and returning students, with the sixth grade coming on the first day and subsequent grades phasing in over the next few days.

After discussion and questions and answers meeting was adjourned

LIFE BOARD MEETING 9.21.24

Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer, Dr. William Simmons

Agenda

Opening Remarks and Call To Order

Financial Report

Head of School Report

CEO Report

New Business

Old Business

Questions and Answers

Adjournment

The meeting discussed the school's progress, including the appeal for occupying the third floor, which would accommodate ninth graders and improve teacher space. A recent fundraiser yielded \$10,000, and a \$10,000 grant from Dick's Sporting Goods was secured. Enrollment is at 118 scholars, with new staff additions in music, art, and Spanish. The school received furniture from Pittsburgh Technical College and is developing a fab lab. A new counselor, Miss Kimberly Booth, was hired. The school is exploring dual degree programs and trade programs. The next open house is scheduled for October 30th, and the school will host a charter school conference on October 23rd.

Action Items

- Send information on the Bishop Walker School's "Adopt a Scholar" program to Reverend Taleeta.
- Provide information on the aviation program to parents.
- Explore partnership opportunities with the Mon Valley Lions Club.
- Send information about the aviation program to Dr. Simmons.

Outline

Financial Report

Motion to accept the financial report, which is seconded and approved by the board members.

School Space and Fundraiser Update

- Dr. Canady discusses the current school space challenges, particularly with ninth graders occupying the third floor.
- The school is working on an appeal to occupy the third floor with full capacity, which would enable better classroom distribution for teachers.
- A recent fundraiser did not yield significant financial results, but efforts are ongoing to improve marketing and enrollment.
- The school has a strong teaching staff, with a few positions still open, particularly in ELA, social studies, and science.

Additional Programs and Community Outreach

- Mr. Bivins discussed the aviation program at the school, which includes African American pilots and has students flying airplanes.
- The school is exploring partnerships with local trade programs and early college programs to provide additional educational opportunities for students.
- Mentions involvement with the Mon Valley Lions Club, which is working to address funding disparities in local school districts.

Marketing and Staff Updates

- Reverend Taleeta, highlights the work of Vertex Marketing in promoting the school through various platforms like Instagram and Facebook.
- The school has seen an increase in enrollment, with around 118 scholars currently enrolled.
- New staff members, including Mr. Alton Mitchell (music teacher and Minister of Worship and Arts), Mr. Coleman (art teacher), and Mrs. Finley (Spanish teacher), have joined the school. A new counselor, Miss Kimberly Booth, has joined the staff, bringing valuable experience from the criminal justice system.

- The school will host an open house on October 30th, and two scholars will participate in the Youth Leadership segment of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools summit on October 23rd.

Financial and Infrastructure Updates

- Dr. Canady mentions receiving a \$10,000 grant from Dick's Sporting Goods to improve the school's parking lot equipment.
- The school has received furniture from Pittsburgh Technical College, which has significantly improved the school's appearance.
- The school is working on developing a fab lab for interactive and maker space for students, with some equipment already in place.
- The meeting ends with a call for more board members and advisory board members, particularly those with expertise in STEM and finance.

Meeting was adjourned

LIFE BOARD MEETING 10.19.24

Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer

Agenda

Opening Remarks

Financial update

Head of School Update: Mr. Kevin Bivins

CEO Report: Reverend Taleeta Canady

New Business

Community speaks

Adjournment

Next Board Meeting-

The meeting on October 19, 2024, covered several key points. The financial report was accepted, and Mr. Kevin Bivins reported on various school activities, including a successful parent-teacher conference, new technology acquisitions, and the expansion of the music program. The board discussed the need for new policies and the process for their implementation. Concerns were raised by parents about lack of communication, uniform policies, and the need for lockers. The CEO reported on marketing efforts, grant extensions, and the implementation of a new attendance tracking system. The meeting concluded with a discussion on the need for individual parent meetings and the importance of proper communication and parental involvement.

Action Items

- Discuss the process for proposing and implementing new school policies with the CEO.
- Schedule a performance review meeting with Mr. Griffin.
- Explore opportunities to enhance the music program at Life Male STEAM Academy.

- [] Work with the HR director to get more familiar with the I-Solved system for tracking teacher attendance and PTO.
- [] Set up the Fab Lab equipment before the open house on October 30th.
- [] Provide additional information to parents about the Kappa League mentorship program.

Outline

Financial Report and Meeting Kickoff

- Dr. Canady calls the meeting to order and acknowledges the presence of special guests, including parents and board members.
- Dr. Canady thanks everyone for their hard work and dedication and introduces the financial report from Charter Choices.
- A motion to accept the financial report is made and seconded, with all in favor and none opposed.

Head of School Report by Mr. Kevin Bivins

- Mr. Bivens discusses the parent-teacher conference held on October 17, highlighting high participation rates and a new marketing program called "Bakery Boys."
- Students participated in the Pittsburgh Debt Week field trip to Commonwealth Charter Academy, and new technology additions include 35 Kindles, 20 iPads, and 60 computers.
- Monthly Wednesday meetings for staff focus on instruction, discipline, and additional learning to maintain teacher certification.
- Upcoming events include the parent-teacher conference, remote instruction day, end of first quarter, report cards, open house, and school transfers.

Discussion on School Policies and Board Input

- Board Member Cook Purnell inquires about the process for board input on new school policies, leading to a discussion on the proper order of policy approval.

- Board Member Wilson commends Mr. Bivins on his thorough report and expresses interest in discussing student transfers and performance reviews.

CEO Report by Reverend Taleeta Canady

- Reverend Taleeta discusses the continuation of services with Vertex Marketing, highlighting its impact on marketing LMSA.
- The Pennsylvania Charter School Program grant has been extended, and changes in the reimbursement process were discussed at a recent conference.
- The school safety and mental health grant has been extended to June 2025, and a new grant application for the same has been submitted.
- Concerns about tracking teacher attendance and PTO were addressed with the implementation of the iSolved system.

Open House and Third Floor Update

- Dr. Canady announces the opening of the third floor, which will include a new art classroom, a cafeteria, and a community room.
- The Fab Lab equipment, funded by a grant from the PPG Foundation, will be set up before the open house on October 30.
- The Kappa League mentoring program will begin, offering scholarships to students who complete the program.
- Dr. Canady requests board input on new policies and mentions changes at the Charter School Coalition, including the departure of Dr. Anne Clark.

Parental Concerns and Communication Issues

- Parent expresses dissatisfaction with the lack of communication at the school, particularly regarding lost items and uniform policies.
- Parent suggests focusing on private ventures for funding rather than relying on grants with stringent requirements.
- Parent emphasizes the need for better use of social media and parental involvement to support the school.

- Dr. Canady acknowledges the concerns and expresses willingness to meet individually with parents to address their issues.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

- The motion to adjourn the meeting is made and seconded, with all in favor.
- The meeting is officially adjourned.

LIFE MSA BOARD MEETING 1.18.25

Board Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Jamelle Holmes Davis, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer

Agenda

10:00 AM

OPENING REMARKS AND CALL TO ORDER

FINANCIAL REPORT

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

CEO REPORT

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ADJOURNMENT

The LIFE MSA Board Meeting on 1.18.25 discussed several key updates and initiatives. The financial report from Jesse Bean was accepted, highlighting ongoing struggles but progress. Mr. Bivins reported on the advancement of seventh-grade students to eighth-grade math and ELA, the reinstatement of the Ally Program, and the launch of the Accelerated Learning and Leadership Institute. The All-American Fridays program was introduced, costing \$50 per hour, with a \$150 weekly estimate. Upcoming events include the Pennsylvania Charter School Program Winter Summit on March 7 and the first annual spring concert in May. The board also discussed staffing needs, enrollment plans, and potential partnerships with organizations like the Campus Fraternity and 100 Black Men Western Pennsylvania.

Action Items

- Send the weekly newsletter to the board members.
- Identify two days a week for potential parents to tour the school.
- Prepare for the Pennsylvania Charter School Program's visit on March 7th.

Outline

- Dr. Canady welcomes everyone and mentions the presence of Mr. Bivins and Reverend Taleeta for presentations.

- He expresses gratitude for the high level of commitment to the mission and mentions the progress made in the fourth year.
- The financial report from Jesse Bean is discussed, highlighting the struggles faced and the need for additional funding.
- Dr. Canady mentions the PA CSP grant reimbursement and the need to shift funds due to personnel changes.
- A motion is made and seconded to accept the financial report, which is approved by the board members.

Head of School Report by Mr. Bivins

- Mr. Bivins highlights recent events, accomplishments, and future endeavors.
- Advancement of seventh-grade students to eighth-grade math and ELA classes is noted.
- The reinstatement of the Ally Program and the launch of the Accelerated Learning and Leadership Institute are discussed.
- Criteria for qualifying for the Ally Program are outlined, including academic performance and attendance.
- The I XL program is mentioned, emphasizing its use for math, reading, social studies, and science.
- The ninth-grade basketball tournament has started, with eighth and seventh graders invited to participate.
- The All-American Fridays program is introduced, allowing students to participate in various sports and activities.

CEO: Reverend Taleeta

Leadership Updates

- The academic calendar for 2025-2026 is almost finalized, with a submission date of May 29, 2025.
- Leadership evaluations for three staff members are conducted, focusing on time spent on learning floors and mid-year and end-of-year evaluations.

- Special education updates include learning walks and a special education night to inform parents about their rights and school programs.

Staffing and Enrollment Plans

- Preparation for next year's ninth-grade courses is underway, ensuring alignment with Pennsylvania Department of Education and NCAA standards.
- Staffing needs will be reviewed and communicated to Mrs. Canady.
- Student recruitment plans include a partnership with Vertex and administrative strategies to attract new students.
- The most recent hires, Andrew Ringel (special education) and Gary Monza (social studies teacher), are mentioned.
- Dates for upcoming events, including the Pennsylvania Charter School Program Winter Summit, the second annual Black History program, and the first annual spring concert, are shared.

Additional Updates and Closing Remarks

- Dr. Canady highlights the opening of the third floor, including a cafeteria, community room, music room, art room, and Fab Lab.
- The third floor will be used for ninth-grade classes, with a gradual rollout of the Fab Lab to other grades.
- The spring concert will be centered around Motown and used as a major fundraiser.
- The need for additional board members and the potential adoption of the school by organizations like the Campus Fraternity and 100 Black Men Western Pennsylvania is discussed.
- The meeting is adjourned with a prayer and a reminder of the upcoming events and the importance of community involvement.

LIFE MALE STEAM ACADEMY BOARD MEETING 2.22.25

Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Jamelle Holmes Davis, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer

Agenda

10:00 am

Opening Remarks and Call to Order

Financial Report

Head of School Report

CEO Report

Other Business (Old and New)

Questions and Answers

Adjournment

The Life Male STEAM Academy Board Meeting on February 22, 2025, covered several key points. The financial report from Vertex Education highlighted ongoing financial challenges but also progress. Greg Peasley and Greg Spencer discussed potential mentoring and fundraising initiatives, with a focus on leveraging their networks. The school is developing a course guide for the 2025-2026 academic year and finalizing credit requirements. The Smart Clinic faces funding issues, with a \$25,000 bill from the Ginn Group. The board is exploring partnerships with fraternities and organizations to enhance mentorship, leadership, and academic support for students.

Outline

Financial Report and Vertex Education Partnership

- Dr. Canady discusses the financial report from Jesse Bean, now known as Vertex Education, highlighting the merger and its impact in Pennsylvania.

- The financial report shows ongoing financial challenges but also progress, with plans to discuss additional assistance with Mr. Spencer and Mr. Greg Peasley.
- Mr. Spencer explains the meeting with Greg Peasley, who is well-connected and interested in supporting the boys through a mentoring program and potential fundraising efforts.

Mentoring Program and Fundraising Efforts

- Mr. Spencer emphasizes the importance of mentoring and bringing in professionals to speak about their careers.
- The discussion includes the potential for a fundraising initiative and the willingness of Vertex Education to partner with the school.

School Outreach and Fraternity Involvement

- Dr. Canady talks about meeting with the Boule fraternity and the 100 Black Men of Western Pennsylvania to develop outreach programs.
- The school aims to involve professional men in mentoring young students, reinforcing the idea that "if they can see it, they can be it."

Academic Initiatives and Special Education

- Mr. Bivins reports on the completion of six remaining IEPs and the submission of weekly reports on the special education audit.
- Mr. Bivins outlines the development of a course guide for the 2025-2026 school year, including syllabi submissions and the finalization of credit requirements.
- The school is exploring partnerships with local businesses for college and career initiatives and preparing for PSSA and Keystone exams.
- The successful parent-teacher conference and the Ally program for gifted and talented students are highlighted.
- The school is considering adding an intermediate algebra class to better prepare students for state exams.

Friday Activities and Basketball Program

- Mr. Bivins describes the school's Friday activities, including trips to All-American for sports and the positive impact on the students.
- The basketball program's success, including reaching the playoffs, is celebrated, and the importance of these outings as advertisements for the school is emphasized.

Smart Clinic and Financial Concerns

CEO Report

- Reverend Taleeta discusses the Smart Clinic's financial challenges, including the need for parents to pay a fee to access services beyond state-mandated ones.
- The clinic's financial support from the Ginn group is mentioned, and the potential impact of reduced hours if funding is not secured.
- Clarifies that the school pays for the registered nurse but not the nurse practitioner and doctor, and the bill for \$25,000 is discussed.
- Board Member Ms. Cook Purnell suggests rethinking the clinic's hours and services to align with the school's budget, emphasizing the importance of having a nurse on-site.

Hiring and Enrollment Plans

- Reverend Taleeta reports on the hiring process for the 2026 school year, including interviews for tech and Fab Lab positions and a math specialist.
- The school is finalizing revisions to the application and plans to open enrollment next week.
- Mentions the successful enrollment of the current freshman class and the need to finalize credit requirements for future graduating classes.
- The importance of aligning remote and flexible instruction with consistent attendance tracking and assignment retrieval is highlighted.

Upcoming Events and Visitor Cohort

- Reverend Taleeta announces an upcoming visit from a cohort of leaders from the Pennsylvania public charter school program on March 7.
- The cohort will include presentations on the school's STEAM program, academic program, culture, and Smart Clinic.
- Representatives from Grand Canyon University will also speak about academic opportunities for educators.
- The visit aims to showcase the school and provide valuable feedback and support from the cohort members.

Fraternity and Organization Partnerships

- Dr. Canady discusses plans to reach out to various fraternities and organizations for mentorship and support, emphasizing the potential benefits for both the academy and the organizations.
- The proposed partnerships include mentorship, leadership development, service projects, cultural awareness, academic support, and career exposure.
- Shares a document outlining the potential benefits and responsibilities of such partnerships, aiming to build a pipeline of success for the students.
- The importance of advocacy and fundraising efforts to support the academy's programs and initiatives is emphasized.

Meeting Conclusion and Motion to Accept Reports

Meeting Adjourned

LIFE MALE STEAM ACADEMY Board Meeting and Financial Review

3.15.25

AGENDA

10:00 AM

OPENING REMARKS AND CALL TO ORDER

FINANCIAL REPORT

HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

CEO REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS (OLD AND NEW)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting on March 15, 2025, discussed the financial report from Vertex Marketing, highlighting ongoing deficits and the need for additional funding. The Head of School reported on the success of the recent summit, the expansion to 10th grade, and summer school plans. The CEO mentioned the need for increased financial support for the Health and Wellness Center, which currently operates at a cost of \$25,000 per semester. The board agreed to explore fundraising options and maintain the clinic's full-time operation. The meeting concluded with a discussion on the school's impact and plans for future presentations.

Opening remarks and Call to order

- Dr. Canady initiates the meeting, welcoming board and staff members and thanking them for their attendance.
- Expresses excitement about the ongoing activities and requests continued prayers for the school's efforts.
- The financial report from Vertex Marketing (formerly Charter Choice) is mentioned, highlighting ongoing deficits and the need for additional funding.

Financial Report and Motion to Accept

- The motion is approved by the board members, with a unanimous vote in favor.

Head of School's Report

- Mr. Bivins provides an update on the recent summit, highlighting strong presentations and the involvement of Jarelle Holmes.
- The school is seeking permission to present board actions on attendance, graduation requirements, dress code, and technology agreements.
- Plans for expanding to the 10th grade with 40 students per grade level are discussed.
- Summer planning options are considered, including running a summer school or collaborating with other schools like CCA, CCAC, and Chatham.

Summer Planning and Final Calendar Submission

- Mr. Bivins outlines the final calendar submission date of March 18 and the college and career day on May 13.
- "Donuts with Dads" event is scheduled for March 20, and discussions are ongoing about providing different food options for high school students.
- The school is exploring options for equipping students with personal devices, either by renting or selling laptops and tablets.
- Discussed the importance of having laptops or tablets for instruction, especially during remote learning.

CEO's Report and Health and Wellness Center

- Reverend Taleeta reports on the successful Pennsylvania charter school program summit, with high accolades for the school's presentations and hospitality.
- The school is asked to duplicate the presentation at a Zoom summit call in April.
- Discusses the hiring timeline, noting that interviews are ongoing and second-round interviews have not been conducted yet.
- The enrollment timeline is outlined, with a deadline of April 11 for new student applications and decisions to be made by April 21.

Health and Wellness Center Funding

- Reverend Taleeta shares an email from the Ginn Group, requesting the school to take on a more active role in funding the Health and Wellness Center.
- The clinic is currently operating at full capacity, but the Ginn Group suggests reducing it to part-time if the school cannot fund it.
- Board members express concerns about the feasibility of reducing the clinic's operation and the impact on the school community.
- Reverend Taleeta agrees to gather more information about what a part-time clinic would look like and to explore fundraising options.

Parent and Staff Testimonials

- Board Member Ms. Jamelle Holmes Davis (parent) shares a personal testimony about the impact of the school on her son's life and the importance of the Brotherhood culture.
- Dr. Canady invites comments from board members about their experience at the recent summit, with several providing positive feedback.
- Reverend Taleeta mentions the school's plan to present the summit again on Zoom, with Scholar Jarelle Holmes as a key speaker.
- The importance of maintaining the clinic's full-time operation is emphasized, with discussions on how to fund it and the benefits it provides to the school community.

Final Remarks and Meeting Conclusion

Meeting Adjourned

LIFE MSA BOARD MEETING 5.17.25

Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Jamelle Holmes Davis, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer

Agenda

10:00 am

Opening Remarks and Call to Order

Financial Report

Head of School Report

CEO Report

Other Business (Old and New)

Questions and Answers

Adjournment

The meeting began with condolences for Reverend Vivian Wilson and David Griffin, who recently lost siblings. A financial report from Jesse and Vertex was accepted, noting the financial strain expected during the summer. The Head of School, Kevin Bivins, reported on the completion of PSA and Keystone testing, the 8th grade promotion, and the proposal for clear book bags for student safety. He also discussed support for students with emotional concerns, summer programs, and the need for new staff. The school is negotiating lease payments and exploring expansion plans.

Outline

Financial Report and Approval

- Dr. Canady discusses the financial report from Jesse and Vertex, noting the change in name to Vertex Pennsylvania.
- The report indicates financial tightness, especially during the summer when funds are less regular.
- Dr. Canady calls for a motion to accept the financial report, which is seconded by Greg Spencer and Dave Griffin.

Head of School Report by Kevin Bivins

- Mr. Bivins reports that the PSA and Keystone testing is complete, with students taking tests from mid-April to mid-May.
- The 8th grade promotion will be held on June 9 at Commonwealth Charter Academy, pending final approval.
- Proposes clear book bags for all students to ensure safety and communication with parents.
- Discusses support for students with academic and emotional concerns, including a primary caregiver student.
- Mentions the Learn and Earn program, which allows students to earn college credits while working.
- The program focuses on math and science classes, with some flexibility for other subjects.
- Highlights the importance of marketing the school to attract excellent students.
- Teachers are required to notify parents when a student's grade falls below 70%.

Professional Development and Technology Updates

- Announces professional development starting August 11, earlier than usual due to the first day of school being August 1.
- The school will not have a shorter vacation for Christmas, but the spring break will be adjusted.
- Discusses the purchase of 3D printers and other technology for the Fab Lab and classrooms.
- The school is in negotiations to purchase additional computers from a closing school, but the specifications are still pending.

Spring Concert and School Expansion Plans

- Dr. Canady announces the spring concert at Obama High School on May 20, with tickets available at the door.
- The school is planning to add a 10th grade in the fall, requiring expansion of the physical plant.

- Is working to lower the lease payments, currently at \$44,875 per month, to alleviate financial strain.
- The school is exploring the possibility of building a new facility on 31 acres of undeveloped land.

Meeting Conclusion and Next Steps

- Dr. Canady calls for a motion to accept the Head of School's report, which is seconded and approved.
- The meeting concludes with a reminder to attend the spring concert and an invitation to bring family and friends.
- Thanks everyone for their participation and support.

Meeting Adjourned

LIFE BOARD MEETING 6.21.25

Members Present: Dr. Darryl Canady, Dr. David Griffin, Ms. Jamelle Holmes Davis, Ms. Tawana Cook Purnell, Ms. Vivian Wilson, Mr. Gregory Spencer

Agenda

10:00 am

Opening Remarks and Call to Order

Financial Report

Head of School Report

CEO REPORT

OTHER BUSINESS (OLD AND NEW)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

ADJOURNMENT

The Life Board Meeting on 6.21.25 discussed financial challenges, including a need for \$1 million line of credit from PNC Bank for renovations and a \$45,000 monthly lease. The school raised \$8,000 from a Motown review and expanded to the 10th grade. Partnerships with Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) and Amazon provided resources. The school aims to increase parental participation and improve academic standards. The Smart Center's nurse practitioner position is at risk, and efforts are underway to secure funding. The meeting concluded with prayers and acknowledgments of board members' contributions.

Outline

Opening Prayer and Meeting Introduction

- Dr. Canady mentions the financial report and the need for a million-dollar line of credit from PNC Bank for renovations and summer operations.
- Emphasizes the importance of prayers during the summer months when funds are tight.
- Notes that the 403(b) retirement fund is up to date and acknowledges the patience of vendors with outstanding bills.

Mr. Bivins Report on Recent Events and Future Plans

- Reports on the success of the Motown review event, which raised \$8,000 and showcased the creativity and excellence of the scholars.
- The 8th grade promotion ceremony was well-attended, with many proud parents witnessing the transition to high school.
- The extended school year will be conducted online, and discussions with CCAC are ongoing to evaluate cost-effective strategies for high-quality instruction.
- LMSA is expanding to the 10th grade and working towards launching both a high school and a Junior National Honor Society chapter.

Partnerships and Expansion Plans

- Mr. Bivins discusses the partnership with Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA) for specialized content areas, which saves money by avoiding salaries and benefits.
- LMSA is expanding to the 10th grade and working towards increasing parental participation and implementing school-wide and county-wide writing competitions.
- The school is planning to add a new learning management system and expand the fab lab instruction.
- The theme for the next year is "data as a catalyst fueling STEAM success."

Discussion on Lease Negotiations and Facility Improvements

- Dr. Canady mentions ongoing negotiations with the lease company to reduce the monthly lease payment due to the current student population.
- The school is also working on a partnership with the All-American Field House in Monroeville for gym activities, which incurs a charge but provides a valuable environment for students.
- Emphasizes the need for a sports program and gym facilities to retain high school students and maintain their interest.

Staffing and Student Support Initiatives

- Dr. Canady discusses the importance of keeping top-flight students engaged and the challenges faced by students who started the school in the middle of the pandemic.

- The school is working on professional development for staff to improve communication and standards.
- The Smart Center, which separates the school from others, is facing challenges with funding for the nurse practitioner position.
- Is seeking ways to compensate the nurse practitioner and is open to suggestions for funding sources.

Closing Remarks and Acknowledgments

Meeting Adjourned