



Mission: To rally independent community support for the successful education of all Alamance County children.

Minutes of the:  
**Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE)**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Amtrak Station  
Burlington, NC

Thursday, December 21, 2006

Directors Present:

Lane Anderson  
Chris Davis  
Allison Gant  
Sylvester Lewis  
Barbara Massey

Jeff Andrews  
Terry Farmer  
Tom Lambeth  
Becky Loy  
Terry McNeill

Joe Barbour  
Tony Foriest  
Chad Laws  
Tina Manning  
Ed Woodall

Director Proxies:

Angela Thompson-Clark

Non-voting Ex Officio Member:

Randy Bridges

Tutoring & Mentoring Coordinator:

Janice Stone

Executive Director:

Mary Erwin

The **Board of Directors meeting** of the Alamance Citizens for Education (ACE) was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by President Allison Gant. Terry Farmer provided the invocation.

**Minutes:** A motion to accept the minutes of the November Board of Directors meeting was made by Terry Farmer and seconded by Joe Barbour. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Becky Loy distributed and discussed the reports, with the 12/20/06 Balance Sheet reflecting cash assets of \$89,537.12 in the bank.

**Special Presentation:** John Currin, President and CEO, Alamance Regional Medical Center, presented a check in the amount of \$20,000 to ACE to support current and prospective programs, and expressed his appreciation of what ACE is doing to improve public education in Alamance County.

**Organizational Development Committee:** Terry Farmer advised the Committee was reviewing adequate liability insurance coverage for ACE.

**Program of Work Committee:** Janice Stone, Tutoring & Mentoring Coordinator, expressed her appreciation and excitement about joining ACE, and reported on recent and pending activities, including:

- Visited the Think Center in Charlotte, a program of Communities in Schools, with a group formed by Robyn Hadley (What's After High School Initiative).
- Has entertained many calls from prospective tutoring and mentoring volunteers responding to an article in the Times-News and ads placed at the YMCA and public libraries
- Hosted the first tutoring & mentoring training session, with seven volunteers in attendance. The next training session is scheduled for January 9 at First Presbyterian Church.

Additionally, Janice distributed a draft copy of a new Tutoring & Mentoring manual for the Board to review.

Allison Gant advised applications for the next series of ACE Mini-Grants continue to roll in. The Mini-Grant subcommittee will review the applications on January 4. Allison also reported Program of Work is planning to schedule additional Community Forums on Gang Awareness and Internet Safety.

**Resource Sustainability / Fundraising Committee:** Mary Erwin reported on recent activity, including:

- 500 solicitation letters recently mailed to the business community. Many of the companies have also been contacted personally.
- \$3,500 in additional donations have been received since the November Board Meeting. Since April, approximately \$120,000 has been raised.
- Verbal pledges for 2007 are already in the \$75,000 range
- Received a \$1,000 Community Initiative grant from Elon University. ACE will work with a Communications class at Elon to update our website, brochure and software
- Waiting to hear back on Food Lion grant (applied for \$5,000)
- Waiting to hear back on Rotary grant (applied for \$2,000)
- Did not receive the Verizon grant for Eastlawn's Parent Resource Center, a partnership with the Enrich group (retired and current Elon University professors), but we have been asked to reapply in January. Verizon was simply out of funds for 2006.
- Approximately \$1,090 was raised from Christmas card sales

**Executive Director's Report:** Mary Erwin reported that Janice Stone was hired as Tutoring & Mentoring Coordinator on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and began working November 27<sup>th</sup>. She jumped right into the role and is doing a terrific job. Additional good news for Janice:

- Great article in the Times-News announcing her hire

- Office furniture donated by SunTrust Bank was delivered today
- A new laptop was purchased by an anonymous donor and delivered yesterday

Mary also provided a recap of her own recent activities and community involvement, including:

- On November 21<sup>st</sup>, with an invitation from Jean Maness, spoke to and received advise on the mentoring and tutoring project from ABSS elementary school principals
- Provided a report on ACE's accomplishments over the past year at the December 4<sup>th</sup> ABSS school board meeting
- Finished "Good Hearts, Good Skills" program sponsored by the Hayden Harman Foundation in November. Now looking at completing the certificate in non-profit management. ACE will receive a \$1,000 check from the Foundation upon Mary obtaining her certificate.
- Mary, Alice Shelton and Rhonda Shuler met with Mark Rumley and Gerald Dillashaw about partnering on an application to Wachovia for the Teachers and Teaching Initiative. An application will be submitted by this spring. ACE was invited by Wachovia in November to apply for this invitation-only grant, with the potential of \$300,000 in funding over three years.

Allison Gant reported on the potential of ACE partnering with Brain Train to supplement the \$50 classroom supplies checks for new and lateral-entry teachers.

**Remarks: Dr. Randy Bridges, Superintendent, ABSS:** Dr. Bridges provided updates on several ABSS initiatives, including:

- The selection process begins January 4<sup>th</sup> for Ann Davis' replacement as Principal at Western Alamance High School. Six internal and 21 external candidates are being considered.
- Interviews were conducted last week for the Principal position at the new MacIntosh elementary school
- Five ABSS high school football teams reached the third round of the recent state playoffs, including state champion Cummings High School and state runner-up Western Alamance
- Training on the new Connect-Ed phone communication system took place this week. The system will be launched in early January.

**New Business:** Terry McNeill reported that the ABSS is applying for a technology grant for Broadview Elementary School in conjunction with Alamance Community College. Terry also encouraged Board members to personally contribute funds toward the Eastern Guilford High School rebuilding effort.

Chris Davis made a motion for Treasurer Becky Loy to explore stock brokerage options for ACE to accept donations of appreciated stock. Terry McNeill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Allison Gant presented gifts to Mary Erwin and Janice Stone.

Mary Erwin thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director for the past year.

Joe Barbour recognized and congratulated Tony Foriest on his recent election to the N.C. Senate. Tony's installation ceremony is scheduled for 12:00 noon on January 24 at the state legislative building in Raleigh.

With no other business raised, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Woodall  
Secretary

#### **Meeting Reminders:**

**Board of Directors Meeting:** Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon – new Amtrak depot, Burlington (regular Board meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month)

**Program of Work Committee:** Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m. (meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at the ACE office, 719 Hermitage Road)

**Resource Sustainability Committee:** Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon (meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the ACE office)

**Organizational Development Committee:** Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, ACC, 12:15 p.m. (meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at ACC)

**Tutoring and Mentoring** (needs chair): Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 noon (meetings are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at the ACE office)

**Joint Board of Trustees / Board of Directors Meeting:** Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007