

# Micanopy Academy

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Phone (352) 466-1090      Grades 6 – 12      [www.micanopyacademy.com](http://www.micanopyacademy.com)

## Micanopy Academy Board Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Micanopy Academy Cafeteria

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Frank Williams at 5:30 pm. Quorum was established with the following members Frank Williams and Bee Huff. Nancy Brown was not present due to illness. 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 our funding was reduced to \$24,000, but the budget is looking good until the end of the school year.
4. Reports to the Board:
  - a. There was no previous business.
  - b. PTO Report was presented by President Barbara Paulison who that they lost their secretary and there is little parent participation in the PTO meetings. The Coin Wars activity generated \$64.00. The school dance is planned for February 28, 2025 and the PTO will be selling tickets for that activity.
5. Principal's Report: The Principal's Report was presented by William Powell who stated that the FTE is currently at 61. There will be a new FTE count in February and there are currently three new applications. It was necessary for Mr. Powell to make some staffing changes to compensate for the deficit in funds. As of January, Ms. Walker and Mr. Mishoulam have gone to seek other opportunities. In addition, Ms. Welch's hours were reduced to part time. Some of the higher functioning students were moved to advanced classes in math and English to challenge them and help consolidate classes. Marketing efforts are in full force and several commercials aired on ESPN radio during the holiday break. Word of mouth is also helping to promote the school.

Mr. Powell said that the partnership with the University of Florida Department of Education will begin January 8, 2025, when our teachers will start teacher training to work with UF student teachers. Charles Davis (Biology and Physical Education) and Shawna Bitton (Mathematics and ESE) are currently working out of field and in the process of obtaining the necessary certifications. Mr. Powell sent a letter to notify parents.



Mr. Powell is seeking approval from the School Board to distribute electronic flyers to Alachua County parents to promote Micanopy Academy. Bee Huff is trying to schedule a meeting with the principal of Parker Elementary School to discuss the possibility of some of their students shadowing at Micanopy Academy. Mr. Powell said that Ms. Andrews and Mrs. Hampton can make arrangements to schedule the students for shadowing.

Mr. Bowden is currently out on medical leave and is expected to be absent for four to six weeks. The Florida Wildlife Commission is currently sending an officer to provide coverage in the interim. Mr. Powell is planning to temporarily bring back Richard Johnson, who was the guardian at Micanopy Academy last year.

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 there is a pending application for Micanopy Academy to become a Safe Place.

6. Board Business:

a. President Report: Frank Williams stated that he has attended a lot of meetings at Micanopy Academy over the last month. There are plans for a new mission and strategy beginning in August. We need to facilitate better communication and will be asking for parent involvement and feedback. Mr. Williams said that the staff at our school speaks for itself. He is confident that our school will not just survive, we will thrive. Mr. Williams expressed his gratitude to the teachers and said what happens in the classrooms is the most important thing we are doing. He appreciates being greeted with open arms and believes we need to support one another.

b. Proposed Date for the Next Board Meeting: The next meeting will be on February 11, 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 the students are doing well in math and have great energy.

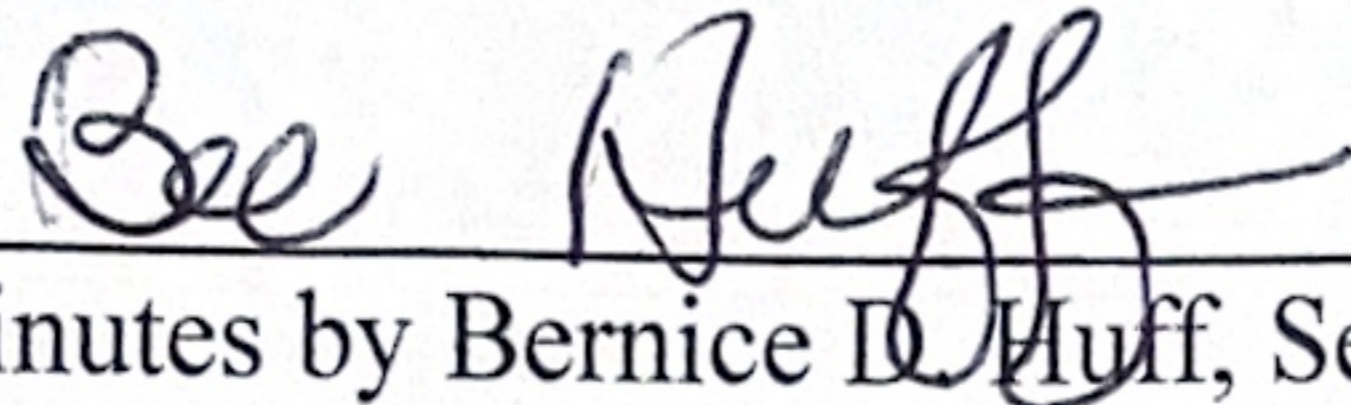
Clayton Phillips, who has been assisting with communications at Micanopy Academy, stated that he comes to the school every day. By sitting back and listening, he is able to get an uncluttered vision of what is happening. Mr. Phillips noted that the school is still healing and is becoming a family again. The people are beginning to support leadership. Mr. Phillips will begin to gather information from the teachers regarding their mission and vision for the school with the idea of obtaining one mission and one vision. He said the educators have heart and love the students. One of the goals is for Micanopy Academy to develop into a program-oriented academy which will be highlighted through media and marketing. Mr. Phillips wants to add Artificial Intelligence and Performing Arts to the programming in the future.



Mr. Phillips recently went to a school Budaka, Uganda through a partnership with Seeds for Life and took letters to them from the students at Micanopy Academy. The students in Uganda responded by writing letters and making a video to our students. Embracing international students provides a wonderful and exciting opportunity for community development. Mr. Williams made a motion that we create a sister school with the school in Budaka through a proclamation with their school. The motion carried 2-0.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Board Signatures:



Minutes by Bernice D. Huff, Secretary



Frank Williams, President

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Nancy Brown, Treasurer