

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2011 6:00pm
Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

Attended: Ron Berger, Brandy Dougherty, Meta Pautsch, Bob Radspinner, Jonathan Scharlau, Marc Berris, Joan Steinmann, Hemlal Kafle, Meg Fuller.
Others: Stan Hacker, Director; Diane Elkerton, SPED Director; Chris Wood, SPED Coord.; Wayan Rasmussen, Trans. Coord., Joe Falkner, Clinical Director, Jeff Jungwirth, Twin City Transportation, Rick Hartfiel and Ann Rooney, The Whole Learning School.

Absent: None

Call to order: 6:05pm by Ron Berger, Chair

School Mission Statement:

The mission of Lionsgate Academy is to provide a transition-oriented and personalized learning program focused on secondary high-functioning students on the autism spectrum that supports their full potential, participation, and self-determination within their school, family, and community.

To this end, Lionsgate Academy will create an educational environment that will model best instructional practice and research-based techniques so that the graduates will--to the fullest extent possible--live independently, be involved in further education or gainful employment and develop meaningful relationships with others.

Approval of the agenda: Marc, 2nd by Bob

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Bob, 2nd by Meta

1. The Whole Learning School:

- a. Presentation from “The Whole Learning School” is a very small private school (17 students) serving children with ASD. Please see handout.

2. Model:

a. Student Individual Learning Plans

i. Therapeutic Education Update-Joe

1. Change of staffing within the program, creating positive movement.
2. Looking at students and at their programs to make sure effective programs are taking place. Looking at having discussions with parents/families about their students programming and that it is effective. If it is not, then to look at the students’ needs and make sure LGA is the correct setting to meet their needs.
3. Looked at benchmarks, reflecting, monitoring/adjusting within the program and the students’ programming.
4. Working on how the different parts of the program are working together.

ii. AYP-Brandy

1. See handout: Made AYP in Reading, did not make AYP in Math.

3. Executive Director Search/New Sub-Committees

- a. Each Chair requested to meet once a month Stan and Ron
- b. Executive Director Search (Ron, Bob, Hemi, Meta, Alyssa, Joe)
- c. Growth of School (Jonathan, Joan, Stan, Marc, Meg, Dave, Diane)
 - i. Discussion around the size of the school and still having a viable program/school
 - ii. Growth of AIM program

- iii. How big can we grow without getting into 40% holdback?
- iv. Fact finding to begin with: What are the visions? What is needed?

4. Business

a. Finance-Dave/Jonathan

- i. MDE Financing: Made corrections on errors from EDRS and UFARS report. Now getting our payments as scheduled, but payments do not include General Ed. Appeal and Lease Aid.
- ii. Venture Bank Proposal
 - 1. See handout.

Motion: Move to approve and accept the Venture Bank Proposal and Administration to finalize the contract.			
Made by: Jonathan		Seconded by: Marc	
Discussion: See handout. This is a new contract for the upcoming year from 12/3/2011-12/3/2012.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

iii. October Financial Report

Motion: Move to approve October Financials.			
Made by: Bob		Seconded by: Hemlal	
Discussion: See October dashboard. If MDE pays Gen Ed Appeal and Lease Aid, LGA will not need to go into line of credit until June 2012.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

iv. Audit Report-review/approve

- 1. We received a clean audit opinion and we are solvent.

Motion: Move to approve and accept the audit report.			
Made by: Joan		Seconded by: Brandy	
Discussion: We received a clean audit opinion and we are solvent.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

b. Director's Report-Stan

- i. Polar Plunge Handout –LGA has a team and is looking for support in their team to help benefit Special Olympic
- ii. Emergency Food Network competition was very successful
- iii. Pride trips \$250 for each Pride. In the morning they will participate in a service opportunity and then a fun activity
- iv. Community Meeting:
 - 1. Had about 8-12 families attend and shared what is happening at the school.
- v. Switching Financials and HR into TIES system after January 1, 2012
- vi. Completed first quarter with success
- vii. Discussion around the School Calendar and how to balance the stress of the students and staff.
- viii. Staff retention is very important and to look at stability with staff numbers and enrollment.
- ix. LGA Art department had a student selected to have their artwork featured on the cover of Triarco Art Supplies and LGA student's quotes are featured within the catalog.

- x. Ms. Pautsch and Ms. Kitzman presented at the MN Art Conference, standing room only, very successful.
- xi. Administration to meet with Bryan Rossi from Novations on Friday.
- c. Reviewed December board meeting agenda
- d. Foundation Update-Jonathan/Dave
 - i. Strategic planning meeting this Saturday, November 19, 2012 and to focus on 1, 2, 3 year goals.
 - ii. Continuing to receive money and receiving requests for use of funds.
- e. Committee Reports
 - i. Governance-Joan
 - 1. Policies to Review
 - a. Policy 506 (Procedural); Code of Conduct-see handout
 - b. Student Discipline Policy 506-see handout
 - c. Bylaws-see handout
 - d. Send comments/questions within the next week to Joan in a redline format
 - 2. Policies to approve (Assurance requirements)
 - a. Facility Neutrality & Equal Access for Student Non-Curricular Groups
 - b. Religious Accommodation

Motion: Move to approve and adopt Facility Neutrality & Equal Access for Student Non-Curricular Groups, Religious Accommodation, and Facility Neutrality & Equal Access for Boy Scouts of America, Title 36 Groups and Other Outside Youth and Community Groups in accord.			
Made by: Joan		Seconded by: Hemlal	
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

Comments from Community Members:

Jeff Jungwirth from Twin City Transportation: Commented on having a positive working relationship with LGA and has appreciated our business.

Motion to Adjourn: Jonathan, 2nd by Hemlal at 8:03pm

Next Meeting: December 20, 2011, 6:00 PM