

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

TO: Jim Harms, Sara Bydzovsky, Malory Kosher, Christine Peper, Emy Bachman (ab), Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Chris Kenealy, and Kurt Nisi.

Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Ron Berger, Director of Finance, Guests from NEO Authorizer: Amy Erickson and Damon Frasier

FROM: Ali Thorstad, Chair

Call to order: Ali Thorstad, Chair, 6:03 pm

School Mission Statement:

The mission of Lionsgate Academy is to foster self-determination by providing a transitions-focused, personalized learning program for all students specializing in educating students with autism spectrum disorders.

Comments from Community Members: Public Comment is an open forum portion of the meeting and is an opportunity to present an issue, concern, or other statement to the Board of Directors. Individuals wishing to address the Board must sign up prior to the Call to Order and will be allotted three (3) minutes. Total public comment will be limited to twenty one (21) minutes.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

None

Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Move to approve agenda.			
Made by: Sara Bydzovsky		Seconded by: Darren Johnson	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:

Model:

1. Consent Agenda

Motion: Move to approve consent agenda.			
Made by: Chris Kenealy		Seconded by: Kurt Nisi	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
 - i. Lionsgate Board Minutes 9-22-2015
- b. Governance Committee Report 10-6-2015
- c. Approval of Policies
 - i. 923 Student Bus Transportation Policy
 - ii. 920 Student Pick up & Drop Off Policies
 - iii. 909 Extracurricular Participation

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

Novation Education Opportunities, 3432 Denmark Avenue Suite 103, Eagan, Minnesota 55123
Phone 612-889-2103 Fax 612-870-1200 email executive.director.neo@gmail.com http://www.neoauthorizer.org

iv. 904 Athletic Participation

2. Special Education Update (Dr. Halpin in place of Kafle)

- a. Emily Kafle presenting at MACE conference this week on the mental health model creating for LYNX program
 - i. Model focuses on how to address co-morbidity of mental health and autism spectrum disorders in schools
 - ii. Joe Falkner and Diane Halpin to join her

3. Strategic Planning Update

- a. Building Updates
 - i. Green Circle Drive drawings submitted to developer
 - 1. Developer will give cost per square foot which will be presented to the board when ready
 - ii. Lease will most likely be reviewed at next board meeting (November 17)
 - iii. Formal response was submitted to staff member Ted Schalow in response to his formal letter written to the board about the Green Circle Drive property
 - iv. Parent transportation meeting held 10/19
 - 1. Four families attended
 - 2. Families brainstormed options around how to provide transportation if school moves to Green Circle
- b. Annual Report Highlights
 - i. MCA 2015 Test Results/Overview
 - 1. Behind in math scores compared to state special education
 - 2. Science and Reading scores are doing well in comparison to state special education
 - a. In Language usage we've exceeded every target
 - 3. Overall we are seeing improvement

4. Business

- 1. Director's Report-Diane
 - i. Student Attrition 6% since we've been able to retain students
 - ii. Staff Attrition 19%, Retention is 81%
- 2. Foundation Update- (No Update) They have elected a new chair
- 3. Committee Reports
 - ~~i. Governance~~
 - 1. No Report
 - ii. Finance
 - 1. Committee Update
 - 2. Financials
 - a. Expenses look the same as beginning of year
 - b. We will go into line of credit come June
 - c. Revised budget will be brought to board in December
 - d. Balance sheet no significant changes

Motion: Move to approve financials.

Made by: Darren Johnson

Seconded by: Chris Kenealy

Discussion: None.

Vote:

Yea: 7

Nay: 0

Abstain:

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- iii. Building
 - 1. No structural updates needed other than raising the roof for Green Circle Drive property
 - 2. Finance committee will need to meet once numbers and costs roll in
 - 3. Lease agreement will be given to board members before decisions need to be made
 - 4. Second set of drawings will be shared once accurate drawings are done
- iv. Executive Director Evaluation
 - 1. Committee met tonight to prioritize work for the upcoming year, this year committee will
 - a. Work to operationally define all performance objectives used in the eval
 - b. Review other MN ED and principal evaluation processes to see if there are performance areas that needs to be added to the current ED evaluation
 - c. Check in with Diane throughout the year on priority areas identified by the Board and Diane
 - d. Create permanent end products, including a user friendly ED eval that can be used down the line and a general timeline that documents the process for the ED eval

5. Review: November Board Meeting agenda

- 1. Ali will need to leave by 7:45
- 2. The agenda will be rearranged so that the Building Committee will be the first agenda item
- 3. Auditors may be present
- 4. Annual report will be reviewed
- 5. Revision on budget will be presented
- 6. All board training will be held before the December Board Meeting (12/15) at 4:30
 - a. Wendy Swanson Choi will provide training on what schools need to expand

Motion to Adjourn: 7:02 pm

Motion: Move to adjourn.			
Made by: Sara Bydzovsky		Seconded by: Christine Peper	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:

Next Meeting: November 17, 2015 6:00 pm