

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
December 16th, 2014 6:00 p.m.

Lionsgate Academy AIM Site: 2342 Helen Street N. North St. Paul, MN 55109

TO: ~~Ryan Weber~~, Sara Bydzovsky, Malory Kosher, Christine Peper, John Barker, Ali Thorstad, ~~Darren Johnson~~, Chris Kenealy, and Kurt Nisi.
Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Shawn Bortel, Special Education Coordinator-AIM; Ron Berger, Director of Finance, Phil Hatlie, Loan Officer / Trainer, Nonprofits Assistance Fund

FROM: Ali Thorstad, Chair

Call to order: 6:30pm Ali Thorstad, 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.

School Board Finance Training:

Phil Hatlie, Loan Officer / Trainer, Nonprofits Assistance Fund

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.

1. Approval of the agenda:
 - Approval of the agenda, including the consent agenda.
 - Consent Agenda Items:
 - 301 Equal Access to Facilities
 - 619 Individualized Family Communication Plan
 - 506 Mandated Reporting of Violations and Disciplinary Actions to the MN Board of Teaching
 - Kurt Nisi asked to pull 506 Mandated Reporting of Violations and Disciplinary Actions to the MN Board of Teaching for clarification.
 - 506 pulled from consent agenda and moved to Governance Committee Report.

Approval of agenda

Motion: To approve consent agenda not including 506 Mandated Reporting of Violations and Disciplinary Actions to the MN Board of Teaching. 506 to be discussed during Governance Committee Report.	
Made by: John Barker	Seconded by: Kurt Nisi
Discussion: Kurt Nisi asked to pull 506 Mandated Reporting of Violations and Disciplinary Actions to the MN Board of Teaching due to a few questions he wanted clarified. 506 moved to the Governance Committee Report.	

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

Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

2. Special Education Update- Shawn Bortel

- Staff evaluations are under way at AIM.
- Leadership discussing students who have 1:1 staffing and how we can effectively fade support in order to increase independence.
- Special Education Coordinators have started to plan for Setting IV program.
- PAC Meetings- parents attended and good discussion.
- AIM- Creating business partnerships in the community. Students using their tech skills and working with media advertising for 7th St. Eatery; reaching out to expand volunteer opportunities and apply skills to other business. AIM students have also been able to work with business tasks needs at AIM. Using Free Greek as a satellite for other potential partners.

3. Strategic Planning Update

- NEO Reauthorization – No known issues around reauthorization. LGA has support from facilitator at NEO. Diane will let Board know if they need to follow up with anything.

4. Business

A. Director’s Report-Diane Halpin

- Paycheck difficulties today. Employees were not paid through direct deposit due to Paychex oversight. Situation was cleared up around 3:10pm.
- Discussion around staff members who work as PCA with current LGA students during non-school hours. Follow up discussion to determine whether a policy should be made or update in the school handbook.
- Approval of Academic Calendar 2015-16:

Motion: To approve 2015-16 academic calendar			
Made by: Chris Kenealy		Seconded by: Christine Peper	
Discussion: Proposed to start school for students on Aug. 31st and Spring Break to start April 11th-15th. Considered how this would affect standardized testing for students as well as the start of 4th quarter.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

B. Foundation Update- New members elected to committee. Looking for additional individuals to help facilitate fundraising; this can include non-members.

C. School Board finance training was conducted by Phil Hatlie from Nonprofits Assistance Fund from 7:20 to 7:50p.m.

D. Monthly Financial Report- Ron Berger

Motion: To approve financials accept financial ending 11/30/2014			
Made by: Ron		Seconded by: John Barker	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

D). Committee Reports

a. Governance:

- 3 policies were reviewed and they were all recommended for approval:
 - 301 Equal Access to Facilities
 - 619 Individualized Family Communication Plan
 - 506 Mandated Reporting of Violations and Disciplinary Actions to the MN Board of Teaching
 - 506 was discussed: questions concerning Policy 506. How do we investigate and follow up on this policy? Employees are mandated reporters. Any suspicious activity around this policy follows a school protocol.

Motion: 506 policy approved			
Made by: Kurt Nisi		Seconded by: John Barker	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

- 124.D10 Reflection
 - In accordance with Minnesota Statute (state statute, section 124.D10 subd. 14.) a charter school must publish an annual report approved by the board of directors. The annual report must at least include information on school enrollment, student attrition, governance and management, staffing, finances, academic performance, innovative practices and implementation, and future plans.
 - 124 D10 assessment given last spring-school board members were asked standard questions from assessment. Things to consider moving forward:
 - Board chair begin meetings asking members to bring up areas of conflict.
 - Board prepares for sustainability- ongoing training may need to be brought to attention, training needs to be followed up and certified.
- Discussion Around Upcoming School Board Elections
 - Employees eligible to be board members- Statute requires members to be teachers not licensed staff.
 - Feedback will be provided with Neo Org. timeline for Board elections.
 - Board discussed ensuring clarification in knowing when term is up and process in returning.
 - Discussed having board nominations to consider staff, community, and parent membership.
 - Board open to nominations of good candidate members. Board of Directors flyer created to entice interest.

b. Finance (Reported Under Business Already Due to Phil Hatlie' Financial Training.)

c. Building Committee:

- Report of projected enrollment for Main and AIM campus.
- Working on executing option of how to use space moving forward.
- Visited other setting IV sites.

- Looking into how to utilize space and create preliminary space map.

d. Executive Director Evaluation Committee

- Making progress on reviewing and revising the competencies for the ED Evaluation rubric
- Hope to have 2014-2015 rubric finalized by February

5. Review: January Board Meeting agenda

Motion: To accept January Board Meeting agenda.			
Made by: Chris Kenealy		Seconded by: Christine Peper	
Discussion: Barker asked to discuss policy involving pets. Follow up next board meeting.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay:	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

Motion to Adjourn: 8:50 pm

Motion: To adjourn December Board Meeting			
Made by: Kurt Nisi		Seconded by: Kosher	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

Next Meeting: January 20th, 2015

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