

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 15, 2016, 6:00 pm  
Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

**TO:** Jim Harms (ab), Sara Bydzovsky, Malory Kosher, Christine Peper, Emy Bachman, Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Chris Kenealy, and Kurt Nisi.  
Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Emily Kafle, Special Education Director; Ron Berger, Director of Finance  
**FROM:** Ali Thorstad, Chair

**Call to order:** Ali Thorstad, Chair, 6:04 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**

- a. Peper asked for Executive Director Evaluation committee report be taken off of the agenda for this month

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve agenda, minus ED Eval committee report.			
<b>Made by:</b> Peper		<b>Seconded by:</b> Johnson	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>

**Model:**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
  - i. Lionsgate Board Minutes 2-16-2016
- b. Governance Committee Report 3-1-2016
- c. Approval of Policies
  - i. 512 Equal Opportunity Employment-Revision
  - ii. 520 Employee Performance Policy
  - iii. 604 Background Checks-Revision

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda.			
<b>Made by:</b> Bachman		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bydzovsky	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>

**2. Special Education Update (Emily Kaffle)**

- a. Enrollment meetings are in full swing
  - i. Eighteen 7<sup>th</sup> graders have been placed so far
  - ii. Room for four more 7<sup>th</sup> graders and four more 8<sup>th</sup> graders
  - iii. Meetings are being held across all campuses and program settings-Main Campus, Lynx and AIM
  - iv. Goal is to have 190 students enrolled across all campuses for fall 2016

**3. Strategic Planning Update (Joe Falkner)**

- a. Clinical Director Joe Falkner presented on the mental health service model for Lionsgate
  - i. Multi-tiered system
    - 1. Tier 1: Universal Behavioral and Social Emotional Supports and Counseling
    - 2. Tier 2: Skills Training for Targeted Individual and Small Group Interventions
    - 3. Tiers 3 and 4: Mental Health Related Services (Therapy/Treatment)
      - a. Lynx program is in Tier 4
        - i. Requests for student placements from outside districts have been coming in
  - ii. Discussion on progress and future plans for the mental health service model at Lionsgate

**4. Business**

- 1. Director's Report-Diane
  - i. Student Achievement
    - 1. Spring testing season has begun
    - 2. Hired new LPN who started 3/14/16
    - 3. World's Best Workforce report came back positively
    - 4. 12<sup>th</sup> grade student won Best Prep's Stock Market Exchange Essay contest
    - 5. Feedback from NEO regarding Board performance: Good reviews, Board doing well
- 2. Foundation Update
  - i. Kathy Carlson from Foundation gave fundraising updates
    - 1. Annual Fundraising Breakfast: April 1, 2016 at Metropolitan Ballroom
      - a. 65 people currently registered
      - b. Hope to have 10 tables
      - c. Fundraising focus will be on new building needs
    - 2. Indeed Fundraising Event: March 23, 2016 at Indeed Brewery
    - 3. Pickin' for Autism: April 23, 2016 at Amsterdam Bar
  - ii. Foundation will be repositioning their mission statement at next meeting
    - 1. Want to possibly include more to their work beyond purely fundraising
- 3. Committee Reports
  - i. Governance
    - 1. MACS Joint Letter to Schools
      - a. Board discussed letter
    - 2. Change in Meeting Night for 2016-17 Board Meetings
      - a. To meet board member needs, it was suggested to move meeting dates starting in August 2016 to Thursday nights

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve Board meeting nights change from Tuesdays to Thursdays starting in August 2016.
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<b>Made by:</b> Nisi
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<b>Seconded by:</b> Johnson
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**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](mailto:executive.director.neo@gmail.com) <http://www.neoauthorizer.org>

<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>

ii. Finance

1. Committee Update
2. Financials

<b>Motion:</b> Move to accept financial statements.			
<b>Made by:</b> Bachman		<b>Seconded by:</b> Kenealy	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>

iii. Building

1. Construction timeline given
  - a. Demolition and framing nearly complete
  - b. Hope to have items moved from Crystal to Green Circle Drive in early June
  - c. Hope to have certificate of occupancy for Green Circle Drive by July 2016
  - d. ESY will be held at North St Paul site
2. Evaluating solar project for Green Circle Drive
3. Relationship with Wellington going well
  - a. Valuable relationship and they are excited about new school

~~iv. Executive Director Evaluation~~

**5. Review: April's Board Meeting Agenda**

**Motion to Adjourn:** 7:28 pm

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn.			
<b>Made by:</b> Bydzovsky		<b>Seconded by:</b> Nisi	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>

**Next Meeting:** April 19, 2016, 6:00 pm