

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
 District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
 April 19, 2016

Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

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

**Approval of the Agenda**

1. One change to the agenda, Governance Committee Report was amended and will be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed in the Governance Committee Report.

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve agenda, with changes to the Governance Report being moved.			
<b>Made by:</b> Nisi		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bachman	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Model:**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- i. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
  - i. Lionsgate Board Minutes 3-15-16
- ~~ii. Governance Committee Report 4-5-2016~~
- ~~iii. Approval of Policies~~

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda.			
<b>Made by:</b> Peper		<b>Seconded by:</b> Harms	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**2. Special Education Update**

- i. Wrapping up transitions meetings
  - a. All letters sent out
  - b. Second meetings begun

**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

- ii. Adding a fourth resource room next year
- iii. AIM has opportunity to work with MDI to hire students full time in NE Mpls
  - a. Three AIM students working there currently
  - b. MDI requested three more students begin working at the facility
- iv. In planning for next year we hope to hire a licensed psychologist to join our support services team
- v. We've accepted 36 new students into LGA for next year
  - a. More girls have been selected from the lottery
  - b. 5-6 students entering into LGA are non-special education

**3. Strategic Planning Update**

- i. Branding school
  - a. Brochures for each site secured, except Lynx that one is underway
  - b. Magazine launch at Community In-Reach Breakfast was successful

**4. Business**

- 1. Director's Report-Diane
  - i. Student Achievement
    - 1. Graduation
      - a. AIM send-off May 24<sup>th</sup>
      - b. LGA Crystal Graduation May 26<sup>th</sup>
    - 2. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) is a follow up to No Child Left Behind
      - a. MDE having info sessions around changes, LGA will be at every session excluding 3<sup>rd</sup> grade session
      - b. Accountability changes- Dr. Halpin went and was impressed by state
- 2. Foundation Update
  - i. Meeting Tuesday 4/26/16
  - ii. Roughly raised \$75k in donations during Community In-Reach Breakfast
- 3. Committee Reports
  - i. Governance
    - 1. Amended Governance Report Discussed
      - a. Elections coming up, voting begins April 29<sup>th</sup>
  - ii. Finance
    - 1. Committee Update

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve Diane Halpin to sign loan with Venture Bank			
<b>Made by:</b> Nisi		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bachman	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

- a. Review and Approve the Form 990 for filing

<b>Motion:</b> Move to file tax return form 990 as submitted			
<b>Made by:</b> Peper		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bachman	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

b. Financials

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve March 2016 financial statement package as submitted			
<b>Made by:</b> Bydzovsky		<b>Seconded by:</b> Harms	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

i. Building

a. Provided status report on Green Circle Drive project.

~~ii. Executive Director Evaluation~~

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

i. Meeting will be held at AIM Campus

**Motion to Adjourn:** 7:16 p.m.

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn.			
<b>Made by:</b> Nisi		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bydzovsky	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 8	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Next Meeting:** May 17, 2016, 6:00 pm (North St Paul campus)

**Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:**

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