

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
 District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
 December 15, 2016, 6:00pm  
 Lionsgate Academy 5605 Green Cir Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55343

**TO:** Jim Harms, Sara Bydzovsky (ab), Jo Sander, Christine Peper (ab), Emy Bachman (ab), Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Liz Wielinski, and Laura Cottington.  
 Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Ryan Rehnstrand, Special Education Director; Ron Berger, Director of Finance  
**FROM:** Ali Thorstad, Chair

**Call to order:** Ali Thorstad, Chair, 6:06pm

**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.

Leadership and Enrichment Opportunities (LEO) student observers introduced

**Conflict of Interest Declaration** (None)

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Model:**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes 11-17-2016
- b. Governance Committee Report 12-7-2016
- c. Approval of Policies
  - i. 501 At Will Employment DRAFT
  - ii. 515 Whistleblower DRAFT
  - iii. 516 Staff Dress Code DRAFT
  - iv. 602 Complaint Process Policy DRAFT
  - v. 616 Allergy Policy DRAFT
  - vi. 609 Prohibition of Harassment and Violence Policy DRAFT
  - vii. 918 Prohibition of Corporal Punishment DRAFT

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda.	
<b>Made by:</b> Sander	<b>Seconded by:</b> Harms
<b>Discussion:</b> None.	

<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea: 5</b>	<b>Nay: 0</b>	<b>Abstain: 0</b>
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## 2. Special Education Update

- a. Lionsgate has been designated as a High Quality Charter School
- b. MDE Legislative Update
  - i. Incoming President talked about an additional \$20 billion nationwide for schools. How that will be distributed should be something to follow.
- c. Lynx Program is doing great
- d. Halpin and Rehnstrand attended a Special Education Charter program at St Thomas
  - i. Lionsgate was use as the “positive example”
  - ii. MDE also had attendees at the program and were reminded to communicate with Charters as well as traditional public schools

## 3. Strategic Planning Update

- a. Dr Halpin lead the board through the 2015-2016 Annual Report
  - i. Highlighted points were:
    1. Innovation (pg11),
    2. Attrition Rates and Waiting Lists (pg15),
    3. Boards and Trainings (pg17),
    4. Right sizing our EA count (pg18),
    5. Financial Picture (pg22),
    6. World’s Best Workforce (pg 25),
    7. ELA portion summarized by Jim Harms (pg 30),
    8. Equitable Access to Excellent Teachers (pg31),
    9. Graduation Rates (pg 41) and lastly our IEP goals (pg 42).
  - ii. Dr Halpin also took the board through other pieces including the charts and tables on student achievement.

## 4. Business

1. Director’s Report: Diane Halpin
  - i. Student Achievement (discussed as part of Strategic Planning)
  - ii. High Quality Charter School designation gives us the opportunity to access
    1. Federal dollars to plan our expansion for Lionsgate East
  - iii. Toured 4 more possible sites for Lionsgate East
  - iv. We were awarded the \$94,000 Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant for the gym
  - v. Presented the draft 2017-2018 calendar
2. Foundation Update: Jo Sander
  - i. Working on the breakfast
  - ii. Date for Pickin’ for Autism is 4/29/2017
  - iii. LGA is the chosen non-profit for Indeed We Can on 5/17/16 at Indeed Brewery in Northeast Minneapolis
3. Committee Reports
  - i. Governance
    1. Discuss 901 Enrollment DRAFT

**Lionsgate Academy’s Authorizer is:**

<b>Motion:</b> To change the date of the lottery for 2017-18 school year to January 5, 2017.			
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<b>Made by:</b> Cottington		<b>Seconded by:</b> Sander	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

ii. Finance: Ron Berger

1. Committee Update

- a. Lionsgate has passed all the necessary inspections and the application for lease aid is being filed
- b. More success with grant applications and excited about access to planning dollars for expansion

2. Financials

- a. We will need to pass a revised budget at an ADM of 184.
  - i. The large variances in the revised budget compared to the original have to do with Special Education Transportation and Leasehold Improvements funded by grants
  - ii. Have our rent payments outgoing via ACH will result in no risk of late payments, leading in turn to the return of our security deposit from Green Circle LLC in November of 2017

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve November financials.			
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<b>Made by:</b> Johnson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Harms	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

3. Revised FYE 2017 Budget

- a. Our biggest changes have to do with the ADM, the costs and reimbursements for Special Education Transportation and leasehold improvements funded by grants. We will now end the year with a net income of \$15,491 vs the original of \$28,884

<b>Motion:</b> Motion to accept the proposed revised budget that includes total General Fund revenues of \$11,785,616 and expenses of \$11,770,124 and a Food Service Fund revenues of \$63,748 and expenses of \$63,748.			
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<b>Made by:</b> Sanders		<b>Seconded by:</b> Johnson	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:**

- iii. Building
- iv. ~~Executive Director Evaluation~~

**5. Review: January’s Board Meeting Agenda**

- a. Add approval of 2017-18 School year calendar to the agenda
- b. REMINDER to Board members of Strategic Planning Retreat on Saturday January 21, 2017 AT GCD

**Motion to Adjourn:**

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn at 7:47pm			
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<b>Made by:</b> Wielinski		<b>Seconded by:</b> Cottington	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 5	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Next Meeting:** January 21, 2017, 8:30am