

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2017, 6:00pm
Lionsgate Academy 5605 Green Cir Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55343

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

FROM: Ali Thorstad, Chair

Call to order: Ali Thorstad, Chair, 6:07 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: Wielinski unable to vote on youth sports grant.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Move to approve agenda.			
Made by: Cottington		Seconded by: Wielinski	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Model:

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes 2-16-2017
- b. Governance Committee Report 3-1-2017
- c. Approval of Policies
 - i. 902 Student Attendance Draft
 - ii. 510 Professional Development Draft

Motion: Move to approve consent agenda.			
Made by: Wielinski		Seconded by: Johnson	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

2. Special Education Update

- a. Rehnstrand and Halpin attended a two-day education law conference

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

- i. They will be updating administration with what they learned.
- b. AIM and High School Case Managers recently met to discuss the transition planning process from High School to the Transitions Program
 - i. In future years, this team will meet more often throughout the school year, hoping for 3 times a school year
- c. Administration has been discussing need of students as school expands to having an East campus
 - i. Specific discussions around students in Setting IV and how that might look
- d. LGA has new contract with TIES's Synergy, which will be replacing the traditional TIES product
 - i. Administration identifying who needs to be trained and how the process will be rolled out to staff
- e. Transition meetings are taking place for students planning to enroll next year
- f. Special Education supervisors have been working on next year's budget
- g. IEP Updates
 - i. Rehnstrand created a slide to be added to all IEP meetings that details transportation services and the issues that may arise throughout the year that might affect pick up and drop off of students
 - ii. IEP teams continue to work on students gaining independence, with a goal of less students increasing task independent and requiring less adult support and prompting
 - iii. Rehnstrand working on a flow chart for families that depicts the possibilities for students post-high school
 - 1. Discussion around AIM and how to determine if students are in need of transition services

3. Strategic Planning Update

- a. Brandy Dougherty updated the Board in place of Dr. Halpin
- b. Mark Wolak has continued to work with administration on identifying goals and prioritizing strategic initiatives
 - i. Peper commented that for the ED Evaluation Committee strategic initiatives are needed and that for this year's evaluation the Board will need to help the committee identify how to use the strategic initiatives this year since there is not a lot of time left
 - 1. Board will discuss more at April meeting
 - 2. Dougherty was hoping that initiatives could be shared at that time

4. Business

- 1. Director's Report-Diane
 - i. Student Achievement
 - 1. MCA Testing has been going smoothly
 - a. This year testing is occurring on 3 all-school test days instead of small testing groups over 6 days
 - i. Testing more groups of students at once and having non-testers participate in enrichment activities led by licensed staff
 - ii. Students have been testing longer and have been noticed being more independent
 - 2. Go Guardian Being Implemented at GCD starting April 3rd
 - a. Program that helps students safely use the internet and stay on task
 - i. Teachers will be able to see what students are browsing and can message students to get back on task or disable browsing if needed
 - 1. Pilot came back with teachers liking program and the results
 - ii. Staffing
 - 1. GCD campus: New lunch server hired

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

- 2. NSP campus: Substitute teacher hired, one job coach has resigned and one job coach position remains open
- 2. Foundation Update
 - i. Annual Fundraising Breakfast Update
 - 1. Board members given invitations and encouraged to host a table if possible
 - ii. Pickin' for Autism Update
 - 1. Darren is donating Twin's tickets
 - 2. Organizers are considering doing an online auction portion of the event for some of the higher priced donations
- 3. Committee Reports
 - i. Governance
 - 1. 2016-17 School Board Survey
 - a. Handed out to all Board Members
 - i. Can be returned to Bydzovsky, in person, via email or snail mail
 - 2. Potential Board Appointee for Community Member Vacancy
 - a. Darren is moving and next month (April) will be his last Board meeting
 - i. Steve Sawyer with U.S. bank is ready to step in and fill Darren's remaining 2 months of his term and then will run in the upcoming election

Motion: Move to appoint Steve Sawyer to fulfill Darren Johnson's community member seat for May and June, 2017.			
Made by: Wielinski		Seconded by: Sander	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

- ii. The Board will still need to elect a new Treasurer
- ii. Finance
 - 1. Committee Update
 - a. Committee met March 23rd
 - b. Reviewed Committee Report
 - 2. Financials
 - a. Financial statements reviewed-expense variables are favorable

Motion: Move to approve February financials.			
Made by: Wielinski		Seconded by: Bachman	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

3. Line of Credit Renewal

- a. Authorized administration to move forward with Venture Bank on the line of credit renewal

Motion: Move to remain with Venture Bank for line of credit with the following terms: Line Size: \$900,000 Rate: Variable Rate of WSJ Prime + 1%, Floor of 5.5% (effective rate of 5.5% as of today) Fee: 0.5% (\$4,500) Terms: 12 month maturity, interest payment due monthly Collateral: 1 st position UCC filing on all business assets of Lionsgate Academy .			
Made by: Wielinski		Seconded by: Sander	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

4. Grants

- a. There are no issues with MDE regarding the replication grant
- b. Agreement for the Hennepin County Grant is still being worked on
- c. An equipment grant application was submitted for \$10K, we will find out by the end of March

Motion: Move to have Diane review agreements. .			
Made by: Wielinski		Seconded by: Sander	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

iii. Building

- 1. Discussion around Wellington property in Shoreview

iv. Executive Director Evaluation

- 1. Nothing new to add, aside from the comments made under the Strategic Planning Update

5. Review: April's Board Meeting Agenda

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Move to adjourn at 7:17. .			
Made by: Cottington		Seconded by: Wielinski	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

Next Meeting: April 20, 2017, 6:00 pm (Meeting at North St. Paul Campus)

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

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