

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 15, 2013 6:00pm
Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

TO: Nicole Cleland, Meta Pautsch, ~~Bob Radspinner~~, Ryan Weber, Twila Jensen, Joan Steinmann, Meg Fuller, Anne Sarles.
Others: Diane Halpin, Director, Emily Kafle, Special Education Coordinator, Stan Hacker, Community Member,
FROM: Joan Steinmann, Chair

Call to order: 6:06 by Joan Steinmann, 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.

Approval of the agenda: Meg, 2nd Ryan

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Twila, 2nd Nicole

Model:

- 1. Board Education/Community Connections: No comments from Board**
- 2. Continuum of Care- Emily**
 - a. Continuum of care- Using Likert scale electronically, piloting with Seniors this year. Start using it with incoming 7th grade students during intake meetings this spring. The continued efforts should be worked into job descriptions so that it is not a separate project but integrated into what we are doing at Liongate.
 - b. The original committee will still be meeting in order to work on sections like health and wellness that need improvement. The committee will be surveyed for interest in working over the next summer to improve the project as well.
- 3. Special Education Update-Emily**
 - a. Onsite review from the department of education next Friday.
 - b. MDE will be interviewing staff, observing a student in class, and taking a tour.
- 4. Monthly Topic: Performance Indicators- School Wide Goals- Diane**
 - a. See handout.
 - b. 2013-2014 Performance indicators should be set in June on 2013.
 - c. Board should revisit the 2012-2013 goals in June 2013. MCA Testing results will be in, as will survey results.
- 5. Business**
 - a. Director's Report-Diane
 - i. SEAC Committee held a family pot luck last week, 55 individuals attended. The next meeting will be in February, 28th. The first item for the SEAC to meet about is the family handbook.
 - ii. Students delivered books to Metro Deaf School that were earned in the book fair earlier in the year.
 - iii. Summer Programs- staff filled out a interest survey and Therese O'Meara is setting a 3 week schedule. Funding will run though the Foundation.
 - iv. Parade of Homes- A Lionsgate family has mentioned LGA in the Parade of Homes.

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

Novation Education Opportunities, 500 Washington Avenue South, Suite 1020, Minneapolis, MN 55415
Phone 763-588-4453 Fax 612-870-1200 email neo2010@me.com <http://www.novationeducationopportunities.org>

- v. Hired a new License Math teacher. Hiring 4 Educational Assistants. Bringing in 3 students who are currently in the intake process.
- vi. Introduced a Time and Attendance Program to staff today. Educational Assistance will now clock in and out. The presentation to staff was met with mixed results. Diane will meet with Educational Assistance on Friday to help answer questions. Intention is to reduce paperwork and time staff put into Attendance related issues.
- vii. Building committee met last night. A financial subcommittee will be formed.
- viii. 2013-2014 Proposed Calendar

Motion: Move to approve the 2013-2014 Liongate school year calendar, with the addition of the 27 th of December.			
Made by: Ryan		Seconded by: Anne	
Discussion: none			
Vote:	Yea: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

b. Board Community Member Leadership Topic

- i. Stan Hacker, former Executive Director of Liongate Academy, has finished his consultation work for Liongate and is interested in being a member of the Lionsgate School Board.

Motion: Move to appoint Stan Hacker to fill the director position vacated by Ron Burger as a Community Member.			
Made by: Ryan		Seconded by: Nicole	
Discussion: none			
Vote:	Yea: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

- ii. Ron vacated his position on the board in the Fall of 2012 and Joan volunteered to become Board Chair that time. While the board had originally considered Stan becoming the Board Chair when he was eligible, Joan and Stan both mentioned concern about appointing Stan the Chair of the board so soon after the appointment on the School Board. Nicole commented that she would agree that waiting to elect a new Board Chair until reelections. Joan said that she is willing to maintain as Board Chair until elections.
- iii. Stan commented that in the future having a community member (rather than staff or parent) as a Board Chair would be a safe guard for the appearance of LGA towards the community, not to discount the work that Joan has done as a parent Board Chair. Joan, Ryan, and Meta commented with similar thoughts.

c. Foundation Update-Nicole

- i. Foundation held an all day session to define the Vision and Mission of the Foundation.
- ii. Lionsgate Foundation is the new name of the Foundation, which previously was called the Lionsgate Academy Foundation.
- iii. Still in the process of becoming with 501C3.
- iv. Oscar and a student created a Liongate Foundation website.
- v. Fundraising- Parent drive, \$5000 with 12 families who participated. Last year we collected \$10,000. Fundraising will continue throughout the year.
- vi. Call for board member support in finding table host for May 3rd breakfast benefit.
- vii. This year's breakfast fundraiser theme will be a celebration of Lionsgate. An essay contest will take place in each grade level, winners will receive \$100 for speaking at the breakfast.

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- viii. Meta brought up the idea of updating LGA’s vision and mission at the upcoming LGA School Board Strategic Planning.

d. Committee Reports

- i. Building Committee- see directors report
- ii. Extracurricular Involvement for AIM Students Committee
 - 1. Both staff and parents were very involved in the recommendation that was made.
 - 2. The committee recommend the following: Clubs stay the same for the remainder of the year(AIM students not involved in afterschool Liongate clubs). For the snowball, AIM students will have the opportunity to attend the LGA dance or invite 11th or 12th grade students to the AIM dance . Prom will be grades 9-12 only. Next year homecoming will be all of LGA, including AIM. Fall Open house, will include AIM next year. On an individual basis, staff will make determination for AIM students attending LGA events with the idea that no one has to be excluded. More attempts will be made at bridging the gap between 11th and 12th grade students with AIM students.
 - 3. School Board suggested that a philosophy is developed over the next year to replace the specific event participation rules.

Motion: Move to approve and endorse the findings of the committee for the upcoming Lionsgate events.			
Made by: Meg		Seconded by: Stan	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

iii. Committee to discuss academic programming in AIM- Joan

- 1. Anne is willing to Chair this committee
- 2. Meta asked if this is a Board topic or a leadership topic. Joan mentioned a compliance issue with the way that AIM is currently programmed and this being the reason for a Board committee to be formed.
- 3. Prior to the committee meeting, more information needs to be identified regarding legal advice. The board will postpone discussions of committee formation until next meeting.

iv. Governance-Joan

- 1. Current Board Member terms of service- Members who have been appointed to fill a vacancy shall complete the term of the original member. They will not need to stand for reelection at the next election, unless the term is up.
- 2. Nominations Timeline- Elections should be held after the spring art showcase, the week of May 6th.
- 3. Oscar recommended that we use the same electronic voting service as we did last year which costs \$1000.
- 4. Bylaws do not require that parents board members run only when their child will potentially be at Liongate for their entire term. Stan made the comment that parents should not be board members after their child graduates, just like staff should not be board members after they are no longer a staff member. Legal advice should be sought out prior to any updates to the bylaws.

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5. Attendance requirements should also be added to the bylaws. Board participation in committees should also be added to the bylaws.
 6. Oscar's presentation of Board Portal - A electronic place for all board materials to be found. Board Members will receive Lionsgate email addresses.
- v. Finance-Twila
1. Audit Report
 - i. The board should review the Audit, especially the findings (p.35).
 2. December Financial Report/SBS
 - i. Chris asks the board to move the strategic planning date to February or March. Stan agreed that strategic planning should happen prior to July, even though the new Board Members will have been seated. MDE would like to have our budget in earlier, which would place the meeting sometime in March. Discussion of Peg Chapman or another person outside of the School Board or Administration to lead the group.

Motion: Motion for the Executive Director and Board Chair to meet and determine goal for Strategic Planning.			
Made by: Ryan		Seconded by: Stan	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

Motion: Move to approve December Financials.			
Made by: Meg		Seconded by: Stan	
Discussion: See financial dash board and handout.			
Vote:	Yea: 7	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

6. Review: February Board Meeting agenda

Comments from Community Members: Oscar would like the board to consider if the bylaw changes should be made all at once or just a review of the most pressing matters relating to the upcoming elections first.

Closed Meeting to discuss personal matters.

Called to order: 8:45PM

Meeting Adjourned: 9:12PM

Open Meeting called to order: 9:12PM

Motion to Adjourn: 9:13PM

Next Meeting: February 26th , 2013, 6:00 PM

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