

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

October 16, 2012 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, Rachel Boyack, Special Education Coordinator, Joe Falkner, Consultant, Carly Roth, Speech Language Pathologist, Patrick Chesla, School Social Worker and Support Services Coordinator, Stan Hacker, Consultant, Chris Wood, Business Manager, Mary Ellen West, School Nurse, Therese O'Meara, Teacher, Oscar Prill, Technology Coordinator

**FROM:** Joan Steinmann, Chair

**Call to order: 6:02** 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: Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> Meta**

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Meta, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob**

**Model:**

**1. Board Education/Community Connections**

- a. Open House statement for email invitation-Directors were asked to send out emails with statement and visual invitation soon because the deadline is November 6<sup>th</sup> for RSVP. Diane and Meta asked Directors to send invitations to possible employers for our 18-21 students, potential donors, or potential community partners.
- b. Center for School Change interview- a blogger affiliated with CSC asked Joan for an interview to write an article on Lionsgate Academy. Cabinet has put together a "talking points for media" document. Diane will pass these along to board members. Joan and Diane will meet with CSC together.

**2. Special Education Update-Emily/Rachel**

- a. Update on Special Education Director: Sandy Strand is here 2 days a week and meets with Diane, Rachel, Emily, and Chris. She has been a great resources so far.

**3. Monthly Topic**

- a. Continuum of Care-Outcome Draft
  - i. See hand out for presentation and rubric.
  - ii. Board needs to charge committee with next steps(project plan). Joe recommends new leadership as he will be with LGA only though the remainder of the year and he also recommends a bulk of the product be created in summer. Joe would recommend Emily Kafle as a potential new leader for the project.
  - iii. Diane asked Joe to present at the next board meeting his proposed next steps and an evaluation of the process. Joan added that he should include potential resources to his proposal.
- b. Short-term review of school based on Annual report- topic postponed until December Board Meeting
- c. Enrollment Dates Approved-
  - i. The governance committee will be proposing a enrollment policy.
- d. 18-21 Transitions Program involvement in High School extracurricular
  - i. Joan described the issue as determining whether AIM is extension of High School or more like a post secondary/ employment institution.

**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](mailto:neo2010@me.com) <http://www.novationeducationopportunities.org>

- ii. Joan recommends that staff, parents, and a few board members get together a committee to propose a recommendation to the board around this topic. The committee should be equal in numbers between staff & parents.
- iii. Meg and Anne agree to be on the committee. Anne has agreed to chair this committee. Joan will send Anne the potential interested parents contact information. Diane and Meg will put together interested staff members and send their information to Anne.

<b>Motion:</b> Move to create a committee to review the nature and extend of AIM students in Lionsgate activities and events.			
<b>Made by:</b> Twila		<b>Seconded by:</b> Ryan	
<b>Discussion:</b> none			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

#### 4. Business

##### 1. Director's Report-Diane

- i. Diane will be referee a soccer game between staff and student tomorrow
- ii. Diane and Jonathan went to reform for school finance meeting. There was found to be an exception in the legislature for special educations schools that would leave our hold back at 10%. Next meeting is on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at Falcon Heights Middle School and Diane recommends that the school board keep a watch on this movement as it will have an effect on other Charter schools.
- iii. Diane is participating in an Autism task force about a residential campus for adults with Autism. She may be calling on information from the Lionsgate community to support the task force.
- iv. Waiting on SBS to get us a breakdown of how we should be calculating what is due to Lionsgate from MDE. This meeting should be scheduled before the next board meeting.
- v. Ron made a statement that the meeting with MDE will probably not be before the next board meeting. He suggested that we wait to meet with MDE until we have all the materials together. He also suggested that the meeting can wait until December

##### 2. Foundation Update-Nicole

- i. Discussion around how to separate the school from the foundations will be had at the next foundation meeting.
- ii. Grants have been approved- aim open house, clubs, and sunshine committee
- iii. Current balance just under \$79,000

##### 3. Committee Reports

- i. Vision and Building Committees- Preview- Joan
  - 1. Joan will be asking the board to develop these committees next meeting.
- ii. Governance-Joan
  - 1. Report
    - a. Policy Process- see handout
  - 2. Parent/Student Handbook- needs to be updated. Diane is currently reviewing the policy
  - 3. Policies to review/approve- Anaphylaxis Policy
    - a. Diane has updated the policy as recommended from last school board meeting to include exceptions and policy for lessor.

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- b. Chris recommends that he would caution the board in approving a policy without having lawyer approval.

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve the Lionsgate Academy Anaphylaxis Policy 2012-2013 subject to review of pending legal counsel.			
<b>Made by:</b> Twila		<b>Seconded by:</b> Meta	
<b>Discussion:</b> The anaphylaxis policy needs to be reviewed by a lawyer because of the complexity with the Cornerstone Church as our lessor and Twin Cities Transportation as our vendor.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

iii. Finance-Twila

1. MDE update
  - a. Review of Ron's comments from Director report
2. September Financial Report/SBS
  - a. ADM 151
  - b. 2 lines of credit reserved for spring but we are hoping to not have to use it.
  - c. Cash flow- heavy payment periods in September, we cannot afford to keep up with this spending. Chris will investigate the accounts payable to see why spending was so high in September
  - d. Currently at a 0 for line of credit

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve September Financials.			
<b>Made by:</b> Meg		<b>Seconded by:</b> Nicole	
<b>Discussion:</b> See financial dash board and handout.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

**5. Review: November Board Meeting agenda**

**Comments from Community Members:** none

**Motion to Adjourn:** Meta, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ryan

**Next Meeting:** November 27th, 2012, 6:00 PM

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