

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 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
FROM: Joan Steinmann, Chair

Call to order: 6:05 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: Twila, 2nd Anne

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes: Ryan, 2nd Nicole

Model:

1. Board Education/Community Connections

- a. Meg- Went to a conference at Dakota County Technical College, learned about Autism supports at the college and will be using them as a resources for students in AIM and high school transitions.
- b. Diane- A parent is working on a connection with Cargill.

2. Special Education Update-Emily

- a. Case managers- Compliance review coming up in March. 10 random files have been chosen.
- b. Support Services- Presented to staff on Social Communication.
- c. Transitions- Dakota County Technical College symposium. There has been more collaboration with AIM & High school.
- d. Inclusion- Working on preparation for MCA and Grad Tests within classes.
- e. AIM- Administration is going to send out a survey for satisfaction of the program(see sample survey).

3. Extracurricular Involvement for AIM Students Committee- Anne

- a. The committee is still at a discussion phase and will meet again soon.
- b. 5 staff and 1 parent attended last meeting.
- c. The committee will be looking at school goals and mission statement as well as the needs of each students.
- d. The committee is looking for natural ways to combine communities with high school and AIM, coming to a compromise to keep the community bigger while being appropriate.

4. Monthly Topic

- a. Continuum of Care update
 - i. Emily will address the charge delivered by the board in the November meeting next month. The charge was to, "develop a near term plan for initial roll-out of pilot including examining ways to include family stakeholders in initial use of tool and develop a long term plan for a peruse of partner for funding and validation studies with appropriate third parties."
- b. School Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions Supports (PBIS)
 - i. Lionsgate is applying to be in the 9th MN cohort
 - ii. Lionsgate would be in a 2 year training with other schools to develop the program at Liongate.

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>

- iii. The process would include developing a positive school wide motto, teaching the positive behaviors, recognizing students for appropriate behaviors, and rewarding students for positive behaviors.
- iv. The application is due in January, formal training would be in August.

Motion: Move to approve and support the application and implementation of the PBIS Program at Lionsgate Academy.			
Made by: Meg		Seconded by: Twila	
Discussion: none			
Vote:	Yea: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

c. Updated School Calendar

Motion: Move to approve updated 2012-13 school calendar.			
Made by: Ryan		Seconded by: Nicole	
Discussion: none			
Vote:	Yea: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain:
Decision: Unanimously Approved			

5. Business

1. Director's Report-Diane

- i. In the wake of Friday's school violence LGA has increased security on the front door and will be locking classroom doors. Lionsgate staff have conducted a lock down drill and have prepared language to use with students around the violence and the linkage to Autism. School social workers have made themselves available to students who are having a difficult time processing the situation.
- ii. Personnel- interviewing math teachers and hiring 3 new educational assistance; 1:1 for new student, Spanish EA, and an EA to replace an EA who will be student teaching.
- iii. MDE meetings were very positive
- iv. New cleaning company was hired
- v. Summer program- send out a form for staff to survey interest
- vi. Communication committee- is getting started to ensure all communications to the community are presenting a united front

2. Board Community Member Leadership Topic

- i. Joan reported that Stan remains committed to join the board in January. Joan reported that in a conversation with him, Stan was concerned from a governance stand point about being appointed on the board and taking the Chair role in the same meeting.
- ii. The board discussed term length of current board members, it was determined that further conversation should be had at the January board meeting.
- iii. Meg, Meta, and Ryan all commented that they would like to wait until January, when Stan is present to consider options for new leadership on the school board.
- iv. Diane commented that this Board is a wonderful group of people and she is grateful to work with us.

3. Foundation Update-Nicole

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- i. A letter to parents, second installment of the “For the Kids” campaign, went out to parents. Looking for 100% parent involvement. The higher percent that can be reported for grant purposes the better.
4. Committee Reports
- i. Vision and Building Committee
 - 1. Jonathan Scharlau will be the chair of the committee
 - 2. Northmarq, retaliator, seems like a good partner and provider of resources
 - 3. Northmarq and Robinsdale School District has provided conflicting information regarding building availability.
 - ii. Update on Love it or List it Committee- Drake Willis
 - 1. Committee of staff has met to come up with Primary, Secondary, or Tertiary needs for a building.
 - 2. See document titled, “Drafted Building Information”
 - 3. Drake also included his personal notes and observations verbally at the meeting, and provided a written copy for the board binder. See synopsis of the “Drafted Building Information” packet.
 - 4. No conclusions have been drawn, but information has been gathered.
 - iii. Governance-Joan
 - 1. Starting to look at governance training.
 - 2. Stan has agreed to be on the governance committee
 - iv. Finance-Twila
 - 1. MDE update- Chris, Ron, & Diane have been navigating MDE issues, meeting with key members to introduce Liongate and the idea of working together.
 - a. Meeting at MDE last week with George Holt.
 - b. Met with Audrey and Anne, who works with the IDEAs system.
 - c. Meeting tomorrow with Senator Bonoff to continue to build our relationship.
 - 2. Collateralization Plan from Ron Berger
 - a. Venture Bank provided 5 options and Ron and Chris choose the best option which is a “sweeper” account. Financial committee agrees with this choice.
 - 3. November Financial Report/SBS- Chris
 - a. Dashboard- MDE decreased the holdback from 16%-12%. Difference was paid on December 15th. Ron stated that we should not continue to expect this.
 - b. ADM is below budgeted ADM amount. Averaging 148.1. Will be enrolling students to bump up enrollment. Sending out letters for students to start at January 29th, the beginning of 2nd semester.
 - c. Cash flow- Line of credit needs. Loan officer at Venture has increased line of credit. Confident that we will get a substantial payment come end of February.
 - d. Freeze on spending will continue but may loosen/lighten up soon.

Motion: Move to approve November Financials.			
Made by: Meta		Seconded by: Ryan	
Discussion: See financial dash board and handout.			
Vote:	Yea: 6	Nay: 0	Abstain:

Decision: Unanimously Approved

6. Review: January Board Meeting agenda

Comments from Community Members: none

Motion to Adjourn: 7:44pm Twila, 2nd Nicole

Next Meeting: January 15th, 2013, 6:00 PM

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