

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
December 20, 2011 6:00pm
Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

ATTENDING: Ron Berger, Marc Berris, Brandy Dougherty, Hemlal Kafle, Meta Pautsch, Bob Radspinner, Jonathan Scharlau, Joan Steinmann, Meg Fuller. Others: Stan Hacker, Director, Robert Procaccini, SBS; Sandy Schmitt, SBS; Chris Wood, SPED Coord., Karen Bertsche, parent; Curtis Wenzel, parent

ABSENT: NONE

Call to order: 6:02pm, by Ron Berger, 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: Marc, 2nd Hemlal

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

1. Model:

a. Student Individual Learning Plans

- i. Social Skills Integration Update-Chris Wood, Carly Roth, Jocelyn Walsh, McKenzie Hennesey, Diane Elkerton
 1. See handout: Social Competency Integration Phase Plan
 2. Discussed the different areas of the plan that has been integrated and which of those is still in progress.
 3. Overall goal is to have students experience support services within the classrooms to help minimize pull-outs and to have students be able to generalize the skills learned or in the progress of learning in classroom environment.

2. Business

- a. Director's Report – Stan
 - i. State of the school-2nd quarter is going well and stabilizing
 - ii. Improv performance went very well, was during club time
 - iii. Snowball January 13th
 - iv. Puppet Show Jan. 24th @ 6pm-9pm
 - v. Requesting funds from the Foundation
 1. Mix Blood theater will be coming in Feb. 16th; 2 performances
 2. Fundraisers are looking from 100% participation from all families
 3. January 16th-20th Paraprofessional Week request for providing breakfast
- b. Review: January board meeting agenda
- c. Foundation Update – Jonathan
 - i. Ratifying bylaws in January
 - ii. Form for requesting funds is now available
 - iii. Look to adding another parent/community member to the board
 - iv. Looking at increasing grant writing

- v. Donations are continuing to come in
- vi. Looking at moving money into ACA account
- d. Ratify the Cornerstone Church Lease
- e. The board hereby ratifies the Administration's execution of the Lease from Cornerstone Church for the term of 5 years, starting July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2016 for \$360,000.

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|--|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Motion: Move to ratify the Administration's execution of the Lease from Cornerstone Church for the term of 5 years, starting July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2016 for \$360,000. | | | |
| Made by: Brandy | | Seconded by: Bob | |
| Discussion: None | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

- f. Committee Reports
 - i. Finance – Dave/Jonathan
 - 1. November Financial Report
 - a. Audit has been signed
 - b. Non-profits fund has additional money if we need it.
 - c. Cash flow-spending less looking good
 - d. Lunch account is also looking good

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|---|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Motion: Move to accept the November Financial Report | | | |
| Made by: Marc | | Seconded by: Joan | |
| Discussion: See November 2010 dashboard | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

- 2. Funding from MDE
 - a. Status-
 - i. Paying based on what they have for tuition billing, reported on EDRS
 - ii. Concern that MDE is not paying us what is on our approved budget
 - iii. SPED costs are not, according to our records, by \$305,000, \$341,000- Benefit amount run off of 2009-10; will be updated-hopefully by February for 2010-2011
 - iv. Do not have Lease Aid yet-\$360,000-some shifts into SPED excess lease aid cost
 - v. Shift in transportation \$132,000, budget shows \$340,000=\$207,000 difference
 - vi. \$524,000 General Ed appeal – MDE has not run this yet
 - vii. Holding our appeal process until Lease Aid is signed
 - viii. Law does not say they need to pay on budget-they are 2 years behind
 - ix. LGA is parent choice, not district preferred
 - b. Action plan, as required
 - i. Get Lease Aid turned in, wait a couple of weeks and then find someone from the State to meet with as well as; -Exec. Director, a couple of board members, SPED Director, SPED Director, Authorizer

ii. Exec. Director Search – Ron

1. Position description

- a. Develop a score card that is weighted for HR to look at as applications come in.
- b. Job description will be mailed out to board members before the end of the year for review.

2. Proposed timeline

- a. Discuss where job opening will be posted
- b. Interview process
- c. Start date-around the 1st of June or sooner on a consulting basis. Contract would begin July 1, 2012.

iii. Growth of School – Jonathan

1. Committee charge/updates/issues

- a. Looking for more community and parental involvement in future meetings
- b. What is the right size for the school?
- c. AIM program, where it is now and where it could be?
- d. Facility pros and cons of Cornerstone Church and to look at future relationship with them based on LGA future needs
- e. Discussed different financial options that may be available
- f. Making progress overall, but could give a report every month
- g. Objective is to get through this by Strategic Planning 2012-13

2.

iv. Governance – Joan

1. Policies to Review

- a. Discuss Bylaws, 124.10 Charter Schools MN Statute, Notes re: Bylaws
- b. Questions: Composition of board and who was eligible to run for a position of the board
- c. Two issues:
 - i. Qualifications to be a board member, what does the law say, is what we have gotten from MAC (September 15, 2011) something to follow
 - ii. Risk management:
 - 1. Risk of recruiting (4 and 5 election positions open at once)
 - 2. Risk of continuity
 - 3. Implications of results
- d. Discussion that MACS letter- based more on avoidance of conflict; that the letter accepts that there are multitude interpretations of the law and that we should be aware of not damaging the Charter School movement. MDE was contacted that it is more concerned with Vendors so that they could not vote on a fiscal decision that would benefit them.
- e. Possible action: Look at contacting our law firm or a law firm that is experienced in this and getting a written response on their interpretation of the composition of law. Joan will also contact MDE.
- f. Legal question and what is the intent of the board members? Run the elections through and then have the voting members of the staff vote on the Bylaws.

Is the spouse of a charter school employee eligible to serve on board?
What are the risks?

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| Motion: Move to table discussion about the change of election terms until January board meeting. | | | |
| Made by: Brandy | | Seconded by: Jonathan | |
| Discussion: None | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

2. Policies to Approve

a. Policy 506 (Procedural); Code of Conduct

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|---|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Motion: Move to approve Policy 506 (Procedural); Code of Conduct | | | |
| Made by: Marc | | Seconded by: Bob | |
| Discussion: None | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

b. Student Discipline Policy 506

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| Motion: Move to approve Student Discipline Policy 506 | | | |
| Made by: Marc | | Seconded by: Bob | |
| Discussion: None | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

c. Restrictive Procedures Plan

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| Motion: Move to approve Restrictive Procedures Plan. | | | |
| Made by: Joan | | Seconded by: Meta | |
| Discussion: Communication and informational tool for families. Shows who is trained and how they are trained. Note: LGA does not participate in seclusion | | | |
| Vote: | Yea: 8 | Nay: 0 | Abstain: |
| Decision: Unanimously Approved | | | |

Comments from Community Members:

Parent: The MDE contact, in regards to the composition of the school board, may not have experience working with Charter School and contact was made with them during the election last spring. MDE may not have an opinion until litigation or challenge takes place. The 3:3:3 board composition is important to have and important to have them unencumbered by any other relations. The balance should be meaningful.

Motion to Adjourn: Ron, Bob 2nd at 8:09pm

Next Meeting: January 17, 2012, 6:00 PM