

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2015 6:00 p.m.
Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

TO: Ryan Weber, Sara Bydzovsky, Malory Kosher, Christine Peper, John Barker, Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Chris Kenealy, and Kurt Nisi.
Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Emily Kafle, Special Education Supervisor; Ron Berger, Director of Finance
FROM: Ali Thorstad, Chair

Call to order: Ali Thorstad, Chair 6:00 PM

School Mission Statement:

The mission of Lionsgate Academy is to provide a transition-focused, personalized learning program focused for students with autism spectrum disorders 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.

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

Approval of the agenda:

- Approval of Agenda, including the consent agenda.

Model:

1. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
 - i. Lionsgate Board Minutes 3-17-2015
 - ii. Lionsgate Special Board Minutes 4-7-2015
2. Governance Committee Report
3. Approval of Policies
 - i. 803 Removal of Students with IEPs
 - ii. 601 Closing of School
 - iii. 913 Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies
 - iv. 401 Gifts to Employees
 - v. 917 Release Time for Religious Events

Motion: Approve Consent Agenda			
Made by: Johnson		Seconded by: Weber	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

2. Special Education Update

- 1. LYNX- still planning for next year and identifying needed positions

3. Strategic Planning Update

- 1. End of year 2 of 5
- 2. 7% of objectives have been completed
- 3. 30% of objectives have been completed, but are on-going (systems)
- 4. 40% of objectives are still in process
- 5. 23% of objectives have not started

4. Business

1. Director’s Report-Diane

- i. Successful Breakfast (Laura Nisi was driving force)
- ii. James Saunders- new hire for Tech Director (May 4th)
- iii. Completed a Risk assessment for IT Dept. (26 items identified)
- iv. Letter drafted by Diane to families on waiting list about lottery closing (Question posed: Do we send it to all families?) Yes and to legislatures and staff (with a cover letter to explain)
- v. Discussion on taking a stronger position regarding the lottery process.
- vi. Student Achievement
 - 1. April- MCA and Grad Testing
 - 2. ACT also in April (28th)
 - a. Robbinsdale canceled school for all but their 11th graders so they could be ready as much as possible for test
 - b. Middle School LGA students will have an all-day field trip

2. Foundation Update

- i. No new updates

3. Committee Reports

i. Governance

- 1. Proposed Legislation- racial equity (movement to make Charter schools part of anti-segregation laws)
- 2. Law would require charter schools to have the same racial demographic as school district closest to them (Question: How do you do this with a lottery?)
- 3. Do we use Twitter/Facebook/Social Media to inform families of new possible proposals?
- 4. Possibility to give info about PAC/SEAC meetings or phone chains?

Motion: Lionsgate will draft a policy.			
Made by: Weber		Seconded by: Johnson	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

5. Elections- Meet and Greet on May 8th

- a. Voting will be May 14th-31st

ii. Finance

1. Committee Update

- a. Extended line of credit
- b. Reviewed MDE issues FY 14 (semi-monthly are off)

Lionsgate Academy’s Authorizer is:

- c. Cash Strains (upcoming)- June 16 payroll, but MDE doesn't pay until June 20th
- 2. Financials
 - a. Will not get to 165 (swing revenue from Gen Ed to Spec Ed finance) but still expect to meet budgeted bottom line
 - b. Received catchup on 15 in March
 - c. Bus company changed software and sent bill difficult to understand, they will resend a more clear invoice
 - d. Earned hold back from state 1.1 mil
 - e. Reviewed payment register

Motion: Accept Financial Statements			
Made by: Johnson		Seconded by: Bydzovsky	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

- iii. Building
 - 1. Met with Cornerstone
 - 2. Goal is for this fall to decide where to go/stay
- iv. Executive Director Evaluation
 - 1. Finalized eval for Dr. Halpin
 - 2. Recommendations will be reported in June (will need to be closed for a portion of it)
- v. Strategic Planning
 - 1. Find out when Mark can come (possibly a week night instead of Saturdays)

5. Review: May Board Meeting agenda

- 1. Possible Response from letter
- 2. Laura will be invited to come

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: To adjourn			
Made by: Kenealy		Seconded by: Peper	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain:

Next Meeting: May 19, 2015 6:00 pm