

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
District #4183

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
September 23, 2014 6:00pm

Lionsgate Academy 3420 Nevada Avenue N. Crystal, MN 55427

**TO:** Ryan Weber, Sara Bydzovsky, Christine Peper, John Barker, Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Chris Kenealy, Kurt Nisi, Malory Kosher

Others: Diane Halpin, Executive Director; Ron Berger, Director of Finance

**FROM:** Ali Thorstad, Chair

Board Members Present: Ryan Weber, Sara Bydzovsky, Tracy Klug, Christine Peper, John Barker, Ali Thorstad, Darren Johnson, Chris Kenealy

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

**School Mission Statement:**

*The mission of Lionsgate Academy is to provide a transition-oriented and personalized learning program focused on 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.*

**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. **No Comments**

**Approval of the agenda:**

**1. Consent Agenda**

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of Policies
  - i. 207 School Director Hiring
  - ii. 208 School Board Member Orientation
  - iii. 514 Return to Work
  - iv. 903 Anti-Bullying
  - v. 910 Hazing
- c. Remove Special Ed Update & Strategic Planning Update from Agenda (#2 & 3)

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda & the revised agenda			
<b>Made by:</b> John Barker		<b>Seconded by:</b> Darren Johnson	
<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
  - 1.1. Annual Report: LGA has received permission to submit the Annual Report on October 31<sup>st</sup>. It will be submitted with materials for the November Meeting Agenda.
2. Cohort Professional Development - focus on evidence based practices, work with online material
3. Leadership List – The Leadership Committee is forming with a new group. Individuals have leadership positions throughout LGA. The purpose of the group is to discuss and advise administration on issues and proposed changes. This year the team will also focus on leadership development.
4. Parent conference hours October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>- 12-8 on Thursday, Friday 8-4
5. Visitors and hosts - Student teacher from Bethel, internship for social worker coming soon, Visitors from Russia in a couple weeks (investigating on US approach for working with students with disabilities)
6. Executing partnership with AuSM/Autism Works – awaiting news on grant
7. Setting IV planning: site visits are planned
8. Possible Board Meeting at AIM in the future
9. Student Achievement-look at numbers and make them more meaningful
1. Foundation Reports- No Updates for September
  - i. Governance: (Barker) 2 items:
    - Vote on change to the Mission Statement to eliminate the words, “high functioning.”

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve revised mission statement.			
<b>Made by:</b> John Barker		<b>Seconded by:</b> Christine Peper	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

- The board needs a new secretary. Board members should consider stepping into open position

\*Governance Meeting Next Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM

#### ii. Finance

- Enrollment is at 167 students

- Discussed line of credit
- Balance sheet:
  - As of year end, MDE owed Lionsgate more than \$1.3 million in holdback (approximately 16% of earned revenues).
  - Fund balance declined from approximately \$318,000 as of June 30, 2013 to approximately \$314,000 as of June 30, 2014.
- Cash flow projection reviewed. Maximum projected usage \$732,000 of our \$1.1 million in total availability as of January 31, 2015. Venture lines renew at the end of November 2014; Nonprofits Assistance Fund line renews at the end of April, 2015. No renewal issues expected.
- New budget revision will be reviewed at November Board meeting.

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve financial statements as presented.			
<b>Made by:</b> John Barker		<b>Seconded by:</b> Christine Peper	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

iii. Executive Director Evaluation- meet again before Board mtg in October and review final document about position

**5. October agenda-** basic template, restarting building committee, discuss student achievement, revising budget (finance)

\*\*\*\*New Board members need to sign up for 3 required training sessions

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve			
<b>Made by:</b> Sara Bzydovsky		<b>Seconded by:</b> John Baker	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

**6. Motion to Adjourn at 7:34**

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn			
<b>Made by:</b> Sara Bzydovsky		<b>Seconded by:</b> John Baker	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 7	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b>
<b>Decision:</b> Unanimously Approved			

**Next Meeting:** October 21, 2014, 6:00 PM