

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 16th, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.

Shoreview Campus: 599 Cardigan Road, Shoreview, MN 55126 and Virtual Meeting Option

TO: Pauline Bangma, Ben Barnes, Amiri Brotherson, Molly Figenskau, Lori Fligge, Janet Ha, Christine Peper, Jason Pusey, and Ann Wiesner
Others: Dr. Diane Restorff, Executive Director; Ryan Rehnstrand, Director of Student Services; Aaron Leisen, Director of Finance and Operations

FROM: Christine Peper, Chair

Call to order: Christine Peper, Chair @ 6:37pm

School Mission Statement:

The Mission of Lionsgate Academy is to foster self-determination by providing a transition-focused, personalized education for all, specializing in educating learners on the autism spectrum.

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.

One public comment to be made (Tracy Reid). Community member was not present; no comments made.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

None.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Move to approve agenda.			
Made by: Wiesner		Seconded by: Figenskau	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Model:

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
- b. Governance Committee Report
- c. Approval of Policies

Motion: Move to approve consent agenda.			
Made by: Barnes		Seconded by: Fligge	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

2. Special Education Update - Ryan Rehnstrand

- a. 1st quarter finished
- b. Will begin having Due Process nights – staff will spend 3-4 hours after school to catch up on due process with guidance from Director of Special Education
- c. IEP meetings – Restorff and Rehnstrand to attend one IEP meeting for each case manager per year

Lionsgate Academy's Authorizer is:

Novation Education Opportunities, 3432 Denmark Avenue Suite 103, Eagan, Minnesota 55123
Phone 612-889-2103 Fax 612-870-1200 email executive.director.neo@gmail.com <http://www.neoauthorizer.org>

- d. Classroom observations
- e. IEP Goals
 - i. Asking CM to submit goals for examples – good and bad
 - ii. Simplify the goals – scaffolding goals vs laddering goals
 - iii. Measureable goals and using data to adjust the goals and create achievable goals

3. Business

- a. Director’s Report – Dr. Restorff
 - i. Principal/Site Director Update (Brandy Schwab – Shoreview principal)
 - 1. Fall Ball – so much fun had by all
 - 2. Still hiring
 - 3. Staff are working very hard to fill in with absences
 - ii. Strategic Planning Update
 - 1. Doodle Poll was sent – session will be January 22nd @ 8:30am-2:00pm
 - 2. Kathy Carlson will lead the session
 - iii. Boundary Proposal
 - 1. Overview of boundary proposal previously presented
 - 2. Transportation Costs
 - a. Significant increase
 - b. Lack of drivers/service
 - i. Change of hours
 - ii. New contractor, more money
 - 3. Access and Equity
 - a. Transportation boundaries include the most diverse areas of the twin cities
 - b. Extending the transportation boundaries could significantly decrease the diversity of the campus populations
 - 4. Impacts
 - a. Changes to enrollment policy
 - b. Requires the creation of a new transportation policy
 - c. Keeping in-district transportation for Hopkins and Mounds View school districts
 - d. Legal review indicates that LGA is within the law to enact these changes
 - 5. Potential Benefits
 - a. Decreases travel time for students
 - b. Reduction in transportation costs
 - c. Creating community via geography
 - d. Improves the enrollment process
 - 6. Changes will take effect for new students beginning fall 2022 – this will not affect any current LGA students or their siblings

Motion: Move to approve changes in LGA enrollment policy and establish transportation boundaries for the Minnetonka and Shoreview campuses to take effect for the 2022-23 school year			
Made by: Pusey		Seconded by: Wiesner	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

- iv. School Resource Officer for Lynx Program
 - 1. Proposing to contract with the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Department to have a full time SRO for January 2022 – June 2022
 - 2. Lionsgate currently has a SRO contracted for the Minnetonka location – provides consultation to Dean of Students - very limited hours
 - 3. Purpose of a SRO at Lynx:

- a. to promote a safe climate that is conducive to learning
 - b. to serve as a deterrent to violence by a physical presence in school – decreasing behaviors and emergency calls
 - c. to provide a positive image of law enforcement to staff, students, and community
 - 4. Where are we in the process?
 - a. Met with Sergeant Dunlap, Ramsey County
 - b. Met with Lynx staff – fielded questions/concerns from staff – have staff support
 - 5. Next Steps
 - a. Lynx staff FAQs will be shared with the board
 - b. Dr. Restorff will ask Sergeant Dunlap to attend the December board meeting to address questions/concerns from the board
 - c. Dr. Restorff will send a form to the board to voice their concerns/questions
- v. Student Achievement – Meta Thomas
 - 1. 2021 MCA Reading Results – as shown on the Minnesota report card
- vi. Personnel – Gael Braddock, Director of Human Resources
 - 1. Open Positions for 2021-2022
 - a. Minnetonka – Special Education Assistants (5), CNA Special Education Assistant (1)
 - b. SHV – Education Assistants (10), Special Education Assistant – ASL (1), English LA Inclusion Teacher (1), English Language Learner Support (1 part time)
 - c. AIM – Special Education Teacher/Case Manager (1), Social Worker (1 long term sub), Job Coach (2)
 - d. Lynx – Mental Health Behavior Aide (5)
- b. Foundation Update – Dr. Restorff
 - i. Letter Writing Campaign – end of year 2021
 - ii. Annual meeting scheduled for December 15th – will be electing officers at that meeting
- c. Committee Reports
 - i. Finance – Aaron Leisen, Director of Finance and Operations
 - 1. Committee Update
 - a. Finance committee met to review October financials
 - 2. Financials
 - a. Current ADM: 371.81; ADM from budget: 381
 - b. Revenue - As of October 31, 2021, Total Revenues were \$7,044,908 compared to a budget of \$7,176,494 for a total unfavorable variance of \$(131,587). MDE has updated the current year entitlements based off the FY22 Original Budget.
 - c. Expenses - As of October 31, 2021, Total Expenditures were \$5,403,620 compared to a budget of \$6,290,181 for a total favorable variance of \$886,560. This is mostly due to timing issues with purchased services.

Motion: Move to approve October 2021 financials			
Made by: Brotherson		Seconded by: Barnes	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

- ii. Executive Director Evaluation Committee Update – Director Ha and Director Wiesner
 - 1. Met to review progress on all areas. Starting to discuss ED survey scheduled for early next year
 - iii. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Update – Gael Braddock, Director of HR
 - 1. Committees continuing to meet and preparing outreach efforts on Native American History/Culture
 - 2. All staff training

- 3. Initial steps for Grow your Own teacher training grants
- iv. Ad Hoc Board Diversity Communication Committee Update – Vice Chair Barnes
 - 1. Looking at recruitment of new board members including nomination packet and board recruitment relationship building plan
 - 2. More discussion planned for the November 30th virtual board training session
- v. Governance – Director Fligge
 - 1. Policy review is ahead of schedule
 - 2. Next month the committee will hold off on policy review and look at the executive director succession plan
 - 3. Approval of 2021-22 Student/Family Handbook

Motion: Move to approve the 2021-22 Student/Family Handbook			
Made by: Ha		Seconded by: Figenskau	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

- vi. Authorizer Report – Teachers directors of the board attended NEO’s Celebration of Learning

4. Review: Next Month’s Board Meeting agenda

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Move to adjourn @ 8:50pm			
Made by: Wiesner		Seconded by: Fligge	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 8	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Next Meeting: *December 14th, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m. at the North St. Paul Campus: 2342 Helen Street North, North St. Paul, MN 55109 and Virtual Meeting Option*