

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.

*Shoreview Campus: 599 Cardigan Road, Shoreview, MN 55343 and Virtual Meeting Option*

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

**FROM:** Christine Peper, Chair

**Call to order:** Christine Peper, Chair @ 6:33pm

**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.

**None.**

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

**None.**

**Approval of the Agenda**

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve agenda with the addition of reviewing the 2022-23 board meeting calendar			
<b>Made by:</b> Figenskau		<b>Seconded by:</b> Fligge	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Model:**

**1. Consent Agenda**

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

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve consent agenda			
<b>Made by:</b> Brotherson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Barnes	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**2. Special Education Update - Ryan Rehnstrand**

- a. ESY Update – 102+ students – 4 hours per day for 4 weeks (15 days total)
  - i. Minnetonka is hosting this year
  - ii. Center-based program will be held at Shoreview
- b. Looking ahead at 2023 ESY
  - i. Looking into holding ESY at both SHV and MTKA next year
  - ii. Some questions to consider:

**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](mailto:executive.director.neo@gmail.com) <http://www.neoauthorizer.org>

1. Does it make financial sense to run it at both locations?
2. What is best for the students?
- c. Best Practices Conference – Rehnstrand attended last week
- d. Special Education
  - i. Goals for next school year
    1. Increase goal achievement
    2. Show increase in reading scores
    3. Improve goal writing
    4. Improve data collection
    5. CB programing
  - ii. CB program at Shoreview for fall – 15 returning students, 11 new students, 26 total students
  - iii. Lynx Setting 4 Program for fall – 16 returning students, 8 new students, 24 total students
    1. Asking for a motion to close (stop enrollment) in both Lynx setting 4 and Shoreview center-based program
    2. Rehnstrand will update the board at the November 2022 meeting on the status of the programs

<b>Motion:</b> Move to close (stop enrollment) for the setting 4 Lynx program and the center based program at Shoreview			
<b>Made by:</b> Bangma		<b>Seconded by:</b> Ha	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b>	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

### 3. Business

- a. Director’s Report – Dr. Restorff
  - i. Principal/Site Director Update – Shoreview Principal Brandy Schwab
    1. 39 new students for next year – in process of enrolling 4 more
    2. Total of 178 students for the fall
    3. Proposing changing student daily schedule for fall –start time 9am (same as Minnetonka)
      - a. Survey sent to parents and staff
        - i. 49.1% reported that there would be “no impact” to them; 15.1% reported a “high positive impact”
    4. Will start PAAWS in the fall
  - ii. End of Year Odds and Ends
    1. Status of elections
      - a. 3 open seats, 4 people running
      - b. Election closes on May 20<sup>th</sup>
    2. WSJ Article – Lionsgate Academy featured in a Wall Street Journal article
    3. Graduation
      - a. MTKA – 5/25 Eagle Ridge Academy
      - b. SHV – 5/26 Shoreview
    4. COVID Update
    5. Pickin’ for Autism – June 4<sup>th</sup>
    6. IOwA

<b>Motion:</b> Move to designate Dr. Diane Restorff as the Identified Official with Authority (IOwA) to authorize user access to State of Minnesota Education secure websites for Lionsgate Academy			
<b>Made by:</b> Wiesner		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bangma	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

7. Family Satisfaction Survey – 97.9% of families strongly agree/agree that Lionsgate is a “good choice of school for my student”

**Lionsgate Academy’s Authorizer is:**

- iii. Student Achievement
  - 1. MDE surprise visit at Minnetonka campus to observe during testing
  - 2. ACT Scores Summary
    - a. 13 students participated in the ACT (7 SHV, 6 MTKA)
    - b. LGA composite score: 21.9; compared to state of MN: 21.3 and the US: 20.7
  - 3. PreACT
    - a. New offering in 2021-22 school year, will continue to offer
    - b. 5 students district-wide participated this year
    - c. 2022-23 PreACT will be in November
    - d. On paper ~\$15 paid by tester/family
- iv. Articles of Incorporation
  - 1. need to amend to the articles of incorporation and file with the state
  - 2. Board member signatures required

<b>Motion:</b> Move to amend the articles of incorporation to include the statement “This article does not supercede MN Statute 124E.07, subdivision 3(c) or any amendments thereto”			
<b>Made by:</b> Ha		<b>Seconded by:</b> Barnes	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

- v. Strategic Planning Update – Gael Braddock
  - 1. Updated Proposed Change in Strategic Initiative
    - a. Goal: change current Diversity, Equity and Inclusion strategic initiative driven by placing an emphasis on BELONGING at the center of our DEI(B) efforts across all programs/sites, and for all stakeholders
    - b. Proposed Initiative Title: *Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging*
    - c. Proposed Initiative Language: “Prioritize a culture of belonging for all LGA stakeholders based on recognition of the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion”
    - d. Performance Measures will be revised to ensure alignment with updated initiative and will be reported to the board

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve the proposed strategic initiative title and language: <i>Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging</i> – “Prioritize a culture of belonging for all LGA stakeholders based on recognition of the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion”			
<b>Made by:</b> Fligge		<b>Seconded by:</b> Pusey	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

- vi. Personnel – Gael Braddock
  - 1. Position openings
    - a. District – Assistant Director of Student Support Services
    - b. AIM – Job Coaches, Teacher/CMs, Teacher/WBL Coordinator, Social worker
    - c. Lynx – Mental Health Behavior Aides
    - d. Shoreview – Admin Assist, Custodian – PT, Spec Ed Assistants, Sped CM, Sped Teacher/CM
    - e. Minnetonka – Sped CM, Sped Assistants
  - b. Foundation Updates
    - i. Met last week, will begin to meet monthly
    - ii. Discussed alumni grants
    - iii. Next meeting will be election of officers, including foundation chair
    - iv. Next year’s Breakfast will be May 12th
  - c. 2022-23 School Board Meeting Schedule

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve the 2022-23 school board meeting schedule with the December meeting changed to Dec 13th			
<b>Made by:</b> Figenskau		<b>Seconded by:</b> Wiesner	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

d. Committee Reports

i. Governance – Director Fligge

1. Researching potential new policies
2. BOD elections close May 20<sup>th</sup>
3. Next Meeting June 7<sup>th</sup>
4. New board member orientation June 1<sup>st</sup> – led by Director Fligge, Chair Peper, Vice Chair Barnes

ii. Finance – Aaron Leisen (presented by Robert Procaccini)

1. Committee Update – reviewed
2. Financials – as of April 30, 2022
  - a. ADM
    - i. Actual current: 367.75; Budgeted: 381.00
  - b. Revenue
    - i. Total Revenues: \$18,174,580; Budgeted: \$17,913,584
    - ii. Total favorable variance of \$260,996
    - iii. MDE has updated the current year entitlements
    - iv. based off the FY22 Original Budget.
  - c. Expenses
    - i. Total Expenditures were \$17,488,829; Budgeted: \$17,323,960
    - ii. Total unfavorable variance of (\$164,869).

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve April 2022 financials			
<b>Made by:</b> Brotherson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Wiesner	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

- iii. Executive Director Evaluation Committee Update – see below
- iv. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Update – presented during Strategic Plan Update
- v. Ad Hoc Board Diversity Communication Committee Update – nothing new to report
- vi. Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee Update – Treasurer Brotherson
  1. Drafting of executive director job description – fine-tuning the wording
  2. Started interviewing executive search firms to assist with the hiring process
- vii. Authorizer Report – none

4. Review: Next Month’s Board Meeting agenda

5. Executive Director Evaluation Review

a. Closed Session

<b>Motion:</b> Move to close the board meeting for the Executive Director evaluation @ 8:00pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Ha		<b>Seconded by:</b> Pusey	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

<b>Motion:</b> Move to open the closed (Executive Director evaluation) portion of the board meeting @ 8:17pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Brotherson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Barnes	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0
<b>Motion:</b> Move the close the Executive Director evaluation portion of the board meeting @ 10:06pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Barnes		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bangma	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

<b>Motion:</b> Move to reopen the board meeting @10:07pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Barnes		<b>Seconded by:</b> Ha	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Motion to Adjourn:**

<b>Motion:</b> Move to adjourn @10:08pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Ha		<b>Seconded by:</b> Barnes	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Next Meeting:** June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m. at the North St. Paul Campus: 2342 Helen Street North, 55109 and Virtual Meeting Option