

LIONSGATE ACADEMY  
District #4183  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
*September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.*

*North St. Paul Campus: 2342 Helen Street North, North St. Paul, MN 55109 and Virtual Meeting Option*

**TO:** Pauline Bangma, Andrew Birnstengel, Amiri Brotherson, Molly Figenskau, Janet Ha, Jeff Nickolas, Jason Pusey, Rachel Osband, and Ann Wiesner

**Others:** ~~Dr. Diane Restorff, Executive Director~~; Ryan Rehnstrand, Director of Student Services; Aaron Leisen, Director of Finance and Operations; Julie Moeckly, Director of Human Resources

**FROM:** Ann Wiesner

**Call to order:** Ann Wiesner @ 6:32pm

**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.*

**Lionsgate Academy Board Land Use Acknowledgement Statement:**

*The School Board of Lionsgate Academy strives to foster a school community of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We acknowledge that our schools and community rests on stolen land of the tribes of the Dakota and Ojibwe in Minnesota. The School Board works to support the Lionsgate Academy community that addresses the needs of underserved students diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum. We work to support students of all backgrounds who wish to attend Lionsgate Academy. As the School Board, we commit to advancing equity and incorporating diversity and inclusion into every undertaking.*

**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 reorder the agenda to have the financial report before the special education update			
<b>Made by:</b> Bangma		<b>Seconded by:</b> Ha	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

<b>Motion:</b> Move to approve the agenda with the change in the order	
<b>Made by:</b> Ha	<b>Seconded by:</b> Figenskau

<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> Bangma	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**2. Finance Update – Aaron Leisen**

- a. Committee Update - committee met today to discuss August 2022 financials
- b. Financials (as of August 31, 2022)
  - i. ADM - will have official ADM (Average Daily Membership) by October – close to budgeted number of 410.0
  - ii. Revenue – Total revenues were \$4,017,823 compared to a year-to-date cash-basis budget of \$4,149,681 for a total unfavorable variance of \$(131,858)
  - iii. Expenses – Total expenditures were \$1,716,841 compared to a year-to-date cash-basis budget of \$2,235,188 for a total favorable variance of \$518,347

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

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

- a. NOVA – charter school contracting group – 1-year contract
  - i. .8 School Psychologist MTKA (2 at .4)
  - ii. .1 work based learning coach AIM – interviewing on Thursday
  - iii. .1 ELL SHV – (8hrs/week)

**4. Business**

- a. Director’s Report – Dr. Restorff by Ryan Rehnstrand
  - i. Principal/Site Director Update - AIM Update
    - 1. Staffing shortages – No students on Wednesday and Thursday this week
    - 2. Using time to re-assess model to accommodate current staffing shortages
  - ii. Student Achievement - Meta Thomas
    - 1. 2022 MCA/MTAS results
      - a. NEO framework - math scores comparing to state, Minneapolis, and special education
      - b. Proficiency based on campus
    - 2. Currently MAP testing at all campuses

- iii. Strategic Planning Update - Strategic planning session scheduled for Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023
  - iv. Personnel - Julie Moeckly, Director of HR
    - 1. Open positions
      - a. Shoreview – Special Education English Language Arts Teacher; Educational Assistants (13)
      - b. Lynx – Mental Health Behavioral Aide
      - c. AIM – Job Coaches; Teacher/Case Manager; Teacher/Case Manager - Work Based Learning Coordinator
      - d. Minnetonka – Special Education Case Manager; Special Education Teacher/Case Manager – Resource Room; School Social Worker; Educational Assistants (5); School Nurse (LPN)
      - e. District – Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging/Restorative Practices Coordinator (DEIB/RP)
    - 2. HR is working on how to post and what to post – many incentives to work at LGA – how to draw people to LGA
  - b. Foundation Update – Aaron Leisen
    - i. Great recruiting event held at Park Tavern on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Potential volunteer for board chair – Joe Timmons
    - iii. Interest from staff and parents
    - iv. Next Foundation meeting – Oct 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Committee Reports
    - i. Governance – Director Ha
      - 1. Next meeting Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Finance – reported before special education update
    - iii. Executive Director Evaluation Committee Update - Director Birnstengel and Director Pusey
      - 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting this evening
      - 2. Continuing to look through documents
      - 3. Next steps – formalized goals
      - 4. Will meet with Diane before November
      - 5. Would like to meet with last year’s committee
      - 6. Next steps in formatting goals for ED for 22-23
        - a. Board to vote on board goal for ED at Oct meeting
    - iv. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee Update
      - 1. Discussion on the hiring process for the DEIB/PR position
    - v. Ad Hoc Board Diversity Communication Committee Update – no report
  - d. Authorizer Report - Adam Myhand (NEO)
    - i. NEO will give feedback after their next board meeting
- 5. Review: Next Month’s Board Meeting agenda**
- 6. Closed Session**

<b>Motion:</b> Move to close the board meeting @7:50pm to have discussion on executive director search			
<b>Made by:</b> Ha		<b>Seconded by:</b> Figenskau	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

- a. Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee Discussion

<b>Motion:</b> Move to open the “Closed” board meeting session @7:55pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Bangma		<b>Seconded by:</b> Figenskau	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

<b>Motion:</b> Move to close the “Closed” board meeting session @ 8:46pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Pusey		<b>Seconded by:</b> Brotherson	
<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 @ 8:46pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Brotherson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Ha	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

<b>Motion:</b> Move to use an executive recruiter as needed for the executive director search with a budget cap of \$15,000			
<b>Made by:</b> Brotherson		<b>Seconded by:</b> Bangma	
<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 @ 8:49pm			
<b>Made by:</b> Bangma		<b>Seconded by:</b> Birnstengel	
<b>Discussion:</b> None.			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> 6	<b>Nay:</b> 0	<b>Abstain:</b> 0

**Next Meeting:** *October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 6:30 PM at the Minnetonka Campus: 5605 Green Circle Drive Minnetonka, MN, 55343 and Virtual Meeting Option*