

LIONSGATE ACADEMY
District #4183
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

*March 21st, 2023 @ 6:30 PM
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, and Rachel Osband
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 autistic learners.

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

Motion: Move to approve agenda with the addition of discussion of letters received by Director Birnstengel			
Made by: Figenskau		Seconded by: Bangma	
Discussion: Letters are in the board portal and will be discussed at the April meeting			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Model:

1. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
 - i. February 21st Meeting Minutes
 - ii. March 7th Special Meeting Minutes

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>

- iii. March 13th Special Meeting Minutes
- b. Governance Committee Report
- c. Approval of Policies

Motion: Move to approve consent agenda			
Made by: Ha		Seconded by: Figenskau	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

2. Special Education Update – Ryan Rehnstrand

- a. Currently planning for ESY
 - i. Staff and student interest forms sent out
 - ii. Will be held at all four campuses
 - iii. Close to 60% of students qualify for ESY – about 45% attend
- b. System 44 and Read 180
 - i. During 2nd quarter inventories - 93% students showed growth in basic reading skills from baseline

3. Business

- a. Director’s Report – Dr. Restorff
 - i. Principal/Site Director Update – Dr. Jessica Bjorkman, AIM Site Director
 - 1. AIM Open House rescheduled for Thursday, March 23rd at 6pm
 - 2. RSVP to attend
 - 3. Expecting more than 60 people (27 different groups)
 - ii. Upcoming Events
 - 1. Shoreview Open House
 - 2. Minnetonka School Play
 - 3. Graduation
 - a. May 30 – AIM sendoff @ 6pm
 - b. May 31 – Minnetonka @ 7pm – will be held at Eagle Ridge Academy
 - c. June 2 – Shoreview @ 6:30pm – will be held at Irondale High School
 - 4. Working on onboarding schedule for Dr. Hala Asamarai
 - 5. MACS (Minnesota Association of Charter Schools) Alert Update
 - 6. Washington, D.C. Trip – April 3-6 (during Spring Break)
 - iii. Student Achievement – Meta Thomas
 - 1. Winter NWEA MAP results for math
 - 2. NEO Framework – NWEA MAP Math Growth Goals
 - a. On or Above grade level – exemplary range
 - b. Below grade level – near satisfactory range
 - iv. Strategic Planning Update
 - 1. New executive director hired!
 - a. Onboarding being planned – first day is April 24th
 - v. Personnel – Julie Moeckly
 - 1. Continued recruiting for all positions and all programs
 - 2. Coordinating a “Lionsgate Finance 101” with Aaron for presentation to all staff the week prior to distributing 2023-24 wage/salaries
 - 3. HR staff finalizing details for salary/wage communication for the week of April 17th
- b. Foundation Update
 - i. Breakfast - Friday, May 12th - register and bring your friends

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- 1. Please let Diane know of any advertisers or sponsors
- ii. Pickin’ for Autism - Saturday, April 28th
- iii. Working on processes
- iv. Projects funded
 - 1. Author speaking in Language Arts classes
 - 2. Garden at Minnetonka
- c. Committee Reports
 - i. Governance – Director Ha
 - 1. Next meeting April 10th at 4:15pm
 - ii. Finance – Aaron Leisen
 - 1. Committee Update – met tonight to discuss February financials
 - 2. Financials – as of February 28th, 2023
 - a. ADM
 - i. Actual Current: 390.25; from budget: 410.0
 - b. Revenue
 - i. Total Revenues were \$16,386,318
 - ii. Year-to-date cash-basis budget of \$16,752,352
 - iii. Total unfavorable variance of \$(366,034)
 - c. Expenses
 - i. Total Expenditures were \$15,140,394
 - ii. Year-to-date cash-basis budget of \$15,747,402
 - iii. Total favorable variance of \$607,008
 - d. Lease Aid
 - i. FY2023 Lease Aid Application
 - e. Revised 2023 Budget
 - i. Updates to FY 2023 budget to account for the difference in the projected ADM
 - 1. General Fund 01 Revenue
 - a. Revised budget \$26,712,741
 - 2. General Fund 01 Expenditures
 - a. Revised budget \$26,665,751
 - 3. Food Service Fund 02
 - a. Revised budget \$244,995

Motion: Move to approve February 2023 financials			
Made by: Figenskau		Seconded by: Bangma	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Motion: Move to approve FY2023 lease aid application			
Made by: Bangma		Seconded by: Ha	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Motion: Move to approve the revised FY2023 budget			
Made by: Ha		Seconded by: Birnstengel	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

- iii. Executive Director Evaluation Committee Update
 - 1. Meeting on March 1st
 - a. Reviewed last year’s surveys
 - b. Recommended a few improvements to surveys
 - 2. 4 separate surveys were sent March 15th to:
 - a. Families
 - b. Staff
 - c. Executive director’s direct reports
 - d. School board directors
 - 3. Next Committee meeting is 4/17
- iv. Ad Hoc Executive Director Search Committee Update
 - 1. Update of Executive Director Hire
- v. Authorizer Report
 - 1. Formal site visit on March 16th – went very well
 - 2. NEO learning walk at SHV on March 17th – went very well also
- 4. **Review: Next Month’s Board Meeting Agenda**
 - a. Add discussion of letters received by Director Birnstengel to the April Agenda

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion: Move to adjourn @ 7:29pm			
Made by: Figenskau		Seconded by: Birnstengel	
Discussion: None.			
Vote:	Yea: 4	Nay: 0	Abstain: 0

Next Meeting: *April 18th, 2023 @ 6:30PM at the Minnetonka Campus 5605 Green Circle Drive, MN 55343 and Virtual Meeting Option*