



APPROVED 10/21/2021

**LIGHTHOUSE CONNECTIONS ACADEMY, INC. (LCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. ET

Held at the following location and via teleconference:

3150 Livernois Road
Suite 201
Troy, MI 48083

1-800-747-5150; 506-9236#

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Gregg called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. The agenda had been posted in accordance with the legal requirements.

Board Members Present: Jana Gregg, Liz Roe, and Dailaa Ross Waldron (via phone);

Board Members Absent: Lynn Aronoff;

Guests Present: Shanna Shepherd, School staff; Kristy Blondeau, Member of the Public (in person at the school location); Sherrie Buchzeiger, School Leader; Rachael Pesta, Katie Lookhart, Ashley Gutowski, Leigha Faith, and Gina Zuberbier, School staff; Jill Lemond, Oxford Community Schools Representative; Carla Hicks, Steve O'Brien, Brian Rosta, Staci Budde, and Kristin DeGroff, Pearson Virtual Schools staff (via phone).

II. Public Comment (limited to agenda items only)

There were no public comments at this time.

III. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Gregg asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no changes noted, Ms. Gregg made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Roe as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the September 16, 2021 Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lighthouse Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Oral Reports

a. Principal's Report

i. Update on Enrollment and Staffing

Ms. Buchzeiger reviewed the school's current enrollment numbers, as well as students in all stages of the enrollment process. She further updated the Board on staffing, as well as the school's inclusion of a truancy officer for the 2021-2022 school year. The Board inquired about the school's processes for substitute teachers.

[Ms. Lemond joined the meeting at 12:09 p.m.]

Ms. Buchzeiger discussed the school's hiring processes for full time and substitute staff. Dr. Rosta provided additional information regarding the teacher shortage across the state of Michigan.

ii. Fall Count Day Preparations

Ms. Buchzeiger provided an update on the school's preplanning processes for Fall Count Day, including staff training, communications to families at the school, and electronic updates on student planners. She further advised of Pearson's support for the Count Day process.

b. Financial Report

i. Update on School Financial Services Support Team

Ms. Hicks introduced Mr. O'Brien to the Board, and reviewed his role within Pearson's School Financial Services team. She further discussed her work with Mr. O'Brien over the past several months to ensure a seamless transition for support of the school's financial services.

Mr. O'Brien reviewed the financial information contained in the Board meeting materials and discussed relevant changes from the previous financial statement. He reviewed the balance sheet, and the school's revenue and expense statement, highlighting changes from the previous month's financials.

V. Consent Items

Ms. Gregg asked the Board Members whether there were any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no items removed from the Consent Items, Ms. Gregg made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Ross Waldron as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the August 19, 2021 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Pearson Invoices for July (# 91000008591) and August (# 91000008724);
- c. Approval of Federal Title Funding Documentation: Revised Parent and Family Engagement Policy; and
- d. Approval of Enrollment Deadline as October 3, 2021 for Grade 12 and February 6, 2022 for Grades K-11 for the 2021-2022 School Year; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Action Items

There were no action items.

VII. Information Items

- a. School Success Partner (SSP) Update

Dr. Rosta presented to the Board on behalf of the School Success Partner (SSP) team.

- i. Back to School Update

Dr. Rosta provided an update on enrollment trends throughout the state during the COVID-19 pandemic. He further advised of the impact the pandemic has had on school activities, standardized testing, and face to face communications and training for staff. Dr. Rosta further discussed the process of setting up student technology and support services on Connections Academy owned computers, as well as the process to request additional laptops for families with multiple students at the school.

- b. Academic Success Partner (ASP) Update

Ms. Budde presented to the Board on behalf of the Academic Success Partner (ASP) team.

i. Teacher Professional Development Products and Services for the 2021- 2022 School Year

Ms. Budde reviewed the professional development products and services for school staff, as offered by Pearson for the 2021-2022 school year. She discussed the various levels of professional learning opportunities available to staff members, and advised of the curated catalog of content to allow for a more personalized professional development experience. She also highlighted the additional training and development opportunities offered by school leadership.

c. Board Relations Update

Ms. DeGross presented on behalf of the Board Relations team.

i. Board Training and Conference Attendance Planning for 2021-2022 School Year

Ms. DeGross reviewed the upcoming trainings and conferences that have been previously identified that may interest members of the Board. The Board reviewed the upcoming training offerings. The Board discussed their support of Board members making an effort to attend conferences and training opportunities, including the National Charter Schools Conference, scheduled to be held in Washington, DC in 2022.

ii. Board Experience Survey Results

Ms. DeGross presented this item to the Board. She reviewed the results of the survey, and thanked Board members for their participation and partnership in the educational process.

d. Board Recruitment Update

Ms. Gregg discussed Board recruitment efforts in detail with the Board. Dr. Rosta provided several potential additional avenues for recruitment. Board members advised of their support of Dr. Rosta's assistance in the recruitment process.

VIII. Extended Public Comment (non-agenda items only)

Ms. Blondeau introduced herself as a parent of a student at the school, and addressed the Board regarding the school's Social Studies curriculum. She discussed a particular lesson regarding the U.S. Constitution, and requested that the school provide additional information regarding the intent of the lesson. Dr. Rosta and Ms. Buchzeiger advised of their intent to follow up with Ms. Blondeau in a timely manner.

IX. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting - Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. Ms. Gregg made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Ross Waldron as follows:

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting at 12:49 p.m.

The motion was approved.

Submitted by

Approved by

/s/ Kristin DeGross

/s/ Jana Gregg

Name: Kristin DeGross

Name: Jana Gregg

Recorder

Board President

Date: September 16, 2021

Date: September 16, 2021