

**Lionheart Classical Academy Board of Trustees**

**Regular Meeting on August 4, 2022**

**Draft Minutes**

**A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School ("LCA") took place on August 4, 2022 at 10 Sharon Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Barry Tanner. Board members present were: Barry Tanner, Kim Lavalley, Leo Plante, Richard Merkt (being a quorum of the Board) and Kerry Bedard (ex officio and Executive Director). Trustee Jim Fricchione attended via Zoom. Chairman Tanner noted that this is a public meeting and that notice of the same had been duly posted in accordance with state law.**

**The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Tanner.**

**Chairman Tanner read the School Mission of LCA.**

**Executive Director Bedard presented a "Mission Moment," focusing on six parents who have offered to serve as parent members of the Board. She praised their commitment to the success of LCA, which is not solely dependent on their children being students.**

**The Chairman opened the meeting for public comments. No public comments were offered. Hearing no public comments in person or via Zoom, the Chairman closed the public comment portion of the meeting.**

**Richard Merkt presented his Secretary's Report, consisting of Minutes of the Board's annual public meeting on June 30, 2022, as well as sealed Minutes of the non-public portion of the meeting. On motion by Vice Chair Lavalley, seconded by Mr. Plante, the Minutes of the public portion of the meeting were approved as submitted by a vote of 5-0-0. On motion by Mr. Plante, seconded by Vice Chair Lavalley, the Minutes of the non-public portion of the meeting were approved as submitted and sealed by a vote of 5-0-0.**

**The next item was a report by the Owner's Representative, David Bedard, on the status of the school construction project. Town construction inspections are scheduled for August 15, and it is anticipated that approvals will be issued, albeit with a likely punch list of items to be addressed. Mr. Bedard expects that the building will be ready for the scheduled opening of LCA on August 31, 2022. He also met with the Town's Conservation Committee regarding the LCA playground and believes LCA can satisfy the Committee's proposed changes. There will be a conditional use hearing on August 8, 2022 before the Peterborough Select Board. LCA is accepting quotes for approximately 500 linear feet of fencing required for the playground. Also, Hutter construction has submitted required drawings to the State, and Mr. Bedard noted that the state Department of Education accepts sign-offs by local officials.**

Mr. Plante noted some damaged screens at the building. Mr. Bedard commented that there are a number of maintenance issues to address. He also noted that he expects to hear about security measures at the facility in the coming week. LCA should be eligible for either round one or round two security grants. He further mentioned that Oyster Creek School furniture will unload on August 19 and equipment ordered from Staples will arrive on August 22.

Chairman Tanner expressed the Board's thanks to Mr. Bedard for all his efforts on LCA's behalf.

Treasurer Kim Lavalley presented her Treasurer's Report and noted that LCA's accountant, Caitlin Blundell, CPA, was not available to attend this meeting. The Treasurer provided a high-level review of LCA's finances. She noted the success of the first LCA auction at Timberdoodle and thanked Mr. Plante, Veronica Lima, and staff for their efforts. Auction receipts, transfers from Founders Academy Foundation, and donations should enable LCA to cover its expenses through opening, while the school has about \$700,000 in receivables from the Charter School Program grant.

Executive Director Bedard presented her report to the Board. She reported on Families, noting that enrollment is currently hovering around 194 students, targeting LCA's approved 197 student figure. On Faculty, she reported some fluctuation as one teacher resigned, but candidates are being interviewed for teaching positions, and a physical education teacher has been hired. Teacher training has been performed, and faculty is becoming acquainted with the LCA Curriculum. She has conducted feedback meetings. The focus now is on the first few weeks of operation and implementing the curriculum approved by the state Board of Education and presented to school parents. She summarized how the curriculum builds systematically on its approach for each separate grade and noted that the virtue of Respect governs classroom expectations. LCA's classrooms, which will be brand new, can be decorated with an educational purpose that is supportive of the curriculum, but does not distract students from the core academic activities.

Under Board Business, Executive Director Bedard noted that the Family Handbook has been distributed to the Board, as well as Attorney Bob Best for legal review. It will be reviewed and updated as necessary each year. On motion of Mr. Merkt, seconded by Mr. Plante, the Board approved the Family Handbook by a vote of 5-0-0.

Under Committee Reports, it was noted that the Facility Report had been given earlier in the meeting. The solicitation for Parent Board Members has yielded six strong candidates, per Chairman Tanner. A decision will be made within the next few weeks, so the Parent Board Members can be empaneled at the September 8 regular meeting of the Board.

With regard to New Business, the Board reviewed the status of transportation negotiations with the host school district (ConVal), which are still unresolved at this time. State Department of Education mediation may be requested to help reach an agreement

acceptable to both parties. A legislative clarification of the statute may also be pursued as a longer-term solution.

Mr. Plante, seconded by Mr. Merkt, moved that the meeting enter a non-public session under RSA 91- A:3, II(b) to consider hiring a person as a public employee. Executive Director Bedard was requested to remain for the non-public session. On a roll call vote, Mr. Tanner voted yes; Ms. Lavallee voted yes; Mr. Plante voted yes; Mr. Fricchione voted yes; and Mr. Merkt voted yes. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0-0, whereupon the meeting entered into non-public session at 6:55 p.m. The decision of the Board in the non-public session was to move forward with the appointment of three Parent Board Members, to approve the hiring of the physical education teacher, and to authorize the Executive Director to proceed with hiring/transferring employees as she determines are required to provide a full staff and faculty by opening day.

Mr. Fricchione departed the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Chairman Tanner noted that the next regular meeting of the Board will be at LCA on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6 p.m.

Vice Chair Lavallee moved that the meeting adjourn, Mr. Plante seconded the motion, and the Board approved by a vote of 4-0-0, whereupon Chairman Tanner declared the regular meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Merkt, Secretary