

DRAFT MINUTES

Lionheart Classical Academy Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting on June 13, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School ("LCA") took place on May 9, 2024 at 10 Sharon Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Vice Chair Kim Lavallee.

Board members present included: Vice Chair Kim Lavallee, Bailey Sweet, Lori Finn, Kevin McDonald, and Jason Nero (being a quorum of the Board), and Kerry Bedard (ex officio and Executive Director). Kristie Greenwood was excused due to a scheduling conflict. Chairman Barry Tanner joined at approximately 6:30 due to a flight delay. The Vice Chair noted that this was 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 Vice Chair Kim Lavallee.

Executive Director Kerry Bedard recited the School Mission of LCA.

Executive Director Kerry Bedard presented a "Mission Moment," sharing the excitement of the last day of school, the LCA staff chant: "Courage, Rigor, Joy" as well as presenting to the audience Lionheart's newly written Alma Mater.

Vice Chair Lavallee then opened the meeting for Public Comments. Several comments were made in support of David Somero to join the Board of Trustees.

Vice Chair Lavallee presented the Secretary's Report, consisting of draft Minutes of the Board's Regular Meeting held on May 20, 2024 and the Special Board meeting held on May 9, 2024. No edits were requested. Trustee Nero made a motion to approve the Secretary's Minutes of both meetings as submitted. Trustee Sweet seconded. No discussion. Approved 5-0-0.

The Treasurer's Report followed, with Caitlyn Blundell, CPA, (via Zoom) summarizing the May 2024 financial statements for LCA.

Executive Director Bedard presented her monthly report to the Board highlighting end of year activities, recognizing parents and Parent Council and their support as well as looking ahead to year three and Operation New Hire. For additional detail, please reference the Director's Report.

Following the Executive Director's report, Vice Chair Lavallee moved on to the Board's June Organizational needs whereby the Board re-establishes membership, Officer roles and new Board members. At this point, Chairman Tanner joined the meeting.

Vice-Chair Kim Lavallee noted the terms and requirements of our current by-laws to vote each member for another term if they wish to serve. Given that several trustees had truncated roles, (their terms began in November 2023), these trustees were asked to serve again, if willing.

- Trustee Sweet was asked if she would serve another 1 year term ending June 2025. She indicated yes. Trustee Finn motioned to establish Trustee Sweet for a 1 year term as a Parent Trustee. Trustee McDonald seconded. Chairman Tanner shared comments on Trustee Sweet's model of engagement as a Board member. Vote 6-0-0.
- Trustee Greenwood had previously indicated to Vice Chair Lavallee she would serve a 1 year term ending June 2025. Trustee McDonald motioned to establish Trustee Greenwood for another year term. Trustee Sweet seconded. No discussion. Vote 6-0-0.
- Trustee McDonald shared he would be stepping down as Parent Trustee after 2 years of service.
- Chairman Tanner shared he support and gratitude will continue; he also will be stepping down after years of service and his part on the founding Board.
- Vice Chair Lavallee asked Trustee Finn if she would serve in the role of Community Member - Education given her extensive professional background and PhD - for a 2 year term ending June 2026. She accepted. Trustee Nero motioned to establish Trustee Finn as a Community Member for a 2 year term. Trustee Sweet seconded. No discussion. Vote 6-0-0.

Next, the Board moved to new Board members. Trustee Finn called for a vote to establish a Board of Advisors. Vice Chair Lavallee asked that goals for an Advisory Board be established.

- **ACTION: That work would be completed by the Organizational Committee with a recommendation back to the Board for the July 2024 meeting.**

Trustee Nero motioned to establish a LCA Board of Advisors, Trustee Finn seconded. Vote 6-0-0

Trustee Finn proceeded to share the candidates for membership and the recommendation of the Board Succession and Planning Committee:

- Dennis McKenney; Recommendation: Organizational Committee
- Marla Franchi; Recommendation: Academic Committee
- Fred Ward; Recommendation: Board of Advisors and Finance & Fundraising Committee.
- Dawn Cournoyer; Recommendation: Academic Committee
- Brian Walsh; Recommendation: Parent Trustee - 1 year term ending June 2025; Academic and Finance Committees
- David Somero; Recommendation: Board of Advisors

Vice Chair Kim Lavallee called for a vote on the new member, Brian Walsh. Trustee Sweet motioned to establish Brian Walsh as a Parent Trustee ending June 2025. Trustee Nero seconded. Vote 6-0-0.

The Board also discussed inviting Barry Tanner to the Board of Advisors. Dr Fred Ward declined the Board of Advisors and invitation to the Finance Committee as he was in the audience during the meeting. Those in attendance (51 people) were all invited to join a committee and get involved. It was also discussed that David Somero will be interviewed again should his time be more available to serve than originally indicated.

- **ACTION: Trustee Nero, Finn and Sweet will meet with him again and the Board will determine next steps at the July 2024 meeting.**

Vice Chair Lavalley then called for nominations for Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Chair and Chair for the 2024-2025 term.

- Trustee Nero motioned to nominate Trustee Finn for Secretary. Trustee McDonald seconded. Trustee Sweet shared how well suited Trustee Finn would be for this role. Vote 6-0-0
- Vice Chair Lavalley explained she had spoken to Trustee Greenwood (who was excused and not present at the meeting) prior to the meeting. She was interested in serving as Treasurer. Trustee Nero motioned to nominate Trustee Greenwood for Treasurer, Trustee Finn seconded. Vote 6-0-0
- Trustee Finn motioned to nominate Trustee Sweet for Vice-Chair, Trustee McDonald seconded. No discussion. Vote 6-0-0
- Trustee Finn motioned to nominate Vice Chair Lavalley for Chair, Trustee Nero seconded. No discussion. Vote 6-0-0

Vice Chair Lavalley then requested committee updates. Trustee Nero reported for the Finance Committee that the funding for the Grade 7 buildout is set. Trustee Nero shared with the Board that the landlord for the LCA building was available to meet to discuss our current lease. Trustee Nero made it clear that this would be a discussion and no decisions would be made without full transparency and a vote of the Board.

Chairman Tanner suggested to delegate Trustee Sweet and Nero to meet with the LCA landlord, Ophir Sternberg, with the support of RoundTable Funding Group. Trustee Finn motioned to delegate conversations with the landlord on behalf of the Board to Trustee Nero and Trustee Sweet and they would report back to the Board for discussion and necessary voting. Chairman Tanner seconded. Vote 6-0-0.

Next, Trustee Nero introduced Clint Biesinger and Monty Hardy from RoundTable Funding Group to present. Mr Biesinger and Mr Hardy have an MOU signed with LCA to support long term building strategy, lease negotiations and act as a fiduciary and advocate for the school should the school need future funding. They shared their extensive backgrounds, the support they have for LCA and the examples that show that LCA is a strong school with a bright future that is due to the support of so many people. Their goal is to keep dollars in the classroom. They also indicated they had toured the building.

Vice Chair Lavallee called on Trustee Sweet for an Organizational Committee update. Trustee Sweet shared information on the Title IX federal regulations; Club Guidelines will be updated and asked Trustee Finn to review the policies from committee:

- BEDH (Approved in 2022; small revision required, highlighted in yellow)
- ACG (Approved in April 2024; addition of procedures added, highlighted in yellow)
- BG (Approved in 2022; revisions made to clarify procedures; highlighted in yellow)
- BBBD (Reviewed by Policy Committee in 2022, but requires a vote by the Board)
- BEA (Approved in 2022, small revision required, highlighted in yellow)
- GBH - New Policy, developed as Hillsdale best practice

All policies above will move forward and are available on the LCA website for review and public comment. The Board plans to approve at the Board meeting in July.

Trustee Finn reported on the Academic Committee. Mercy DeMasi and Mackenzie Nichols gave an update on testing and scoring assessments. Trustee Finn invited Principal DeMasi to speak. Math assessments improved 47% – 49% strongly due to math assessments for 6th grade, but several of the other grades declined.

Under New Business, Vice Chair Lavallee asked that our by-laws be reviewed and look at Board member terms and expand the Board, currently 5-8 people per the charter, to allow more people. Per the charter, we also need to discuss term limits of each Board member role - parent, community, founder/donor. A Special Board meeting may be required in order to go before the State Board of Ed in July. The Organizational Committee will take on that task by July 1st.

Finally, Trustee Sweet recommended to the Board to postpone the discussion on FRC 'Facility Resource Group; and shared some recommended reading: *Boards that Make a Difference* by John Carver to continue to improve the Board's role in Governance.

Vice Chair Lavallee noted the next meeting will be July 11 at 6pm and closed the board moved to enter non-public session at 7:47pm.

Trustee Finn motioned to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91 – A:3, II (c), (e) and (i). Trustee Nero seconded. The Board entered into a non-public session at 8:07pm and invited Executive Director Kerry Bedard. Board approved by Roll Call: Finn (Yea), McDonald (Yea), Sweet (Yea), Lavallee (Yea), Tanner (Yea), Nero (Yea)

Trustee Sweet motioned to exit non-public at 9:25 PM, Trustee Nero seconded. Board approved by Roll Call: Finn (Yea), McDonald (Yea), Sweet (Yea), Lavallee (Yea), Tanner (Yea), Nero (Yea) Trustee Sweet motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Trustee Nero seconded. Board approved by Roll Call: Finn (Yea), McDonald (Yea), Sweet (Yea), Lavallee (Yea), Tanner (Yea), Nero (Yea)

The board discussed various employment agreements and advice from counsel.

Trustee Sweet motioned to adjourn, Trustee Nero seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bailey Sweet