

DRAFT Organizational Committee - Minutes
Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School
Thursday, July 24, 2024 @ 7pm

The Organizational Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.

Attendees: Josh Prather, Bailey Sweet, Lori Finn, Kim Lavallee, Dennis McKenney, Brian Walsh, Jason Nero

Mrs Kristy Goddard shared public comments about that she likes Lionheart, but desired to see the Executive Director change handled differently.

Bailey Sweet requested a motion for the approval of the July 11, 2024 minutes. Kim Lavallee motioned to approve minutes; Lori Finn seconded. No edits requested. Motion passes.

Bailey Sweet opened the meeting outlining what the Board had accomplished relative to the ED search so far starting with the total number of resumes submitted - upwards of 40 - via ACE and directly submitted to Lionheart. The resumes that most closely aligned to job qualifications moved forward to first round virtual interviews (12 candidates). From those interviews, 5 candidates were identified as suited for a second round interview. Of the final 3 candidates, it was suggested that 2 had many of the qualifications the school was seeking, but there were still some questions regarding executive function that needed to be addressed.

Brian Walsh shared his concern about Mission drift. The number one thing he values is a commitment to school culture and virtue and that he desires to find that in the candidate. ACE affirmed they only sent candidates that fit that profile. Mr Walsh also shared a consideration for Principal Dobbs to continue to lead.

Jason Nero shared the importance of executive function for the new ED: finance, budgeting, fundraising, a face of the community while balancing oversight of the academic performance of the school. Josh Prather suggested we might learn more of those things during the in-person interview as well.

Lori Finn shared her agreement with statements made by Mr Nero and Mr Walsh, but indicated some academic experience is important.

Kim Lavallee expressed the importance of the role of charter school leaders being adept at handling the political aspects of the job.

There was discussion about the timing of the final in-person interviews and the cost of flying each candidate into NH. Bailey Sweet indicated the school wants to be mindful of costs so has

made accommodations for housing the candidates. She also asked the committee to consider the costs of ACE lead, David Corbin to join for Aug 5 and 6.

Dennis McKenney shared feedback about the candidates and the profile desired, especially focused on virtue, and noted that fundraising was not outlined on the job description.

The action determined by the committee:

- Another round of virtual interviews with two final candidates with Trustees Jason Nero, David Somero, Brian Walsh this week with focus on specific executive function questions
- Schedule in-person interviews at Lionheart with panel previously identified for August 5 and 6 – ACE to coordinate travel
- ACE to share another group of resumes with higher focus on operations to the Board to review
- Finalize itinerary for August 5 and 6 with Board, faculty, staff and parent representatives
- References would be solicited for the 2 finalists; Brian Walsh will make the calls to references once provided by candidates

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.