



**LIONHEART CLASSICAL ACADEMY CHARTERED PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting December 11, 2025**

DRAFT MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School ("LCA") took place on 12/11/2025 at 10 Sharon Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair Bailey Sweet. Other board members present included: Vice Chair Brian Walsh, Treasurer Dave Somero, Trustee Ross Kukish, Trustee Jason Nero, and Secretary Lori Finn. Trustee Ken Woods was unable to attend due to a family emergency. Executive Director Mike Harner and Principal Ken Dobbs were also in attendance. This was a public meeting and notice of the same had been duly posted in accordance with state law.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Chair Sweet. Principal Dobbs then recited the mission statement. ED Harner shared two mission moments. 1) The LCA Boys and Girls Basketball Teams had their first games, and Brielle Somero scored the first points in school history. 2) We had 900 items donated for our Gratitude Food Drive. Thank you to all our parent volunteers who came to count items, and to Jason Nero & The Nero Wealth Group, Ashley Concha-Vera & Edward Jones Financial and Summer Hill at Spring Village.

Chair Sweet commented on the success of the Donor Dinner, describing it as a sweet and memorable evening, and thanked Ashlee Wheel for all her hard work in making it possible. She also publicly recognized Mr. & Mrs. Don Upton for their generous \$25,000 donation and acknowledged a \$4,000 Christmas gift from Veronica Lima.

I. Public Comments: None.

II. Secretary's Report: Secretary Finn presented the Secretary's Report. **Trustee Nero moved to approve the minutes of the 11/13/25 Regular Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Walsh and approved unanimously (6-0-0).**

III. Treasurer's Report: Caitlyn Blundell presented the October 2025 [Monthly Financial Report & Budget Analysis](#). She noted that the school received its second per-pupil aid payment earlier than expected, resulting in an additional surplus. She reported that we are exactly where we should be in terms of paying down the budget and are still performing better than projected for per-pupil aid. A donation was received regarding athletic uniforms. She also confirmed that the HEFA loan has been fully paid off and is now available to draw down again if needed. Chair Sweet thanked Ms. Blundell for providing cash flow reports twice a month. **Trustee Somero moved to accept the financial reports, seconded by Trustee Nero. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0-0).**

IV. Leadership Report:

- A. ED Harner presented the [Leadership Report](#).
- B. ED Harner reported that Emergency Operating Plans are completed for 10 Sharon Rd and 700 Dublin Road. They need to be submitted to the down and signed by the police and fire chief. They reflect the change in leadership and place of storage for the plan at both locations.
- C. The Charter School Performance Review was discussed. LCA met expectations with an overall score of 86%. ED Harner will write a response. Some initial assessment results are available. At the first round of DIBLS testing for the year for one grade, 32 of 44 students began the year reading below grade level. At the second test, all 44 students are now meeting or exceeding grade level.
- D. Trustee Kukish moved to accept the Leadership Report, seconded by Trustee Nero. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0-0).

V. Board Business

A. Finance Committee. Trustee Nero provided an update on the activities of the Finance Committee.

- a. Trustee Nero expressed his gratitude to ED Harner, Trustee Somero, and Trustee Kukish for all of their hard work. The 6-year plan is in development and will be presented at the January Board Meeting. Trustee Kukish continues to work on Plan B. He expressed gratitude to Ashlee Wheel for her hard work on the Fundraising Committee. There is a short list of items still needed for 700 Dublin Road.
- b. ED Harner applied for a Safe Grant for exterior cameras for 700 Dublin Road.
- c. The bequest from Augusta Petrone needs to be transferred to Schwab. Some paperwork is still needed. Chair Sweet will work on an Investment Policy and Confidentiality Policy for the January Board Meeting.

B. Organizational Committee. Trustee Sweet provided an update on the activities of the Organizational Committee.

- a. Trustee Somero moved to approve Chair Sweet signing the Intent to Renew Charter form. The motion was seconded by Trustee Walsh and passed unanimously (6-0-0).
- b. [KBB - Parental Bill of Rights](#) and [JLCBB - Suicide Prevention & Response](#) policies have been posted on the website for public review and comment. Trustee Walsh moved to approve both policies as written, seconded by Trustee Kukish. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0-0).
- c. Organizational Committee meetings will be moved to the first Thursday of the month at 6:15 pm beginning in 2026.

C. Academic Committee: Meetings will be moved to the first Thursday of the month at 5 pm beginning in 2026.

VI. New Business

- Trustee Somero moved to approve authorizing Kristen Duncan to make deposits into the school's TD Bank account. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nero and approved unanimously (6-0-0). Ashlee Wheel will be removed from the account.

- The Board discussed Chapter 8 in Governing for Greatness. The chapter focused on meetings and minutes.
- ED Harner announced that the 5th grade replacement teacher resigned. Mrs. Harner will continue in 5th grade through January 2026 while a search is conducted.
- **Next meeting:** January 22, 2026 @ 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori L. Finn