



**LIONHEART CLASSICAL ACADEMY CHARTERED PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Regular Meeting March 12, 2026**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Lionheart Classical Academy Chartered Public School ("LCA") took place on 3/12/2026 at 10 Sharon Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Chair Bailey Sweet. Other board members present included: Treasurer Dave Somero, Trustee Ross Kukish, Trustee Jason Nero, and Secretary Lori Finn. Trustee Brian Walsh and Trustee Ken Woods attended via Zoom. 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. Trustee Nero read the mission statement. Principal Dobbs shared a mission moment: The 4th grade students were selected to take the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The representatives remarked that they wished every school's students could be as kind, cooperative, and efficient as our students were during the test.

I. **Public Comments:** None.

II. **Secretary's Report.** Trustee Finn presented the Secretary's Report. Chair Sweet noted a correction—that Seacoast Classical joined LCA for Numeracy Night. **Trustee Somero moved to approve the minutes from the 2/12/26 Regular Board Meeting. Trustee Nero seconded. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (6-0-0). Trustee Woods had not yet joined the meeting.

III. **Treasurer's Report:** Caitlin Blundell presented the [Monthly Financial Report](#) and [Budget Analysis](#). Ms. Blundell noted that our net surplus and total revenue is very strong for this time of year. We are slightly over budget, primarily due to insurance for the new building. Our third per-pupil aid payment was received 3/2/26. DOE metrics are now on the financial reports. Ms. Blundell noted that LCA is probably one of the financially healthiest charter schools in New Hampshire. **Trustee Nero moved to accept the financial reports, seconded by Trustee Walsh. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (7-0-0).

IV. **Leadership Report:** ED Harner presented the [Leadership Report](#). We have passed all inspections at 700 Dublin Rd. We will receive a certificate of occupancy from the Town of Peterborough upon receipt of the elevator inspection. Following that, the state will issue approval to operate. Two environmental items remain, including certification of the well as a public source well. The new target date for students to begin at the new site is 4/7/26. We will

also need a new certificate of occupancy for 10 Sharon Rd as well.

The enrollment lottery will be held on 3/14/26. Currently, 119 are registered. Projected enrollment for next year is approximately 440 students (range 402-442).

**Trustee Kukiah moved to accept the Leadership Report, seconded by Trustee Walsh. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (7-0-0).

## V. Board Business

### A. Finance Committee

- a. **Budget:** ED Harner presented a draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The draft budget was based on a conservative enrollment assumption of 400 students. Board members discussed the draft budget, and ED Harner will revise it and bring it back to the Board for further review prior to approval.
- b. **Multipurpose Room:** Trustee Kukish provided an update on the multipurpose room. Three bids have been requested for the scope of work, excluding HVAC, which will be handled in-house. Bids are due 3/24. Engineering work, including electrical and HVAC design, is expected to be completed this month so that the permit application can be submitted in April.
- c. **700 Dublin Rd:** Trustee Kukish presented proposals from Warrenstreet Architects and Bruce Hamilton Architects for development of an architectural master plan for the 700 Dublin Rd property. The Board discussed proposals. Trustee Finn moved to approve Warrenstreet Architects to develop the architectural master plan for 700 Dublin Road, seconded by Trustee Woods. **Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (nay), Sweet (yea) (6-1-0).
- d. **Donor Packets:** Trustee Kukish presented donor packets currently in development. The packets include a letter, a condensed overview of the project, information on different ways to donate, a fact sheet, athletics information, and a business card. Trustee Kukish thanked **Leah Seymour** for her work on the materials. Trustee Sweet will distribute the digital files to board members.

### B. Organizational Committee: Trustee Sweet provided an update on the Organizational Committee.

- a. [Investment Policy Statement](#) - The draft policy has been on the website for 30 days. **Trustee Sweet made the requested changes. Trustee Nero moved to approve the Investment Policy, seconded by Trustee Finn. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (7-0-0).
- b. [Toxic Chemicals and Pesticides Minimization Policy \(EBCH\)](#) and related plans (Chemical Hygiene & Safety Plan, Facilities Maintenance Plan, and Integrated Pest Management Plan): Policy EBCH has been posted on the website for review and public comment. **Trustee Sweet moved to advance Policy EBCH for review at the April Board meeting and to approve the three related plans, seconded by Trustee Nero. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn,

(yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (7-0-0).

- C. **Academic Committee:** Trustee Finn provided an update on the Academic Committee. Planning for ninth grade and discussion of graduation requirements continues.

VI. **New Business**

- A. **Board Succession** - New Board member invitation will be sent out. Applications due 4/30/26.
- B. **Governing for Greatness:** The Board discussed Chapter 10. Trustee Sweet will email a Board self-assessment based on this chapter. The Board will consider one question from this chapter a month for Board development
- C. **Charter Renewal:** The Board will review the school's charter, which is up for renewal this year, to determine whether any revisions should be proposed as part of the renewal process.
- D. **Security:** Trustee Walsh discussed some possible security measures.
- E. **Next meeting:** Thursday, April 9 @ 6 pm

**Trustee Somero moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Nero. Motion approved by roll call:** Walsh, (yea); Woods (yea); Finn, (yea); Kukish, (yea); Nero (yea); Somero (yea), Sweet (yea) (7-0-0). Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Lori L. Finn