

## MEETING AGENDA & NOTES

Present	Brooke Archenhold
	Berra Byrd
	Chasity Gonzalez
	Cathy Griffith
	Andrea Hyman
	Daniel Lumm
	Brian McKay
	Lienne Medford
	Brian Morrison
	Laura Raby
	Corey Shick
	Kyle Snipes (remote)
	Rob Venable
Stacey Wilson	
David Wooten	

# MEETING NOTES

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm.

## MOTION: APPROVE AGENDA WITH REVISIONS

- David Wooten indicated that two new clubs – a Dance Club and a Badminton Club – had been proposed for the Board’s consideration and requested that these proposals be added to the meeting agenda.
  - Motion by Brian McKay to approve the agenda with the addition of “Dance Club” and “Badminton Club” under “New Business
  - Seconded by Corey Shick
  - Approved

## MOTION: APPROVE MAY 2023 MEETING MINUTES

- Motion by Lienne Medford
- Seconded by Brooke Archenhold
- Approved

## FRONT OFFICE STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

- The following LCMS administrative and front office staff introduced themselves and shared brief information regarding their respective duties:
  - David Wooten, Principal
  - Rob Venable, Assistant Principal

- Alison Thompson, Director of Development, Langston Foundation
- Jennifer Sim, School Nurse / Receptionist
- June Deas, Athletic Director & Director of Campus Affairs
- Celanie Martin, Registrar
- Stephanie Nelson, Guidance Counselor

## **SINGLE GENDER MODEL PRESENTATION**

- David Wooten reported that the previously scheduled Single Gender Model Presentation was being postponed to the September 2023 LCMS Board meeting.

## **REPORTS**

- David Wooten, Principal's report
  - The first day of school was a success and that there were a total of 470 students enrolled for this academic year.
  - On average, current LCMS employees have been employed in education for 16.5 years each and have recorded 9.7 years of service at the school.
  - Three benchmark tests are administered to students each year. The first round of Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing will be administered in late August.
  - Higher achieving 8<sup>th</sup> graders who meet certain criteria will be offered the opportunity to take the PSAT in October 2023. Parents will be responsible for paying an \$18 fee for their student if he/she opts to take the test. This will be participating students' first timed test; other standardized tests administered to students are not timed.
  - The school added a new faculty member to the Science Department this year.
  - Mr. Wooten distributed a "Board Meeting Suggested Dates" handout. Brian McKay asked Board members to consider the dates and inform him if they would be unable to attend any meetings or wish to propose any changes to the suggested meeting dates.
  - Mr. Wooten distributed a handout with Board member contact information and provided general instructions on how to access Microsoft Teams. Mr. McKay asked Board members to inform him and Mr. Wooten if you are not receiving email communication and/or if you would like to receive emails at your official LCMS email account.
  - Mr. Wooten shared a Langston Foundation handout and an overview of the information included therein.
  - The school schedule has changed to include a 10-minute 7<sup>th</sup> period, which is a homeroom period intended to work with students on executive skills such as being organized, using their agenda, preparing for upcoming tests, and writing their homework assignments down. The period will emphasize the use of the LCMS-provided agenda created by Dr. Rob Venable.
- Lienne Medford, Academic Affairs
  - No report
- Daniel Lumm, Governance
  - No report
- David Wooten, Facilities
  - The LCMS Foundation provided funds to update LED lighting throughout school facilities.
  - Top dressing was performed in the school's backyard during the summer, which smoothed the turf.
  - Mr. Wooten acknowledged that while no intervention is needed currently, the Board may wish to plan ahead for future repainting and floor replacement or maintenance.
  - The school recently passed an asbestos inspection.

- The school has addressing some HVAC issues, which were covered under the school's maintenance contract.
- Mr. McKay underscored the relationship between the school and the LCMS Foundation and also noted that the Foundation owns the school facilities and grounds, which is why it funds many repairs and enhancements. Berra Byrd noted that the school pays rent to the Foundation and had done so since 2011 when the school occupied the current facility.
- Corey Shick, Treasurer
  - Mr. Shick distributed budgetary update documents and briefly reviewed YTD revenue and expenses with the Board.
  - The 2023-24 school year began two weeks earlier than the preceding year; therefore, the school began compensating teachers earlier, which will impact expenses in August 2023 differently than in August 2022.
  - A letter regarding the Langston Foundation Annual Fund has been sent to parents of currently LCMS students.
- Brian McKay, Chairman
  - Mr. McKay welcomed new Board members and acknowledged that officers would be elected later in the meeting
- Charter Discussion
  - Mr. McKay explained that due to a reduction to Greenville County Schools' budget and a change in funding calculation per student adopted by the South Carolina General Assembly, LCMS would be experiencing a \$660,000 reduction in annual funding going forward. He and Mr. Shick began discussing options with LCMS administration about how to respond to this reduction and ensure sustainable financial resources in the future. The Board will be asked to consider selecting a different authorizer other than Greenville County Schools, with an official action item to be considered at the September 2023 LCMS Board meeting.
  - Mr. Shick acknowledged that three potential authorizers had been interviewed: Limestone Charter Association, the Charter Institute at Erskine, and the South Carolina Public Charter School District. Mr. Wooten indicated that LCMS administration had already begun collecting information will be required any of the authorizers once a decision has been made about which one the school will pursue. Greenville County Schools has also drafted a letter in support of LCMS moving to a different authorizer, which is a requirement when changing authorizers.
  - In response a question from Andrea Hyman, Mr. McKay shared that the aforementioned change in funding for LCMS had reduced the school's revenue from approximately \$3.8 million to \$3.3 million. He also acknowledged that LCMS had admitted a small number of additional students for the 2023-24 school year; otherwise, the decrease in revenue would have been slightly larger.
  - It was acknowledged that the responsibilities of an authorizer are to support student testing, provide benefits and/or benefits administration, and provide funding. Laura Raby indicated she would like to see a side-by-side comparison of the authorizers and what they offer in the different areas under consideration.
  - Mr. Wooten acknowledged that locally, Brashier Middle College uses Charter Institute at Erskine as its authorizer while all other charter schools in Greenville County are part of the South Carolina Public Charter School District.
  - In response to a question from Stacey Wilson about how changing authorizers would affect students' and parents' experience, Mr. Wooten indicated that the web-based interface for parents would change as a result.
  - Mr. Shick invited Board members to email any additional questions they have prior to the next Board meeting.

- Mr. McKay asked Mr. Wooten to verify the deadline by which applications must be submitted to authorizers for the 2024-25 school year.
- Mr. Wooten indicated that administration would work on creating materials to assist Board members with evaluating the different options for a new authorizer.

## OLD BUSINESS

- None

## NEW BUSINESS

- Dance Club
  - Mr. Wooten shared that a mother of a LCMS student would like to host a dance club on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays each month to culminate with an end-of-year performance at Furman University. The club would be self-supported through fees collected from participating students' families.
  - Mr. Lumm made a motion to approve the request for the proposed Dance Club. The motion was seconded by Cathy Phillips and approved by the Board.
- Badminton Club
  - Mr. Wooten shared that a father of an LCMS student would like to host a badminton club, which would meet for one hour per week. The parent proposing the club estimates that the cost for equipment and other expenses to launch the club would be approximately \$500, and the club would be responsible for raising the necessary funds. There may be opportunities to compete in area tournaments. The Board engaged in brief discussion about where the equipment would be stored once it is procured.
  - Mr. Lumm made a motion to approve the request for the proposed Badminton Club. The motion was seconded by Brooke Archenhold and approved by the Board.
- Board Reorganization / Officers
  - The Board proceeded to accept nominations for officers and liaisons from the floor:
    - Academic Affairs Liaison
      - Dr. Lienne Medford nominated by Mr. Lumm.
      - Seconded by Mrs. Archenhold
      - Approved
    - Facilities Liaison
      - Kyle Snipes nominated by Mr. McKay
      - Seconded by Dr. Medford
      - Approved
    - Governance
      - Daniel Lumm nominated by Dr. Medford
      - Seconded by Mr. Shick
      - Approved
    - Secretary
      - Brian Morrison nominated by Mr. McKay
      - Seconded by Mrs. Archenhold
      - Approved
    - Treasurer

## LANGSTON SCHOOL BOARD

Meeting notes | 08.08.2023

- Andrea Hyman nominated by Mr. Byrd
  - Seconded by Mrs. Archenhold
  - Approved
- Vice Chair
  - Corey Shick nominated by Mr. McKay
  - Seconded by Mrs. Archenhold
  - Approved
- 2023-2024 Budget Amendment Approval
  - In accordance with email correspondence shared with the Board prior to the meeting, Mr. Shick explained that a teacher left employment with LCMS during the summer, and the new faculty member hired to fill the vacancy is being compensated at a lower rate. He also indicated that there had been an error in budgeting since 2020 and that a 5% increase should be accorded to LCMS administrative staff in order to match Greenville County Schools.
  - Mr. Shick made a motion to amend the 2023-2024 LCMS budget to reflect the lower compensation for the newly-hired faculty member and the 5% increase accorded to administrative staff. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Archenhold and approved by the Board.
- Faculty Presentations at the September 2023 Board Meeting
  - Mr. Wooten informed the Board that faculty members from the Math, Leadership, and Physical Education departments would conduct presentations about their respective departments at the September 2023 Board meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

### **MOTION: ADJOURN MEETING**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

### **NEXT MEETING**

September 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm