

MEETING AGENDA & NOTES

Present	Chasity Gonzalez
	Cathy Griffith (remote)
	Andrea Hyman
	Lienne Medford
	Brian Morrison
	Laura Raby (remote)
	Corey Shick
	Kyle Snipes
	Alison Thompson
	Rob Venable
	Stacey Wilson (remote)
	David Wooten
Absent	Brooke Archenhold
	Sherrie Brookie
	Brian McKay
	Gina Turcotte

MEETING NOTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm.

MOTION: APPROVE AGENDA

- Lienne Medford made a motion to approve the agenda as presented
- The motion was seconded by Andrea Hyman.
- All were in favor, and the agenda was approved.

MOTION: APPROVE NOVEMBER 2024 MEETING MINUTES

- Brian Morrison noted that prior to the meeting, another board member informed him that some information listed in the Principal's Report was an accidental carryover from the October 2024 meeting minutes that needed to be removed.
- Chasity Gonzalez made a motion to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes with the aforementioned revision.
- The motion was seconded by Lienne Medford.
- All were in favor, and the revised minutes were approved.

REPORTS

- David Wooten, Principal's report

- Mr. Wooten mentioned that the school is in the process of administering its second round of Measuring Academic Progress (MAP) testing for the school year. Reading MAP testing was administered last week, and Math MAP testing will be conducted this week. He noted that benchmarking is required for schools and that MAP is the assessment used for that purpose.
- Families with a student selected in the lottery for the 2025-26 school year have been notified of their selection, and the school is beginning to schedule intake conferences that will start in mid-January. During intake conferences, small groups of students are briefly separated from their parents and different information is shared with each audience.
- The Langston Charter Middle School (LCMS) Foundation recently purchased eight new smartboards for the school's use. Some smartboards the school has been using have malfunctioned, so it was necessary to replace some. The LCMS Foundation replaced one third of the school's smartboards this year, and has tentatively planned to replace an additional eight in each of the next two years until all 24 have been replaced. Rob Venable shared some information about the new smartboards and some upcoming training that will be provided to faculty on their use. Mr. Wooten noted that Crystal Works may be able to help the school pursue supplemental grant funding that could enhance the school's technology.
- Earlier in the day, Mr. Wooten, Rob Venable, Lienne Medford, and Kyle Snipes traveled to Columbia to meet with Governor Henry McMaster and to be acknowledged for the school's recent receipt of the Blue Ribbon School award. The staff and board members present were able to meet briefly with Governor McMaster and discuss topics related to LCMS.
- Langston Foundation
 - Alison Thompson shared several handouts related to LCMS Foundation activities, and shared comments related to the Monthly Fundraising Summary document, noting the significant funds received in November 2024.
 - Mrs. Thompson shared a summary of the recent Barn Bash event, which yielded approximately \$9,600 in funds for the Foundation after expenses.
 - Mrs. Thompson noted that LCMS families were reminded about 2024 tax deductible donations to the Foundation in the latest LCMS Bulletin email that was sent. She also shared some upcoming Foundation activities, including requests for donations in honor of the school's 20th anniversary, the sale of brick pavers expected to commence in February 2025, and the 10th annual Foundation golf tournament in April 2025.
- Lienne Medford, Academic Affairs
 - Dr. Medford shared that she recently attended the SC Public Charter School Alliance conference in Myrtle Beach, and noted that the session she presented on teacher leadership was well-attended and that the table regarding connections between higher education and charter schools also had a lot of engagement.
 - Dr. Medford shared that Governor McMaster had several questions about single-gender education when the LCMS contingent visited with him earlier in the day prior to the board meeting.
- Brooke Archenhold, Governance
 - No report
- Kyle Snipes, Facilities
 - Mr. Snipes shared that the school will pursue the repair of several windows with the selected vendor in the near future. A select number of windows will be repaired, then staff will observe and see how the repairs fare following a weather event. If the repairs prove effective, then the school will proceed with repairing the remaining windows. The repairs are projected to last 8-10 years before further intervention is necessary.
- Andrea Hyman, Treasurer

- Mrs. Hyman drew board members' attention to LCMS Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss handouts, which were included in the meeting packet, and noted that none of the budget-related activity since the last board meeting was out of the ordinary.
 - Corey Shick noted that he is investigating other types of accounts and/or investments that may be an alternative to having the school's funds in the current money market account. He anticipates bringing a recommendation to the board for action by May 2025.
 - In response to a question from Mr. Shick, Mr. Wooten indicated that bonus checks for LCMS faculty and staff were being processed and would be distributed to teachers in the following week.
- Corey Shick, Chairman
 - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Rapid Communication System Discussion
 - Mr. Wooten stated that the school is considering how it can better communicate with families in response to inclement weather or in emergency situations. Currently, the school does not have the means to communicate with parents rapidly via text message. Mr. Wooten stated that Hurricane Helene taught the staff that it is important to be able to communicate quickly. The school also had a situation arise where it was necessary to lock all the facility entrances during the school day, and that it would be have been preferable to have a means to communicate quickly with parents.
 - Mr. Wooten tasked an employee at the school to investigate third-party applications, and she discovered that there are Powerschool add-ons that could provide the desired functionality, but the school has not used it before. This add-on would cost approximately \$2,500 annually if it were implemented.
 - Stacey Wilson asked Mr. Wooten whether the Charter Institute at Erskine would consider negotiating a better price with Powerschool on behalf of their affiliated schools. Following brief discussion, Corey Shick requested that Mr. Wooten investigate the proposed Powerschool functionality further, including getting an answer to Mrs. Wilson's question, and report back at a future board meeting for potential action.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

MOTION: ADJOURN MEETING

- Chasity Gonzalez made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- The motion was seconded by Andrea Hyman.
- All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.

NEXT MEETING

January 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm