

## MEETING AGENDA & NOTES

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

# MEETING NOTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm.

### MOTION: APPROVE AGENDA

- Corey Shick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
- The motion was seconded by Brian McKay.
- All were in favor, and the agenda was approved.

### MOTION: APPROVE DECEMBER 2024 MEETING MINUTES

- Andrea Hyman made a motion to approve the December 2024 meeting minutes as presented.
- The motion was seconded by Gina Turcotte.
- All were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

### REPORTS

- David Wooten, Principal's report
  - Mr. Wooten noted that in the interim since the December 2024 board meeting, the school hosted its staff Christmas party. All faculty and staff expressed appreciation for the party and the bonuses previously approved by the board.
  - In late December 2024, the Powerschool system was hacked. This was a larger hack affecting all instances of Powerschool, not solely Langston's instance. An investigation into the hack is underway. In accordance with recent guidance from Erskine, LCMS sent a notification to students' families. Mr. Wooten also noted the school's cyber insurance carrier and will follow up with a

- formal written notification. LCMS administration will information about identity theft services or other resources when they receive it. Mr. Wooten also drew attention to information about the data breach that was included in a recent LCMS Bulletin email to parents.
- Mr. Wooten noted that the Measuring Academic Progress (MAP) assessment will be administered to a small group of multilingual students in the near future, and reminded the board that the third and final MAP assessment would be administered to students near the end of the school year.
  - Mr. Wooten noted that the school will soon begin conducting intake meetings with incoming students and their parents. Dr. Rob Venable works with parents to communicate the expectations that LCMS has of students and to advise parents on how they can empower students to take responsibility for their education. Dr. Venable and Mrs. Stephanie Nelson speak separately to boys and girls and discuss what it means to be at LCMS. After the intake conferences, the student hosts Charger Day in April, which is an opportunity for rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders to visit the school and experience what the life of a Langston 6<sup>th</sup> grader will be like.
  - The school will begin conducting Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) meetings with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in February. These meetings will involve planning for high school and registering for classes. Mr. Wooten noted that the IGP process will be somewhat different this year because LCMS is no longer part of Greenville County Schools.
  - Mr. Wooten drew board members' attention to a student calendar handout for the 2025-26 school year that was distributed, and he noted that the school's bylaws indicate the school will follow the Greenville County Schools calendar. It was noted by a board member that a minor variance was indicated on the proposed 2025-26 LCMS school calendar, with one of the half days at the end of the school year being different from the Greenville County Schools calendar. Because board approval is necessary for the variance, Corey Shick noted that the approval of the revision to the school calendar would be considered at the February 2025 board meeting.
  - Mr. Wooten shared that he will need to request the board's approval of Local Board Approved Courses in February, specifically the school's Leadership classes. In response to a question from a board member about the standards for the Leadership classes and how the content / curriculum is determined, Mr. Wooten shared some information about the inception of the Leadership classes under former administrator Bobby Black, and also acknowledged that there had been some content changes in the intervening years following personnel changes. Mr. Wooten noted that he will present additional information for board action at the February 2025 meeting and would also ask Leadership faculty to present information to the board at a future meeting.
  - Regarding the rapid communication capability discussed at a previous board meeting: Mr. Wooten shared that another potential Powerschool add-on was currently being researched and that he would present more information for potential board action at the February 2025 meeting.
- Langston Foundation
    - David Wooten shared several handouts related to LCMS Foundation activities, and shared comments related to the Langston Fundraising Sources and Monthly Fundraising Summary documents.
    - Mr. Wooten noted that the LCMS Foundation would be meeting later in the month on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.
    - Mr. Wooten shared that the school would be hosting a blood drive in the near future and that it would coincide intake conferences so that parents of rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders can donate if they wish to do so.
    - Alison Thompson is currently preparing for the annual golf tournament that will take place in the spring and is exploring the possibility of a marker recognizing LCMS as a Blue Ribbon school. The area near the fireplace in the school lobby is being considered as the location for the marker.
    - The board discussed additional fundraising measures and related ideas that the LCMS Foundation may wish to consider, such as increasing corporate sponsorships and recognition,

solicitations from parents of LCMS alumni, integration of student testimonials, and increasing household giving among current students' families.

- Lienne Medford, Academic Affairs
  - No report
- Brooke Archenhold, Governance
  - Mrs. Archenhold summarized the content of a 2025 Board Member / Election Timeline handout that was distributed as part of the meeting packet, which described actions and dates associated with LCMS Board of Directors election process that will take place in spring 2025.
- Kyle Snipes, Facilities
  - Window repairs that were discussed at previous meetings prevent water intrusion into the building were completed. At the time of the meeting, no water intrusion had been observed. Provided that said repairs continue to hold up, the school will proceed with additional window repairs at a later date. It was noted that the cost of the window repair because it was an instance of repair, not maintenance.
  - Mr. Wooten suggested that the school and Foundation consider periodic, rotating inspections of different facility systems (e.g., electrical, plumbing, HVAC) in the future.
- Andrea Hyman, Treasurer
  - Mrs. Hyman drew board members' attention to LCMS Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss handouts, which were included in the meeting packet. Mrs. Hyman noted the Technology Services line and recently increased expenses in that category. In response to a question about whether a technology consultant whose services the school recently engaged should be accounted for in that line, Mr. Wooten stated he would consult with the school's account and request her input.
  - In response to a question from Mr. Shick about whether LCMS should consult with Erskine about the structure of its budget, the board discussed that topic. Mr. Wooten noted that the state provides guidance to schools on how to structure their budgets and that there is some measure of alignment between the current LCMS budget structure and some of the school's reporting requirements. Mr. McKay noted that it would be prudent to verify that the school's budgeting structure and practices accord with Erskine's standards and expectations that may be applicable.
  - Mr. McKay noted that the school presently has funds on deposit in a money market account and questioned whether alternative accounts or investments should be considered. Noting that the present interest rate and return from the money market account is low, Mr. Shick said he feels the board should consider alternatives and would like to revisit the subject at the February 2025 board meeting.
- Corey Shick, Chairman
  - No report

## OLD BUSINESS

- Mrs. Gina Turcotte suggested that when a Blue Ribbon marker is installed, a related event or celebration could be hosted for the teachers and the staff. Mr. Wooten noted that on March 28 there will be a school-wide celebration of the award with support from Blue Bell Ice Cream, and he suggested that perhaps a separate activity to celebrate the LCMS faculty could take place around that time. Mrs. Turcotte noted that she would assist with evaluating options and considering what could be done.

## NEW BUSINESS

- None

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

**MOTION: ADJOURN MEETING**

- Brian McKay made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- The motion was seconded by Brooke Archenhold.
- All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

February 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm