

Lake Norman Charter School Board

Meeting Minutes - Open Session

12-6-2007

Board members present:

Rich Bovard	Tom Ghareeb
Rob Dixon	Kristi Miller
Cathy Moore	Ron Jones
Dana Waldrop	Karen Bentley

Administrative Staff present: Mike McAlpin, Christy Hutchison, Allen Long, Terri Costa

Discussion / agenda items:

- Call to order @ 6:35pm by Rich
- Approval of "Open" & "Closed" session minutes for Nov. 2007 meeting – motion by Ron, second by Kristi, motion carried.
- Public comments (6:40pm):
 - PTO update – (Kristi M.)
 - PTO "cookie walk" for teachers scheduled for Dec. 7th
 - Plan for upcoming Christmas breakfast
 - School store and concessions continue to do well
- Managing Director's report (6:45pm)
 - Update on LNCS Leadership Program by Ms. Young
 - Leadership Links newsletter provided (attached)
 - Lungstrong 5K noted as a great success with \$2200 monies raised
 - Speaker's bureau – seeking speakers; "Leadership Charlotte" recommended by Rich as resource
 - Recycling club – currently gathering paper & plastic for recycling; plan for report @ Jan. board meeting
 - Congratulations to Ms. Stone in achieving her National Board certification
 - Washington, DC field trip for 5th grade – plan to proceed with trip; update provided by Ben and Ms. Hammond; currently have about 54% "commitment" from 5th grade; plan to begin fund-raising efforts
 - Motion by Rob, second by Ron to approve trip, motion carried. Forms signed by Rich.
 - Teacher Advisory Council (TAC) – update by Ms. Stone; plan to proceed with efforts for TAC @ January staff meeting; elections will be held for positions on TAC; suggestion made to present TAC updates @ future LNCS Board meetings
 - Update on Math program review via website - update by Christy H.; focus stated to be on middle school curriculum, suggestion made to incorporate both high school and middle school curriculum
 - School website – suggestion for website review and upgrade/change to incorporate both middle school and high school; Ben to list in upcoming weekly notes to seek potential parental assistance
 - Middle school "punch" list progressing slowly; anticipate completion by year's end as per Ben and Choate
 - Marquee was eliminated from original Choate contract; LNCS to explore options and address acquisition in future
 - Modular buildings – as per Ben, CMS no longer interested in purchase of modulars; Ben pursuing other options; follow up @ next meeting
 - Ms. Gergely permanent memorial – team leaders have been asked to "brainstorm" with their teams for suggestions; 2 current suggestions include:
 - Scholarship(s) in Ms. Gergely's honor
 - Building bridges over the creeks that lead from LNCS to Huntersville Athletic Park
 - Suggestion by Ms. Young to involve civil engineering college students in the effort to continue the LNCS "Bridge Building" club; possibly offer stipend
 - Lottery Policy and Procedure – review and defer to January board meeting
 - Volunteers Confidentiality Statement Policy and Procedure – approval deferred to January board meeting

- High School update/report – Terri Costa (7:15pm)
 - Graduation requirement recommendations presented as per submitted High School report (attached); discussion of current charter requirement of 24 credits vs possibly changing to 26 credits for graduation - Motion by Ron, second by Rob to approve following graduation requirements pending state approval, motion carried:
 - 4 English
 - 4 Math
 - 3 Science
 - 3 Social Studies
 - 1 Health/PE
 - 2 Foreign Language
 - 1 Fine Art
 - 2 Advanced electives in core areas
 - 4 general electives
 - Terri to draft letter to the state describing proposed changes in existing charter regarding high school curriculum
 - Recommendations for grade promotion discussed. Motion by Karen, second by Tom to approve following grade promotion requirements AND following statement regarding Algebra 1/Geometry and Foreign Language 1/2 requirements:

Recommendations for grade promotion requirements

Promotion from 9th grade to 10th grade: 6 units of credit including English 9 and Algebra 1

Promotion from 10th to 11th grade: 10 units of credit including English 9, English 10, and Algebra 1

Promotion from 11th to 12th grade: 17 units of credit including English 9, English 10, English 11, Algebra 1, and at least one other math class

Recommendations for Algebra 1/Geometry and Foreign Language 1/2 requirements:

In order to make sure that each student has a strong foundation in basic pre-requisite courses before taking the level courses, a final average in Algebra 1 of 77 or higher is required for a student to move on to Geometry. Students who finish Algebra 1 with a final average below 77 would have to re-take Algebra 1 the following year. In addition, a final average in Foreign Language 1 of 77 or higher is required for a student to move on to Foreign Language 2. Students who finish Foreign Language 1 with a final average below 77 would have to re-take Foreign Language 1 the following year.

- Band program @ LNCS High School – currently working on plan to include band at the high school next school year; currently seeking individual with ability to fulfill both Band and Leadership elective program roles
- Discussion regarding staff and current nepotism policy @ LNCS; recommend review by Policy and Procedure committee; recommendations and follow up @ January board meeting
- Treasurer's Report (8:00pm) – Tom G.
 - LNCS financial statement provided (attached); recommendation to include % change column
 - Budget amendment statement provided for signature; copy attached
 - Increase of ~\$37K in state revenue – high school
 - Increase of ~\$180 in state revenue – middle school
 - Motion by Billy, second by Karen to accept budget amendment, motion carried.
 - Signature cards – review of current accounts; 2 signatures required for all checks signed; signature cards signed
 - Motion by Karen, second by Billy for Ben Putnam, Rich Bovard, Tom Ghareeb, and Rob Dixon to be approved as check signers for LNCS accounts and to execute new signature cards; motion carried.
- Audit and evaluation committee – audit completed without any significant issues as per Rich.
- Long range planning committee – master plan submitted to Town of Huntersville; plan provides for 2 story high school building with approximately 120,000 – 125,000 square feet; plan for ~ 275-300 parking spaces; plan for gym and auditorium

- Budget and Finance committee – Wachovia was proposed, due to favorable financial offer for high school expansion project, to serve as both letter of credit bank and underwriter. Motion by Karen, second by Billy to accept Wachovia as financial institution; motion carried.
- Discussion concerning donations for high school project; recommendation to send reminder to individuals who previously pledged donations
- Interest in non-voting board position by Bill Farber. Motion by Ron, second by Kristi to approve Bill Farber as non-voting board member addition; motion carried.
- Board retreat scheduled for January 9, 2008. Rob to seek location option(s); possibly Parks & Rec.
- High School lease extension – Huntersville Town meeting 12-17-07 as per Rich; lease extension on agenda; Ben will be present @ meeting; Karen and Rob available to attend if needed

Motion to enter “closed” session (8:30pm) by Rob, second by Kristi. Motion carried.

Return from “closed” session @ 10:00pm. Motion by Kristi to adjourn, second by Dana, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy C. Moore, secretary