

**Regular Meeting of the  
Lewis Center for Educational Research Board of Directors**

**Minutes  
February 8, 2021**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Chairman Rib called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members Pat Caldwell, Torii Gray, Jim Morris, Sharon Page, Kevin Porter, David Rib, Jessica Rodriguez and Rick Wolf were in attendance.

LCER Board Member Omari Onyango was absent.

Staff members Valli Andreasen, Fausto Barragan, Marcelo Congo, Jisela Corona, Ryan Dorcey, Teresa Dowd, David Gruber, Lisa Lamb, Stacy Newman were also in attendance.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Marcia Vargas, Lewis Center Foundation Board Chair, thanked the LCER Board and let them know the Foundation has a special gift for them. She asked the Board for referrals for the Foundation Board and to be on the lookout to support upcoming events. Torri Gray, LCER Board Secretary read public comments from an AAE parent regarding reopening, Ken Sockwell regarding the 2022-23 LCER Calendar, and AAE Parent Marie Sovitsky regarding the 2022-23 LCER Calendar.

4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

.01 LCER 2022-2023 Calendar Alignment – Lisa Lamb presented the first Presentation of the LCER Calendar Alignment that would include both AAE and NSLA School Calendars. Each school has some nuances, such as parent conference dates. The alignment maximizes HS learning opportunities and is based on historical attendance data. Valli Andreasen reviewed the highlights and breaks.

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

.01 Discuss AAE and NSLA School Reopening Plans – Lisa Lamb reported that all staff will be returning back in person on February 16. Furloughed staff will return as well. Some Special Education Cohorts will return on February 16 at both schools. AAE Elementary will return on February 22 on a minimum day schedule. NSLA was not considered “open” even though the waiver was approved, so they are not able to reopen until SB City Unified data allows. The goal is to return March 1 for TK-2, and March 7 for 3-5. We hope to bring back MS/HS April 5 if the County is out of the purple tier. Families will have the choice to continue distance learning. Rick Wolf asked if parents will be required to sign a disclaimer. Yes, we did that when AAE opened in the fall. We already have them from most elementary families for both schools. Also, educators may be eligible for vaccines. We have partnerships with St. Mary’s and Redlands to help get staff vaccinated if they wish to do so. Torri Gray read a public comment by Andrea Lanyon regarding the reopening plan.

.02 Update on AAE/NSLA Construction Budget and Timeline – Larry Rieder updated the Board on construction. The Head Start Certificate of Occupancy is expected by June 1. NSLA is expected to have some buildings ready for occupancy in July and some in August. He reviewed the budget and the contingencies, which usually range between 3-5% of the total project budget. There were increases in costs due to contaminated soil, electrical lines, traffic lights and the sewer line. For AAE’s MPR, it came in under budget. We expect to have occupancy by early May. Impact fees were also discussed. Jim Morris will send Larry some info. on this.

.03 Discuss NSLA Bond Reserve Fund Investment – John Phan presented an opportunity to increase funding – the NSLA bonds have a reserve of 2.8 million set aside in case of default which will be returned at maturity of bonds or at refinance of the bonds. Options for investing these funds are money market funds, treasuries, or an investment agreement. Interest from these options could

bring in funding. He recommends the investment agreement. The CEO will pursue this option, with the Board in agreement.

- .04 Discuss 2019-20 Draft Audit – David Gruber discussed we are working with Jeff Nigro for the audit. The draft was included in the packet and the final audit will be presented at the next meeting by Jeff Nigro. Our cash position is better than ever. There was one finding which was in regards to going out to bid. A policy must be in place. Pat Caldwell commented that it is a great audit.
- .05 Lewis Center Foundation Update – Jessica Rodriguez reiterated Marcia’s call to recruit new Foundation Board members. The \$30 for 30 campaign resulted in 20 new donors. There will also be more details for upcoming fundraisers.

## **6. ACTION ITEMS:**

- .01 Approve Revision of BP 3500: Health and Safety Policy for COVID-19 – Lisa Lamb reported that the policy was revised as we get more updates. It has been reviewed by legal. On a motion by Kevin Porter, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the revision of BP 3500.
- .02 Approve Revision of BP 5111: Homeless Students – Lisa Lamb reported that our homeless policy was updated with new ed code requirements. The revisions were reviewed by legal. On a motion by Pat Caldwell, seconded by Torii Gray, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the revision of BP 5111.
- .03 Approve AAE School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) - Valli Andreasen reported that schools receiving federal funds must also have a SPSA. As single school LEAs, AAE and NSLA have used the LCAP as the SPSA, since an “approvable” LCAP – one that meets all statutory and regulatory requirements – also meets SPSA requirements. On a motion by Jessica Rodriguez, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the AAE SPSA.
- .04 Approve NSLA School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA)- On a motion by Jessica Rodriguez, seconded by Rick Wolf, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the NSLA SPSA.
- .05 Approve AAE School Accountability Report Card (SARC) – On a motion by Torii Gray, seconded by Jessica Rodriguez, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the AAE SARC.
- .06 Approve NSLA School Accountability Report Card (SARC) – On a motion by Kevin Porter, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the NSLA SARC.
- .07 Approve 2020-2025 LCER Strategic Plan – Lisa Lamb reported that the Exec Team met in an all day planning session and added objectives to meet the goals. Pat and Lisa also met to be sure we captured everything from the Strategic Planning meeting. On a motion by Jessica Rodriguez, seconded by Torii Gray, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the 2020-2025 LCER Strategic Plan.
- .08 LCER Board Chair to Appoint Marcia Vargas as Chair of the Lewis Center Foundation – David Rib appointed Marcia Vargas as Chair of the Lewis Center Foundation.

## **7. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- .01 Approve Minutes of December 14, 2020 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Kevin Porter, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Item 7.01.

## **8. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN PACKET:** *(Board members may ask questions on items for clarification.)*

- .01 President/CEO Report – Lisa Lamb
- .02 LCER Financial Reports
  - Checks Over \$10K
  - Budget Comparisons
- .03 Lewis Center Foundation Financial Report
  - December 2020
- .04 LCER Grant Tracking Sheet
- .05 AAE and NSLA Enrollment Data

- .06 LCER Board Attendance Log
- .07 LCER Board Give and Get

**9. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS:**

- .01 Ask a question for clarification
- .02 Make a brief announcement – Rick Wolf would like us to consider doing brief research on developing an independent study (IS) program in San Bernardino. Schools can use IS to introduce students to the school. Lisa reported that we've looked at this in depth over the years as it's been brought up many times. IS is not in line with our mission, and changes our funding formula as well. We are doing a lot of outreach through our space science programs that we invite the community to and that introduces students to us. Ryan reported that we are planning a Black Hole Patrol program that will work directly with Cal Tech and NSLA students. This will also extend our Chilean delegation.  
Sharon asked Lisa to think about how AVUSD and SBCUSD Spring breaks are aligned, and how HS opportunities can be expanded, such as dual enrollment. Please call Lisa with other calendar questions. Kevin asked if there was a financial impact that could be included for each school in the next presentation.  
Pat asked about the CCSA conference and if there was a session list – Lisa will send it. It would be best for the Board to attend on site and we will schedule 3 locations for the different strands. Lisa reminded the Board and Exec to submit their Form 700. Let Lisa know of 65+ vaccines at end of meeting.
- .03 Make a brief report on his or her own activities
- .04 Future agenda items

**10. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS: (N/A – duplicate agenda item)**

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**11. CLOSED SESSION:** The Board convened into closed session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss expulsion readmission case #101619. The Board reconvened into open session at 7:00 p.m. LCER Board Chairman David Rib reported that the LCER Board of Directors denied readmission for case #101619, by unanimous vote.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Rib adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.