

Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board
Minutes
May 10, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Chairman Rib called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members Pat Caldwell (arrived at 5:30 p.m.), Torii Gray (arrived at 4:48 p.m.), Jim Morris (left at 4:42 p.m.), Omari Onyango, Sharon Page, Kevin Porter, David Rib, Jessica Rodriguez and Rick Wolf were in attendance.

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

Heather Kinney was in attendance on behalf of SBCSS.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Public comments were read from Michaela Sepulveda regarding emotional and social support of students, NSLA staff member thanking Jessica Rodriguez for her service to NSLA, NSLA staff member thanking Dr. Barragan and Ms. Foster for their work, NSLA staff member thanking Toni Preciado for her support regarding the new campus and being NSLA's voice, and unnamed in appreciation of facilities and CDO's at NSLA.
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
 - .01 Presentation of Funding Model to Continue Completion of NSLA Campus, Including Feasibility Discussion – Jim Morris recused himself from this discussion. John Phan, Campanile Group, presented a comparison of estimated debt payments and an affordability analysis of issuing now, and the pros and cons. This would also need to be feasible to our authorizers. NSLA enrollment numbers were reviewed as well. We didn't fund the gym previously because future funding was uncertain due to COVID at the time. Staff is recommending to move forward with the gym at this time.
 - .02 Presentation of Construction Plan and Budget – Larry Rieder, Charter School Property Solutions, presented information on the budget for including the gym. NearCal estimated building costs at \$775K a year ago. As we now must use prevailing wage, and the construction business is booming and materials costs have increased, the estimated building cost is now \$1,777,000, with the total project cost being \$4,138,497. We've already paid the impact fee and the permit fee. The building cost with a 5-year delay is estimated at \$4,644,469.
 - .03 Presentation of Existing and Approved Gym Plans and Renderings – Vince Novak, Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects, presented a site plan of NSLA's new campus, with the gym included. The gym was originally cut from the budget, and now that it potentially will still be included, the plans will need to be fully developed.
 - .04 AAE and NSLA COVID Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plans and Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP) Overview – Lisa Lamb and Fausto Barragan presented AAE and NSLA LCAP highlights and goals, and AAE and NSLA Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) grant plans. The learning opportunities will be engaging and include field trips, social emotional opportunities, English language development, opening the library before and after school, elementary enrichment classes, band instruments, rehab of old AAE cafeteria to science labs, and differentiated instruction.
5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - .01 Notify Board of Closure of Union Bank Accounts and Opening of DCB Accounts – David Gruber reported that due to the closure of the Union Bank Apple Valley branch, we moved the Foundation checking and savings accounts, as well as AAE club accounts, to Desert Community Bank.

- .02 Discuss LCER Instructional Support and Admin Staff Realignment – Lisa Lamb reported that we are creating a LCER Educational Services Department. Some staff are being moved around slightly. We will really be working with VPs, and Humberto Ramos is moving from AAE Athletic Director to NSLA Secondary Vice Principal, and Myrna Foster will be NSLA Elementary Vice Principal. Heather Juarez and Toni Preciado were overlapping at NSLA somewhat, so Toni will now be a LCER employee supporting both sites. Their duties will be realigned to support both campuses, and will include social emotional support. Amy Ritter will be the LCER Stem Coordinator to support both campuses.
- .03 Discuss AAE MPR Dedication – June 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Lisa Lamb reported that the AAE MPR Dedication will be June 2 at 10:00 a.m. It will be an outdoor ceremony. Betty Biggs will be in attendance. We are excited to dedicate this building to Bud. Mr. Knight and the Band Concert will be able to use the facility at the end of the school year.
- .04 Discuss AAE Graduation – June 11, 2021 – Lisa Lamb informed the Board of the AAE graduation on June 11, 2021 and the details of the Board’s participation.
- .05 Discuss Annual Standing Date of Additional May Board Meeting – Lisa Lamb would like to include an additional May standing meeting the 4th Monday of May to do a budget workshop, and then maybe also not be dark in January. The suggestion was to have the Budget Workshop as a special meeting to allow for flexibility with the date.
- .06 Discuss SB 328 California Late Start Bill and implementation for 2021-2022 school year – Lisa Lamb reported that SB 328 requires that MS cannot start before 8:00 and HS cannot start before 8:30. We are not required to implement this until July 2022. There is a lot of science behind the law. Some Districts are beginning the required schedule this year, rather than making additional changes the following year. We would like to know if the preference is for us to start it this year. It would affect athletics and working students the most, and mean elementary would start earlier. It would only be a 10-minute difference as we’re currently starting MS/HS at 8:20 a.m. We would need to allow for early drop off for parents needing to get to work. It was felt that with all the changes coming up at NSLA, why not create the change now so there isn’t additional change later.
- .07 Update on Lewis Center Foundation – Jessica Rodriguez reported that the Foundation is preparing for the golf tournament on June 25. We still need some sponsors, tee signs and raffle items. We are also still looking at gala venues. We will find out what volunteers are needed. Greta from Bright line will be volunteering for the day, and Pat and Jessica are available.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Approve Minutes of April 12, 2021 Regular Meeting
- .02 Approve AAE Senior Nite at Scandia in Victorville, CA June 4-5, 2021

On a motion by Torii Gray, seconded by Omari Onyango, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Items 6.01-6.02 by roll call vote.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Authorize CEO to Pursue Additional Funding to Complete Current NSLA Campus Construction to Include the Gymnasium – On a motion by Sharon Page, seconded by Kevin Porter, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.01 by roll call vote.
- .02 Approve AAE COVID Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan as Presented – On a motion by Kevin Porter, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.02 by roll call vote.
- .03 Approve NSLA COVID Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan as Presented – On a motion by Jessica Rodriguez, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.03 by roll call vote,
- .04 Approve Revised 2021-22 NSLA School Calendar – Due to Edison delays, we are proposing to change NSLA instructional days from 180 days to 175 days and start September 7. NSLA will then need to start school 5 minutes earlier to meet State instructional requirements. On a motion by Pat

Caldwell, seconded by Jessica Rodriguez, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.04 by roll call vote.

- .05 Approve Revised BP 1312.3 Uniform Complaint Procedures – This is an annual update and our attorneys provide the update. On a motion by Jessica Rodriguez, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.05 by roll call vote.
- .06 Approve AR and BP 3311 Bids – This is a new policy to reflect updated laws and remedies the audit finding. On a motion by Sharon Page, seconded by Kevin Porter, vote 8-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Action Item 7.06 by roll call vote.

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

- .01 President/CEO Report – Lisa Lamb
- .02 LCER Grant Tracking Report
- .03 LCER Financial Reports
 - Checks Over \$10K
 - Budget Comparisons
- .04 Lewis Center Foundation Financial Report
 - March 2020
- .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 – Rick Wolf asked if AVUSD was informed of the proposed gym funding. The gym is not part of AAE’s budget or AVUSD’s oversight. Jessica asked about giving feedback from public comments. Typically, comments are not the Board’s purview, but Admins. Admin may let the Board know. The Board may also direct the CEO to investigate something and report back to the Board. The Board may also let the Chair know if they would like anything on the agenda. You can also reach out to the CEO with any specific questions.
- .02 Make a brief announcement
- .03 Make a brief report on his or her own activities
- .04 Future agenda items

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Rib adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.