

Minutes of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board
June 14, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Chairman Rib called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members Pat Caldwell, Sharon Page, Kevin Porter, David Rib, and Rick Wolf were present.

LCER Board Members Torii Gray, Jim Morris, Omari Onyango, and Jessica Rodriguez were absent.

LCER Staff Members Marcelo Congo, Jisela Corona, Ryan Dorcey, Teresa Dowd, David Gruber, and Lisa Lamb were also present.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Lisa Lamb read a public comment from CJ McFarland regard the meal program, and a comment regarding ROTC accepting home school students. The comment will be sent to the Board. Congressman Obernalte's office said the law says "may", not "shall" accept homeschool students in ROTC. We are oversubscribed and do not have classroom space, as well as other constraints.
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
 - .01 Presentation of Certificate, Gift and Plaque to Retirees Doris Brinson, Nancy Aleman and Douglas Titherley – David Rib presented plaques on behalf of the 1st District of San Bernardino County, certificates on behalf of the LCER Board and Lewis Center Foundation, and gifts from the Lewis Center Foundation to the retirees.
5. **PUBLIC HEARING ON INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM:** David Rib read into record that the LCER Board seeks public input on the revision of Board Policy 6158 – Independent Study. Community members/stakeholders may comment on the policy during the public hearing, email their comment to the Secretary at lcerboard@lcer.org, or use the Questions feature of GoToWebinar, which will be moderated during the hearing. The draft policy is included on Page 278 of the packet. Lisa Lamb presented the requirements of Independent Study. The revised policy is updated with current legal requirements, but Independent Study statutes may be revised in the near future as county and state requirements are updated. We will bring a revised policy as needed. We sent parents a survey to gauge their interest in Independent Study and what the needs are. We will use the results to determine how to build our program and are looking at contracting these services. We have drafted a master agreement and administrative regulations as well, but are waiting for updated requirements before finalizing. We have not offered short term independent study previously.
6. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - .01 NSLA Gym Construction Project Status Update – Lisa Lamb reported that we have been continuing with the financing team regarding funding scenarios and financing terms that will be brought forward in August. We are completing the due diligence and supporting documentation for the bonds. We have also been reviewing the design and made some updates. We are waiting for the architect to make the updates. It does still look feasible. Enrollment is not full as of yet, but we feel strongly that once signage is up and school begins, enrollment will be full. The pad has been certified. All utilities have been run to the pad and the construction area will be fenced in.
 - .02 NSLA Construction Update and Completion Timeline – Lisa Lamb reported that the Edison work has been completed so walls can now go up. Thank you to Jessica Rodriguez and her connection with Mark Cloud that helped get it completed. NearCal is working overtime to make it happen. San Bernardino landscaping approvals are not forthcoming. We may need to get a temporary certificate of occupancy for Head Start to begin onsite July 1. We are just about moved out and are planning to start school on September 7. There could be some naming opportunities with the new gym to the highest bidder.
 - .03 Lewis Center Foundation Update – Marcia Vargas, Lewis Center Foundation Board chair updated the LCER Board on the 3rd annual gala. The new date is October 1, 2021 and it will be held at the Fox Events Center in Redlands. It will be a fun venue with our theme of Back to the Future. We are honoring

Congressman Lewis and Founder Rick Piercy, as well as celebrating the opening of the new NSLA campus and the new AAE MPR. You may dress to reflect the theme. Please invite all your contacts and help us get the word out. Mitsubishi has already sponsored at the \$2,500 level, and we have several other sponsorships already from the previous planning for the 2020 gala that was rescheduled. The gala and Foundation fundraising supports many things such as capital improvements and employee recognition. We are also partnering with the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce for the golf tournament. The tournament is sold out but we still have tee signs available.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Approve Minutes of the May 10, 2021 Regular LCER Board Meeting
- .02 Approve LCER Board Meeting Dates for the 2021-22 School Year
- .03 Approve Preferred Meals Second Annual Contract Renewal - The current food services contract in place was awarded following Federal Procurement guidelines and is up for renewal. The contract is renewable for a total of three years and this will be the second annual renewal.
- .04 Approve AAE SFJROTC Summer Advanced Leadership Training School in the AAE Gym August 6-7, 2021
- .05 Approve AAE SFJROTC Senior Cadet Field Trip to Washington D.C. October 2-6, 2021
- .06 Approve AAE SFJROTC Winter Advanced Leadership Training School in the AAE Gym January 4-5, 2022
- .07 Approve AAE SFJROTC Field Trip to Southern California Invitational Drill Meet in Redondo Beach February 18-19, 2022
- .08 Approve AAE SFJROTC Field Trip to USS Midway in San Diego, CA March 4-5, 2022
- .09 Approve AAE SFJROTC Leadership Camp in Fawnskin, CA March 21-25, 2022
- .10 Approve AAE SFJROTC Field Trip to Golden Bear Drill Meet in Torrance, CA April 29-30, 2022
- .11 Approve AAE SFJROTC 30 Hour Famine in the AAE Gym May 20-21, 2022
- .12 Approve Sale or Disposal of IT E-waste Surplus

On a motion Kevin Porter, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Items 7.01 – 7.12 by roll call vote, with Agenda Item 7.03 removed.

Consent agenda item 7.03 was pulled as Sharon asked why the cover sheet for Preferred Meals stated that they were the only vendor that can meet our needs. David reported that the agreement had been put up for bid. Our contract is as an organization and not all vendors can provide food in Apple Valley and San Bernardino both. We only received 2 bids, and the other one provides food daily and was very high, so that is why Preferred Meals was selected. We are looking at other providers to elevate the quality of the food. We are also looking at some smaller vendors to try out for the future. We were hindered previously at both sites, but with the new facilities, we may be able to accommodate additional items, such as a la carte offerings. Kevin asked if we could have separate bidders for each school. Our contract with the State is a single billing system so we cannot do that. On a motion Sharon Page, seconded by Kevin Porter, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Item 7.03 by roll call vote.

8. ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Approve the LCER Budget for the 2021-22 School Year – Rick Wolf asked a question about revenue from special education students and wanted to be sure we were in compliance in meeting the needs of these students. We work to provide a program that is feasible and sustainable and use the funds only as appropriate. On a motion Pat Caldwell, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.01 by roll call vote.
- .02 Approve Resolution 2021-01 - AAE Education Protection Account – This is an annual accounting of how the funds are spent. On a motion Sharon Page, seconded by Kevin Porter, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.02 by roll call vote.
- .03 Approve Resolution 2021-02 - NSLA Education Protection Account - On a motion Kevin Porter, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.03 by roll call vote.

- .04 Approve Resolution 2021-03 – Declaring an official intent to reimburse itself from the proceeds of a future borrowing for capital expenditures and providing certain other matters in connection therewith – In addition to the gym, we need financing for fencing and a marquee that we are moving forward with. We would like the option to reimburse ourselves out of the gym bond funds if the gym project commences. On a motion Sharon Page, seconded by Pat Caldwell, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.04 by roll call vote.
- .05 Approve AAE Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) – Lisa Lamb reported that the LCAP goals were presented in May and this item includes the reports that are required. We have had parent forums and surveys on the LCAP. Lisa commended Heather Juarez for her work completing the LCAPs. Sharon asked about suspension rates and wanted to be sure we had consistent discipline practices across campuses. We have worked to align practices through consistent handbooks at both schools. Both Vice Principals work together on attendance, suspensions, counseling, social/emotional supports, data entries, academic support, etc. We will communicate to families that we will not be lax on handbook policies when we return in August, such as tardiness, uniforms, etc. On a motion Kevin Porter, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.05 by roll call vote.
- .06 Approve NSLA Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) – On a motion Pat Caldwell, seconded by Sharon Page, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.06 by roll call vote.
- .07 Approve Revision of BP 6158 - Independent Study – Sharon asked for clarification of the attorney comments. We do not see ourselves offering a separate Independent Study program. On a motion by Sharon Page, seconded by Kevin Porter, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Agenda Item 8.07 by roll call vote.

9. 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
 - AAE and NSLA Federal Cash Management Data Submission
- .04 Lewis Center Foundation Financial Report
 - April 2021
- .05 AAE and NSLA Enrollment Data
- .06 LCER Board Attendance Log
- .07 LCER Board Give and Get

10. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 Ask a question for clarification – Sharon Page asked about the move of the NSLA campus. Facilities and IT have been working hard on the move and we are just about packed up. The rented portables are currently being removed. Storing items at the new campus has been difficult. There were about 55 truckloads that were moved. Lisa commended the staff for packing and labeling everything. There was a goodbye ceremony at the campus. Pat asked how much the Amazon grant was. It is a grant of curriculum for MS science. Pat also asked about students interacting with the ISS and the ability to communicate by ham radio. We're working with the local ham radio chapter on the connectivity capability.
- .02 Make a brief announcement – David reported that the AAE MPR dedication was fantastic. Betty was very moved and it was a wonderful experience. The AAE graduation was wonderful as well. The advisors outdid themselves. AVUSD staff was amazing to work with as well. Ryan reported that we are doing a Science on a Sphere hybrid training this Saturday at AVCI.
- .03 Make a brief report on his or her own activities
- .04 Future agenda items

11. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Rib adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.