

**Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board
March 13, 2023**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Chairman Caldwell
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board members Pat Caldwell, Yolanda Carlos, Omari Onyango, Sharon Page, David Rib, Marisol Sanchez and Pat Schlosser were in attendance.

Staff members Marcelo Congo, Jisela Corona, Ryan Dorcey, David Gruber, Lisa Lamb, Stacy Newman, Chet Richards and Victor Uribe were also in attendance.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- .01 Update on Student Activities - LCER Ambassador Alejandro Aguirre updated the Board on AAE student activities. ROTC has accomplished all of their unit goals for the school year. Leadership camp is next week. Baseball and tennis have started. Band attended Knott's last week and CJ Jeffs and Alejandro attended regional honor band. Ambassadors are going to D.C. over spring break. Seniors are attending Grad Nite and prices have increased. They would appreciate any donations. LCER Ambassador Corey Zaman updated the Board on NSLA student activities. High school is having a field day this Friday to promote cardiovascular activity for National Nutrition Month. They also had a watermelon eating contest. ASB is having an art contest. Boy's soccer is undefeated. Elementary is attending the zoo.
- .02 AAE School Update – Chet Richards, Principal, updated the Board that attendance is not where we want it to be. We have been meeting with parents to get the message out. He was using the wrong area for Infinite Campus for enrollment and it will be updated in the future. All spring sports are going well. A SEL counselor was hired and will be starting student groups after break such as anxiety, social skills and anger management. New AP courses will be added next year and there will be Saturday classes for AP exams. He reviewed the goals ROTC has met this year.
- .03 NSLA School Update – Victor Uribe, Principal, updated the Board that award ceremonies are this week, as well as parent-teacher conferences. Work on the master schedule for next year has begun, and NSLA will be adding 11th grade and AP and honors classes. They are looking at enrollment and staffing needs. Summer academy has 209 elementary students have signed up. A community DACA presentation was held with 30 parents participating. They have begun SOS - Save one Student program. Staff members adopt students that want to participate. An additional counselor was hired as a SEL lead. Counseling referrals have been streamlined.

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- .01 Proposed Revision of Bylaws Discussion – Pat Caldwell informed the Board that we discovered that Donna Kauffman is related to a staff member at AAE, which is against the bylaws. We tried to figure out a way to keep her and drafted a change in the bylaws that was proposed to our two authorizers. The authorizers rejected the proposed revision so we had to ask Donna to step down. She has been very gracious in this process. We did not ask this question of her and have incorporated it into the screening process. She may be interested in the Foundation Board. Lisa reported we also consulted our attorneys who provided pros and cons of the situation. This leaves a vacancy on the Board. Skill sets needed are real estate, finance, San Bernardino area and possibly male. It could be a parent. If you know of anyone let us know. Pat S. appreciates the transparency and steps that were taken.
- .02 Brown Act and Conflict of Interest Training – Lisa Lamb reported that we were hoping to include the Brown Act training today, but it didn't work out. We will send a follow-up email to complete the self-paced CSDC Brown Act training on their own. We will add a webinar to April's meeting to cover Conflict of Interest. In the future we would like to move these trainings to January since it is typically a light agenda.

- .03 NSLA Gym Construction Update – David Gruber reported that gym construction is moving along. The roof and ductwork is done. Electricity has been pulled and they expect to install the scoreboard and basketball hoops next week. The rain is not allowing stucco and exterior coating. The moisture in the slab is also preventing the floor from being installed. We are still looking at mid-May, but will need to see how it goes. We were discussing a grand opening, and are wanting to plan something for our students, families and community members. We may do a back to school party in August if things get delayed. We will have to see about the timing. David Rib asked if it would be dedicated to anyone. We have not received any inquiries.
- .04 Lewis Center Foundation Board Update – Lisa Lamb reported that the Foundation Board met and the annual gala will be September 30, 2023 at Hilton Garden Inn. The theme is Celestial Soirée. The Foundation also will be funding an AVCI Explainers scholarship. Marisol noted that we are going to do a joint fundraiser on May 11 at McDonald’s in Apple Valley and San Bernardino. We will receive 20% of sales. Pat will be providing a Foundation Board training in the near future.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Approve Minutes of the February 6, 2023 Regular LCER Board Meeting
.02 Approve AAE and NSLA 2024-2025 School Calendars

On a motion by Sharon Page, seconded by Pat Schlosser, vote 7-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Approve AR and BP 5141.21 – Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions – Stacy Newman reported that this policy is being brought forward to help with attendance. On a motion by Omari Onyango, seconded by Yolanda Carlos, vote 7-0, the LCER Board approved AR and BP 5141.21. Pat S. asked where the Narcan will be stored. It will be in the health offices at both sites. Next school year we will train more staff and add more locations. This is a serious concern in our community.

8. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN PACKET:

- .01 President/CEO Report
.02 LCER Grant Tracking Report
.03 LCER Financial Reports
 - Checks Over \$10K
 - Budget Comparisons
 - Lewis Center Foundation Financial Reports.04 LCER Board Attendance Log
.05 Correspondence from SBCSS Re: NSLA 1st Interim Financial Report

9. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 Ask a question for clarification
.02 Make a brief announcement or a brief report on his or her own activities – Lisa shared a Junior Space Explorer Activities Guide created by Pam Gilette, AVUSD, for when students visit the observatory. All Local Outreach field trips are booked for the year. The field trips have been a good recruitment tool for students and staff. The D.C. trip is upcoming. We will be meeting with NASA Headquarters, going to Goddard Space Flight Center, visiting our congressional representatives, touring the Capitol, and seeing sights such as Arlington National Cemetery, monuments and Smithsonian museums.
.03 Future agenda items

10. CLOSED SESSION: The Board convened into closed session at 5:21 p.m.

- .01 Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation: Carolyn Schmidt-Gunthner vs. The High Desert “Partnership in Academic Excellence” Foundation, Inc.
Government Code § 54956.9(a)
- .02 Conference with Legal Counsel Existing Litigation: OAH Case Number 2022090499
Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2)

The Board reconvened into open session at 6:40 p.m. Pat Caldwell, Chairman, reported that no action was taken regarding item 10.01, and that the Board unanimously approved the settlement agreement regarding item 10.02. A copy of the redacted settlement agreement regarding OAH Case Number 2022090499 is available for review upon request.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Caldwell adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.