

**Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board  
March 11, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Treasurer Sharon Page called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members Pat Caldwell (arrived at 4:39 p.m.), Steve Levin, David Rib, Jessica Rodriguez and Marisol Sanchez were present. Members Yolanda Carlos, Omari Onyango and Pat Schlosser were absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
  - .01 Approve Minutes of February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting - On a motion by David Rib, seconded by Steven Levin, vote 5-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Item 4.01 by roll call vote.
5. **ACTION ITEM**
  - .01 Approve Revision of AR 6164.4 – Identification of Individuals with Exceptional Needs – Marcelo Congo reported that we are going to table this item and bring it back to the Board after doing additional research.
6. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
  - .01 NSLA School Update – Victor Uribe, Principal, reported that Read Across America week was March 4 - 8, on March 5 guest speakers read to students, bedtime stories were held online and the students really enjoyed that, Family Voices had about 120 parents show up to discuss LCAP goals, Cafecito continues to have a great turnout, PTO continues their fundraising efforts and just held a book fair, NSLA is having a college fair on Friday, parent conferences are this week, master planning has begun for next year, and interviews have begun for the new Principal.
  - .02 AAE School Update – Chet Richards, Principal, reported that attendance dipped a little bit for February and we are following up with parents, enrollment is at 1,481 and we would like to get it back up to 1,500, we took first place at the Destination Imagination regionals and are going to State, Read Across America was last week and guest speakers read to classes and students dressed up as book characters, baseball construction is ongoing, and Building B is scheduled to be complete by May. AAE's Town Hall had a small turnout but we got good input from the group. We have hired a new VP, Varteni Krikorian, who was introduced and told a little about herself.
7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
  - .01 Review AAE WASC Visit Committee Report – Chet Richards reported that WASC went very well. The visiting team all had charter experience and they were very impressed with every AAE group they encountered. Their recommendation to WASC is going to be a 6-year accreditation, which is the best we can get. They had a few recommendations. Chet thanked Heather Muir for her work organizing everything, and Yesenia Galaviz for all her help. Lisa emphasized that when the team reported out to staff they commended the Board. Lisa thanked the Board for their support.
  - .02 Discuss NSLA Principal Recruitment and Interviews – Lisa Lamb reported that we have interviewed five candidates, and will be interviewing a few more round one candidates. There is a second round of interviews scheduled for April 10 and we should have a decision soon after that.
  - .03 LCER 2024-25 Budget Development Update – David Gruber reported that the Exec Team has been meeting regarding the budget development. NSLA will have additional teaching positions, as they will be TK-12 as of next year. LCAP goals will be transferred into the budget. We will make any adjustments after the May revision by the Governor.
  - .04 Lewis Center Foundation Board Update – Marisol Sanchez reported that the Foundation has scheduled the locations for our upcoming events.
    - Lewis Center Foundation Social - April 18, 2024 at Escape Craft Brewery: Downton Oasis -

Jisela will email flyers to the Board.

- Annual Gala - September 28, 2024 at Fox Banquet and Events – it will be a Vintage Hollywood theme.

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

- .01 President/CEO Report
- .02 Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Enrollment Data
- .03 Grant Tracking Report
- .04 LCER Financial Reports
  - Checks Over \$10K
  - Budget Comparisons
  - Lewis Center Foundation Financial Reports
- .05 LCER Board Attendance Log
- .06 LCER Board/Lewis Center Foundation Give and Get

**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 - Steve Levin reported that AAE SFJROTC students are visiting JPL tomorrow.
- .03 Future agenda items

**10. CLOSED SESSION:** The LCER Board adjourned into closed session at 5:10 p.m. The LCER Board reconvened into open session at 7:26 p.m. Chairman Caldwell reported that:

- .01 No action was taken during Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation: Cassandra Barnhart, vs. “The High Desert “Partnership in Academic Excellence” Foundation, Inc.
- .02 No action was taken during Conference with Legal Counsel, Existing Litigation: Juan Lasso vs. Lewis Center for Educational Research et. al.
- .03 The LCER Board unanimously approved the Pupil Personnel Administrative Hearing Panel Recommendation on NSLA Expulsion Case # 28637 to expel for the remainder of the semester and next semester by roll call vote.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Caldwell adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.