

**Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board  
September 11, 2023**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE:** Chairman Caldwell called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members Pat Caldwell, Yolanda Carlos (arrived at 4:39 p.m.) Omari Onyango, Sharon Page, David Rib, Jessica Rodriguez, Marisol Sanchez and Pat Schlosser (arrived at 4:34 p.m.) were in attendance. Member Sharon Page was absent.

Staff member Marcelo Congo, Jisela Corona-Gonzalez, Ryan Dorcey, Teresa Dowd, Myrna Foster, David Gruber, Lisa Lamb, Heather Muir, Chet Richards and Victor Uribe were also in attendance.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Public comments were read from NSLA parent Connie Martinez regarding shade at NSLA, from NSLA parent Patrice Cole-Morrow regarding parent meetings, handicapped parking, shade, supervision of secondary release, back of school looking unsightly, storage for PTO and PTO finance requests, and from NSLA parent Carmel Williams regarding ROTC at NSLA. Chairman Caldwell reminded the public that the Board is not allowed to respond to the comments during the meeting.

4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- .01 LCER Student Updates – LCER Ambassadors CJ Jeffs and Simon Skinner provided an update on AAE student activities including band participation in the Happy Trails and Hesperia Days parades, Ambassadors helping with the gala, SRLA, fall sports, NASA in Your Neighborhood presentation, ROTC USS Iowa field trip, the 9-11 Ceremony, NHS and mock trial. LCER Ambassador Kasey Media provided an update on NSLA student activities including the ASB pep rally, girls' volleyball, University of Oregon visit, soccer try outs, cross country and basketball.
- .02 AAE School Update – Chet Richards, Principal, updated the Board that the 9-11 ceremony was impressive today and it is great AAE remembers those who were lost and continues to hold a remembrance ceremony. Tutoring has started to support students. WASC is coming to visit soon. Attendance rates are up.
- .03 NSLA School Update – Victor Uribe, Principal, updated the Board that being fully staffed is a struggle, a NSLA alma matter is being developed, Hispanic Heritage week is happening, study hall is beginning next week, attendance is up as well.
- .04 Assessment Data Presentation – Heather Muir reported that we received our CAASPP scores over the summer and she shared where we are at both schools. We will not have statewide or county data for comparison until the fall. NSLA scores stayed about the same as last year and results were shared with teachers. Pat C. asked what % are English Learners. She thinks about 28-30%. The assessments help identify where the needs are to support students. Lisa reported we contracted with a data assessment company for NSLA to help look at different cohorts and disaggregate data. Yolanda asked what strategies are being used for family engagement as literacy starts at home. Some things we are doing are reading nighttime stories via electronic connection at home, books are available to be checked out to use at home and there is a reclassification celebration ceremony. There is a sense of disconnect at home that is society wide. We need to do more activities and encourage reading at home. Heather reported that AAE's scores are also similar to last year's. Tutoring will be intentional. We are doing homeroom interventions and a TOA is working in middle school in math and ELA. The population continues to change and English Learners go up about 1% a year. We have started ELAC with our school site council. She also updated the Board that WASC has a substantive change for NSLA and they will coming to see the addition of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades since the approval was through 9<sup>th</sup> grade, what courses are being offered, and to meet with staff and parents. AAE's full self-study is coming up in March. We have been meeting with staff to prepare. She also provided an assessment update and reported the SEL survey has gone out and we should have some data soon. The climate survey will be going out to families as well.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- .01 Approve Minutes of August 14, 2023 Regular Meeting
- .02 Approve AAE SFJROTC Field Trip to Hawaii During Fall Break October 9-13, 2023
- .03 Approve LCER Ambassadors Field Trip to Sacramento, CA During Spring Break March 25-29, 2024

David Rib asked about how much the trips cost. These student groups fundraise for the trip and the school supports if needed. On a motion by David Rib, seconded by Yolanda Carlos, vote 7-0, the LCER Board approved Consent Agenda items 5.01 – 5.03 by roll call vote.

## **6. ACTION ITEMS:**

- .01 Approve BP 5141.27 – Management of Life Threatening Food Allergies and Dietary Related Medical Conditions – David Gruber reported that this policy and the AR follow guidelines to facilitate meeting the needs of student dietary needs. David Rib asked about the parent’s responsibility to notify the school. If a student notifies us is it confirmed with the parent. We will comply with a secondary student’s notification until contact with parent is made to confirm. Pat S. asked if the communication is in writing. We don’t need it in writing if it is a preference, but need to be notified if it is an allergic reaction. The nurse documents the information in our student system. Marisol asked if the notification is updated annually. The nurse does a new health plan annually to be sure nothing has changed. On a motion by Pat Schlosser, seconded by Yolanda Carlos, vote 7-0, the LCER Board approved BP 5141.27 by roll call vote.
- .02 Approve AR 5141.27- Management of Life Threatening Food Allergies and Dietary Related Medical Conditions – On a motion by David Rib, seconded by Pat Schlosser, vote 7-0, the LCER Board approved AR 5141.27 by roll call vote.

## **7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- .01 Status of Free and Reduced Lunch Application Completion - David Gruber reported that we put a challenge out to our Principals at both schools to see what school families completed and returned the most forms. AAE has had 74% participation and NSLA has had 80% participation. We are still collecting forms as the goal is 95%.
- .02 Moody’s Report: Upgrade of AAE’s Revenue Bond Rating to Ba1 – David Gruber reported that our bond rating has improved due to our cash position improving and stricter operations. David Rib reported this is fantastic news. Pat C. appreciates the hard work involved. Lisa thanked AVUSD.
- .03 Create Nominating Committee to Review Terms, Officers and Vacancies – Pat Caldwell recruited herself and Marisol Sanchez. Jessica Rodriguez will support with suggestions for the Inland Empire area. Lisa and Pat C. reached out to Dale Marsden for suggestions of Inland Empire contacts.
- .04 AAE Projects Update – Chet Richards reported work on the fields has begun, starting with the soccer field. Fencing is finished until the County begins work on the wash. We created a parking area to the north to help with overflow. There have been a few traffic issues we have been working on. Over fall break we will create more ADA access. Pat C. asked if the County is moving along. They are progressing.
- .05 Lewis Center Foundation Board Update – Marisol Sanchez reported that the gala preparations are in full swing. We still need silent auction items and there are a few sponsorship opportunities available as well.

## **INFORMATION INCLUDED IN PACKET:**

- .01 President/CEO Report
- .02 Grant Tracking Report
- .03 LCER Financial Reports
  - Checks Over \$10K
  - Budget Comparisons
  - Lewis Center Foundation Financial Reports

- .04 LCER Board Attendance Log
- .05 LCER Board/Lewis Center Foundation Give and Get
- .06 AAE and NSLA Cash Management Data Collection for Categorical Funds

**8. 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 reported that NASA in Your Neighborhood is Wednesday, Admin is responding to the public comments, a College Board press release on capstone research was shared, shade is in the works at NSLA, additional trees and grass were installed over the weekend, new shade permits and structures will be added, storage is always an issue at NSLA as we are not allowed to have additional storage containers on site with our lease, our priorities are things that impact instruction, she thanked NSLA staff and Toni Preciado for the Chile exchange that went well, and we are now planning NSLA’s visit to Chile next September. LCER Ambassadors went to the old AMC Theater today to participate in a filming with ABC 7 news regarding use of the donated theater to the Town of Apple Valley. The first LCER girls’ volleyball match was a success with AAE vs. NSLA. It was a lot of fun. AAE will be hosting a basketball game. ROTC has always been in the plans at NSLA. We are working on the application and it is a priority. We will be working on a Field Trip policy to bring to the Board. Lisa thanked the community for attending the Rick Piercy Celebration of Life. It was great and heartwarming to hear the stories.
- .03 Future agenda items

- 9. CLOSED SESSION:** The LCER Board adjourned into closed session at 5:56 p.m. The LCER Board reconvened into open session at 6:25 p.m. Chairman Caldwell reported that the LCER Board of Directors approved the Pupil Personnel Administrative Hearing Panel Recommendation on NSLA Expulsion Case #33419 by unanimous vote.

- 10. ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Caldwell adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.