

Lansing Christian School
LCS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2009

Present:

Board Members:

Ken Granger, Chair
Joy Witte
David Chapman
Neil Mac Vicar, Secretary
Sal Durso
Rodney Moore
Marv Helmker

Staff:

Pam Campbell
Carol Feuss
Mary Dunsmore

Guests [List Available Upon Request]

Association Members

Absent/Excused: Doug Harkema and Ron Hansen

Call to Order: Ken Granger convened the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Devotions and Prayer:

Sal Durso led a devotion and prayer. Sal's devotion addressed "What is Success . . . In God's Eyes?" [Rick Warren]. We are encouraged to make the right decisions by praying for guidance, getting the facts, getting good advice, setting goals, counting the cost, preparing for problems and challenges, and making a God honored commitment. God is connecting people within LCS to look out for one another.

Agenda Approval:

Ken Granger presented the agenda for the current meeting. The agenda was approved without any changes, objections or additions.

Minutes:

By unanimous consent, minutes of the January 20, 2009 Board meeting were approved [Witte/Chapman].

Public Comment: None offered.

Annual Parent Survey:

Comments regarding the 2009 Parent Survey included: the possibility of separating middle school and high school surveys [referred to Rick Spreng for comment]; avoid making significant changes so we don't lose prior year benchmarks; and, complete further review of the proposed survey by February 20, 2009 and respond to Pam Campbell.

Superintendent Report:

Pam Campbell presented a detailed written report in advance of the meeting. In addition, Mrs. Campbell reported on the following:

- A Spring Event for LCS will be held on May 5, 2009.
- The Annual LCS Pastors' Breakfast is scheduled for March 19, 2009 — Board Members are encouraged to attend and confirm with LCS Administration.
- The Lansing Area Student Art Exhibit is ongoing at Eastwood. At least two awards are expected for LCS students.
- School Safety Update: Families were notified that access to the school during regular school hours is now limited and safety plans have been reviewed and tested.
- High School: LCS will present "Beauty and Beast" this spring; the LCS Athletic Handbook is now under review and comments are being sought via email.

Financial Report:

Mary Dunsmore presented a written summary report, along with detailed financial reports. Mrs. Dunsmore also addressed the following:

- LCS will soon use its line of credit to cover debt.
- Teacher Salaries: Mrs. Dunsmore submitted a revised report regarding the Board's goal to ensure competitive teacher salaries over time. The revised report included an additional year [not included on the prior report] and indicated some benchmarks from other schools. The teacher salary issue was discussed in detail among the Board members. Topics included the evaluation of factors for determining an appropriate salary scale, the involvement by Hidden Treasures and other entities, and ensuring a common vision and plan to increase teacher salaries. The matter was tabled for further discussion at the next Board meeting.
- 2009-2010 Proposed/Tentative LCS Budget: Mrs. Dunsmore presented a proposed/tentative budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year based on an anticipated enrollment of 551 students [down from the current 583 students]. Tuition rates and registration processes will remain the same as reported at the January 2009 LCS Board meeting. The proposed budget includes expenses for depreciation, mortgage interest expense, and building repairs and maintenance reserves. The budget also includes the need for and expectation of contributions of \$475,000 via the LCS Foundation.

Action Item: Motion [Chapman/Helmker] to accept the proposed/tentative budget and tuition rates for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Motion Carried. The final budget will be presented to the LCS Association in May 2009.

Development/Foundation Report:

Carol Feuss, LCS Development Director, presented a written report addressing recent activity of the Development Office and the LCS Foundation. Mrs. Feuss highlighted the following:

- Volunteer hours are currently being tracked and will continue to be tracked — mostly via self-reporting. Families are expected to commit to and carry-out 20 hours of volunteer time per school year; an option will be available to forgo actual volunteer hours for \$400.
- The Board raised the issue of conducting "background checks" for individuals volunteering at LCS and with related entities. This issue was tabled for further discussion and consideration.
- The "Pilgrim Challenge" fundraising effort continues.
- The United 4 Kids event is March 26, 2009 and the team continues to seek donations for the event and auctions items.

Board Round Table Discussion:

Topics included:

- Cell phone ban for all students — which are a possible distraction for the academic environment, and there is a potential for misuse.
- Concerns about drug and/or alcohol issues. This topic was deferred to the Board Executive Session pending a report by LCS Administration.
- Encouragement for the Board to have greater connectivity with the teachers — through an upcoming teacher lunch and other possible connections.

Other Business:

Next LCS Board Meeting: Monday, March 13, 2009 [Note: Moved to Tuesday, March 17, 2009].

Adjournment:

By unanimous consent, the general Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm on February 17, 2009.

Executive Session:

The Board moved into an executive session at approximately 9:25 pm to discuss administrative issues and the Board nomination process for the May 2009 elections. The Board concluded its business and adjourned at 10:40 pm.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil A. Mac Vicar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Neil A. Mac Vicar
LCS Board Secretary