



LOTUS

SCHOOL FOR EXCELLENCE

Lotus School for Excellence School Board Meeting Minutes

Mission: Lotus School for Excellence provides a safe learning environment and a rigorous college preparatory curriculum supported by a diverse, dedicated community.

Vision: Our vision is to create well-rounded and global minded citizens who are prepared for a college education in order to pursue careers in S.T.E.A.M. fields and become contributing members of the community.

Date	September 8, 2022
Time	6:00 pm
Location	This meeting will be held in person at Lotus School for Excellence: 11001 E Alameda Ave. Aurora, CO 80012

Board Members in Attendance	Don Knapp, Board President Haregewoin Weledmariam, Board Treasurer Zikri Zarslan, Board Member Angelina Velez-Reyes, Board Secretary H. Ray Keith
Board Members Absent	
Additional Attendees	Tim Farmer, Attorney Mr. Bart Skidmore, CPA
Executive Director	Brett Williams
Meeting Minutes	Taken by Sarah Cochran

1. Preliminary

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
1.1 Welcome and Call Meeting to Order		Board President	
1.2 Pledge of Allegiance		Board President	
1.3 Roll Call (Establish Quorum)		Board Secretary	
1.4 Edits to Agenda		Any Member	Draft Agenda 5.2 Appropriating Budget
1.5 Adopt Agenda	Vote	Board President	Motion: Zikri Zarslan Discussion: Second: H. Ray Keys Outcome: unanimous
1.6 Approval of Minutes	Vote	Board President	June Minutes Motion: Haregewoin Weledmariam Discussion: none Second: H. Ray Keys Outcome: unanimous

2. Public Comment

Topic	Comments
	none

3. Consent Agenda

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
3.1 Elementary Handbook 3.2 Secondary			Elementary Handbook Motion: H. Ray Keys Discussion:

Handbook 3.3 Staff Handbook 3.4 Assessment Calendars			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allow you to approve multiple action items with one motions, second, and approval - If you want to discuss separately you may - Example: contracts - Approve things noncontroversial in a quick manner <p>Second: Zikri Zarslan Outcome: unanimous</p>
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4. Reports

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
4.1 Financial Report		B. Skidmore	Audit going well New audit team this year On track to meet first deadline Sept. 15 (draft) In great shape with fund balance \$1.9 million in capital projects We had a lot of grants this year, which get closed with the district Expecting a surplus this year Two board members attend finance meetings
4.2 Athletic Report		D. Jackson	Athletic Director Report September 2022 Participation is up
4.3 School Report		B. Williams	Executive Director Report September 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are back!! - Inservice Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TOGETHER WE CAN - Very strong emphasis on data, SEL - Coaching Cycle has begun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instructional coaches working with teachers for greater instructional methods, standards alignment. - Observations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Every teacher has been observed already this year, with feedback. - Paraprofessionals are now para educators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professional development - Able to assist in the classroom - Interventionists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading specialist - Reading and math interventions - Very high immigrant population =

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> differentiation in every class - Common prep time and PLCS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team planning - Data analysis - RSPF and UIP next board meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Performance in classroom should dictate how a teacher performs and instructs - Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ended with 915 - Confident will exceed 935 - In person events are back! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coffee with the principal - Homecoming - Parent volunteers - Post Graduation Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs. Brianna Brohn = post secondary readiness counselor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on tracking alumni - Exit interviews - Follow through college and professional careers - Reunion event! - invite everyone back and celebrate them, reengage - Alumni repository
4.4 School Board Reports		Any Board Member	School board may speak and ask questions

5. Action Items

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
5.1 Motion to approve revised budget appropriation	Vote		Motion: Discussion: Second: Outcome:

6. Discussion

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
6.1 2022-2023	Vote	Dr. Hardin	LGBTQIA+ Handbook 22-23

LGBTQIA+ handbook		and T. Farmer	<p>Dr. Katrina Harden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Areas to improve upon as a school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Senior Director of Equity Inclusion and Culture - Equity at professional and instructional level <p>Discussion: Came about from a student who identifies as the opposite gender and wants to be able to use the restroom for identifying gender.</p> <p>Must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify what a students wants to identify as - Must use name student wants to use - Must allow student to use restroom with associating gender <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is it our job to tell the parents? - Do we have to change name on our legal documents? - Safety of students <p>In the policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage students to tell parents - not our legal job. - We are there to advocate and support these students <p>Significant research was done</p> <p>Tim Farmer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very tight rope to walk - Better to have a written policy in place than to wing it case by case - Child safety is important <p>Haregewoin Weledmariam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kids protected - Advocate for Lotus - As a parent I would expect to receive information in regards to my student - they are not an adult, they are still a minor - Response: we do involve the parents. We encourage the students to be the ones to tell the parents and we provide them a safe place and support to do so. - Suggest translating the policy.
6.2 LSE SAC Update	Discuss	B. Williams	SAC Slide Elected members and officers at our first meeting this

			<p>school year</p> <p>Things we have done</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traffic issues - school zone
6.3 State Assessment Results	Discuss	B. Williams	<p>Results</p> <p>Students may grow but achievement may be below other students</p> <p>Learning loss during COVID</p> <p>On a significant plan this year to turn things around</p> <p>Data driven, standards based, interventions</p> <p>Teachers are being held accountable this year to teaching to the state standards</p> <p>Haregewoin Weledmariam Question</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is one way we support the kids? - Response: knowing the students, personally and academically <p>H. Ray Keys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are teachers able to see their own data? - Response: data board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students get to see their own data on data walls - Interpreting data

7. Legal Training

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
7.1 Board Basics		T. Farmer	<p>Training *Note, this training subject to update</p> <p>Part I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What does the board do? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board sets mission and vision at schools - Where do we want the school to go - Financial resources to execute mission and vision - Checks and balances role - Policy making - set the framework - set expectations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Voice for community - Best practice - Hiring of Executive Director <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board has 1 member - Supporting with resources - Providing feedback - Ambassador to the community - Ensuring success of the school

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qualifications board may want to consider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Code of Conduct - Background Checks <p>Haregewoin Weledmariam Question</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can I legally exempt myself from the vote - Response: you can abstain but I need to do some research - Ask any opposed to - Any board member can request a roll call vote
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8. Next Steps

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Notes
8.1 Scheduling next board meeting		Board President	October 13th In person
8.2 Requests for agenda at next board meeting		Board President	none

9. Adjourn the Meeting

- a. Don Knapp at 7:57pm