

Learning Gate Community School
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**Learning Gate Board Directors
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, February 21, 2019**

Board Members Present: Jennifer Collins, Luke Chichetto, Christina Goldstein, Stan Kroh, Briana Lindsay, Steven McCarty, Debbi Stone, John Zdanowicz

Board members absent: Christina Faudel, Jennifer Wolgemuth

Staff in attendance: Michelle Mason, Kris Smith, Kelly Pratt

Parent Liaison: Nicole Rametta

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM by Jennifer Collins, Chairperson.

Announcements:

- None

Public Input:

- None

Executive Committee Reports:

Secretary (Jennifer W.)

- None

Vice President's Report (John):

- No updates.

Treasurer's Report (Stan):

- The budget report for January was distributed.
- The current year to date percent of budget is as expected.

Nature Is Our Best Teacher



- Board discussed specific line items that were well above or below anticipated percentages. The CPA made recommendations on budget amendments. All were clarified.
- John motioned to accept the Treasurer's report with amendments. Christina G. seconded. Motion passed.

Personnel:

- No updates.

Educational Program (Jamie M.):

- No updates.

Business and Finance (John)

- Stan will become the new chair of the Finance committee.

Facilities (John):

- Sprinklers: InVision has been instrumental in moving the sprinkler project along.
 - Suarez Contracting performed the land grading.
 - The CFC ordered bacterial and soil testing; bacterial testing was good. Soil needs more compaction.
 - The water will be turned on so it can go to the county for fire department inspections. The pre-test of the system can happen after hours, but the full test needs to happen during normal business hours on March 4th. The inspection will take 30 minutes, and there is no chance of the sprinklers going off. The system has been pressurized with air first to check it.
 - Everything for the sprinklers should be complete within the next month.
 - Twenty to 25 doors on the LLF campus may need to be replaced.
- The draft RFP was distributed to the board for approval. The RFP can be sent out Monday and the architects will have 2 weeks to respond. Everything can be done within 30 days.
 - John motioned to send this RFP format with HVAC plans to selected architects on Monday. Stan seconded. Motion passed.
- Discussed cost of astroturf and advantages/disadvantages of this over grass. Discussion to be revisited with more information.
- Discussed the construction of a crosswalk at LLF campus. The crosswalk proposal has gone to Hillsborough County to begin the application process. A raised crosswalk may be expensive, but the price may be lower because no traffic engineering is required.

Governance (Debbi)

- Kathleen Wolf is a potential new board member, her information was distributed to Board members previously. She has an accounting and finance background and has worked for large corporations, FBI forensics, and other places. She began a charter school in a different state, is passionate about sustainability, and would like to help the school stick to its environmental mission. She currently does business coaching for corporations and teaches at several schools and colleges.

- While our handbook includes the recommendation that prospective Board members first serve on a Committee for a few months to get to know the school better and to demonstrate his/her willingness to contribute in a meaningful manner, new Board members who are filling a specific vacancy and/or who have been specifically recruited (e.g., through Charter Board Partners) can be nominated to serve at any time.
- John motioned to approve adding Kathleen Wolf to the Board of Directors. Debbi seconded. Motion passed.
- All committees should review the handbook for the member list and goals of committee.

Resource Development (Christina G.):

- Auction night: We should soon have 100% participation in the Board challenge.

Foundation (Stan)

- No updates.

Principal's report (Michelle):

- Michelle needs to turn in the calendar for the next school year. It was distributed to the Board. Stan motioned to approve the proposed school calendar. John seconded. Motion passed.
- The admissions lottery begins soon. There are more applications this year than ever before. Only one student will not be returning so far.
- There was more advertising and tours this year.
- 40 of 80 of the kindergarten spots have already been filled by siblings.
- Twenty 6th grade positions have been added.
- We may have a wait-list for the middle school this year.
- Literacy event was excellent. It brought in people who do not attend the other events.
- We received a \$27,000 security grant. This will support the installation of security cameras.
- We need to hold a finance and budget meeting ASAP. Teacher salaries are going up in the surrounding counties. We need to make sure our school is competitive. Michelle will write up some suggestions. Benefits are good, but we need salary and retirement improvements.
- The Great Shake begins tomorrow in Atlanta and can be viewed online.

Vice Principal's report (Kelly):

- The new computers are being used by the intensive reading and math skills classes. Their scores have improved greatly. Gifted students are using the computers for research, math students are using them for Prodigy, and aftercare is using them for homework.
- Many tours have been taking place, and additional tours were added to keep up with the demand. Potential parents like our website because it has lots of information that is available to the public.

Kris:

- There is a new IT person. Fifty computers are back in the classroom that previous IT people declared unusable.

- The applications this year asked where the applicant heard about Learning Gate. Ninety percent said they heard about us via word of mouth.
- A question was posed about VPK and its potential at/with LGCS. It may be possible to offer VPK separately from the school, and/or may necessitate a charter revision. This would need to be looked at more in the future if it became something the school and/or Board wished to pursue.
- Kris is still working on the aftercare issue presented at the last meeting. There could be issues with creating a more stringent policy for students not enrolled in aftercare.
- We are getting a new school resource officer tomorrow. Officer Kevin was reassigned.

PTSA:

- No updates.

Old Business:

- Kris talked to Suntrust Bank. They will waive all fees and offer a nominal interest rate which is pretty common. There were points that the board needed clarification on, that Kris will bring to the next board meeting.
- Christina G. is reaching out to Luke's potential donor.

New Business

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Minutes drafted by Leilani Paxton and edited and submitted by Jennifer Wolgemuth, Secretary of Learning Gate Community School Board.

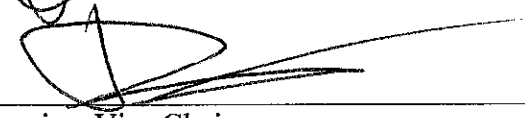
LGCS Board Executive Signatures



Jennifer Collins, Chair

3/14/19

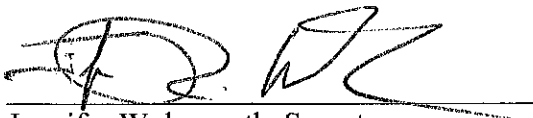
Date



John Zdanowicz, Vice Chair

3/14/19

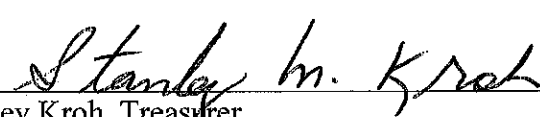
Date



Jennifer Wolgemuth, Secretary

3.14.19

Date



Stanley Kroh, Treasurer

3/14/19

Date