



Learning Community Charter School

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 23, 2017 – 6:30 PM

- I. **Call to Order By Board Secretary 6:40 pm**
- II. **Public Notice of Meeting/NJ Sunshine Law**

The New Jersey Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right to the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted on in accordance with N.J.S.A 10:4-6 et seq.

On the rules of this act, Learning Community Charter School has caused notice of this meeting by Publicizing the date, time and place, of the regularly scheduled meeting in the Public Notice Section of the Jersey Journal and distributed to Jersey City Public School District, Municipal Clerk and to the Public and Posted at the Learning Community Charter School located at 2495 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07304 Formal action will take place at this meeting.

- III. **Roll Call**

Voting Members	Role (Term Expires)	Present	Absent	LA/ED
Achal Agarwal	Parent Member (4/2018)	X		
Mace Bell	Parent Member (4/2019)	X		
Tia Biasi	Parent Member (4/2017)	X		
Bhavini Doshi	Community Member (4/2017)	X		
Colin Dunn	Community Member (4/2017), Treasurer	X		
Dr. Yasmin Meah	Parent Member (4/2018), President	X		
Bertram Okpokwasili	Parent Member (4/2019)	X, 6:47pm		
Sangeeta Ranade	Community Member (4/2019)	X		
Shelley Skinner	Founder Member (4/2019), Vice President	X		
Brian Uy	Parent Member (4/2017)	X		
Tammy Walters	Parent Member (4/2019)	X		

x

NonVoting Members	Role	Present	Absent	LA/ED
Monya McCarty	Staff Member	X		
Kristen Hynes	Staff Member	X		

Also Present

NonVoting	Role	Present	Absent	LA/ED
Colin Hogan	Head of School	X		
Michael Falkowski	SBA/Board Secretary	X		
James Laster	Assistant Head of School	X		

IV. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda

Motion for Learning Community Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the Agenda for the **March 23, 2017** meeting.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili					X
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi		X				Shelley Skinner	1 st	X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy	2 nd	X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

V. Public Comments - NONE

VI. Presentations

- Budget – Michael Falkowski

VII. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

- Motion for Learning Community Charter School, Board of Trustees to accept the minutes from **February 16, 2017**.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili					X
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade	2 nd			X	
Tia Biasi				X		Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi				X		Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn	1 st	X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

VIII. Motions for Approval

1. Finance

- Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Report: To approve the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports for February 2017, as per the attached. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11(a), the Learning Community Charter School Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the secretary’s certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, as of February 2017, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the school’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Bills List: Approve Bills List from February 17, 2017 to March 23, 2017.
- Payroll: To approve the following payrolls:

February 28, 2017	\$197,538.21
-------------------	--------------

March 3, 2017	\$2,608.51
March 15, 2017	\$196,869.50

d. SEMI Waiver:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a charter school may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the school's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2017-2018 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Learning Community Charter School Board of Trustees desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students in the 2017-2018 school year, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Learning Community Charter School Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the School Leader to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Hudson an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2017-2018 school year.

e. To approve the Budget for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal	1 st	X				Bertram Okpokwasili					X
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi	2 nd	X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

2. Buildings & Grounds

3. Personnel

a. To approve the following stipend changes:

<u>Academic Stipends</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Soccer Assistant Coach	Mike Brown replaces Andres Nunez	\$1,500 (prorated)
Volleyball Coach Stipend	Andres Nunez replaces Scott Silva	\$2,000 (prorated)

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade	1 st	X			
Tia Biasi	2 nd	X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

4. Curriculum/Special Education - NONE

5. Policy/Miscellaneous

a. Special Education Policies and Procedures

WHEREAS, the Learning Community Charter School Board of Trustees must adopt the revised Special Education Policies and Procedures as required by the State of NJ in a letter dated February 7, 2017; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Part B of the IDEA and N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.1, N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.2(b) and (c), the Board of Trustees shall adopt and assure compliance with the policies as attached.

NOW THEREFORD BE IT RESOLVED, that the Learning Community Charter School adopts and assures compliance with the revised Special Education Policies and Procedures as attached.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell	2 nd	X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi		X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi	1 st	X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

IX. Enrollment Report

Grade	2017 ENR	Jul 15, 2016	Aug 15, 2016	Sep 15, 2016	Oct 15, 2016	Nov 15, 2016	Dec 15, 2016	Jan 15, 2017	Feb 15, 2017	Mar 15, 2017	Apr 15, 2017	May 15, 2017	Jun 15, 2017	Wait List
Pre K	45		44	45	45	45	45	45	45	45				234
K	60		59	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				188
1	60		60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				109
2	60		60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				77
3	60		60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				78
4	60		60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				66
5	60		60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60				57
6	60		58	64	64	63	63	61	61	62				2
7	60		59	58	58	59	60	61	61	61				8
8	60		58	57	57	57	57	57	57	57				9
Total	585		578	584	584	584	585	585	584	585				828

X. Board Agenda

1. Committee Reports

- a. Finance and Budget – No update
- b. Evaluation – Next meeting 360 surveys will be discussed
- c. Development and Communications – GALA will be in Saturday. Update on other fundraising activities.
- d. Facilities – Mr. Bell provided an update on repairs performed over the February break.
- e. Policy – Ms. Doshi informed the Board of a charter meeting she attended regarding policies.
- f. Strategic Planning and Priorities – Mr. Uy gave quick update, more information to be provided at the next meeting.

g. Advocacy – Ms. Skinner provided the Board with an updated of events attended and held in support of Charter Schools.

2. Next Board Meetings: **2017:** 4/27, 5/11, 6/15

3. Look Ahead

XI. New Business

XII. Public Comment

Barbara Duffy – Commented on negotiations, and rebutted a letter sent by the Board to families of the community. **Dr. Meah** thanked Ms. Duffy for her comments and her work. Acknowledged the negotiations process has been challenging

Rachel Schwartz and Meera Jaffery asked the Board for a letter acknowledging that the letter sent by the Board to families was one-side, or should apologize. **Dr. Meah** acknowledged the letter was one sided, and would discuss with the Board if

Samantha Finn – Commented on a personal experience with the current health care program, and why the current level of benefits is important.

Jessica Porter – Commented on the importance of the current health care program and her personnel experiences.

Stephanie Megaro – Commented on the importance of the current health care program and personnel experiences.

Colin Dunn – Commented on the reasons why the Board and the association could not come to agreement.

Joan Buonafide – Responded to Mr. Dunn’s comments, and stated the Board called the impasse and prevented the association

Natash Tyjer – Commented about why the letter did not go out to the teachers. Dr. Meah said the letter was supposed to go out to the entire community and not just parents. **Mr. Hogan** acknowledged there may have been a mistake with the mailing list. Ms. Tyjer read a letter from **Marie Vanderhorn**.

Parent comment – Commented that she hopes the school can work out this negotiation

Kevin McHale – Commented on negotiations and that an impasse should not have been called and indirectly faulted the attorney. Did not feel the teachers could not contribute more to insurance, acknowledged the association did not budge much on % increases, but know they need to.

Cindy Brown – Commented that she was encouraged the way the LCCS Board worked and made various comments about Charter Funding, for Profit EMOs, West Orange budget presentation and

Doriot Uy - Asked the LCCC Community to come together and find a solution.

Meera Jaffrey - Commented that the association has made concessions in the past such as going from Direct 10 to Direct 15, pay freezes and other concessions.

Adam Steinler – Thanked the teachers, the Board, and asked the parties to come together and come to agreement.

Brian Uy – Commented that the Board’s intention is to improve things for the teachers and that the Board does not sit around and

Shadit Willis – Parent suggested other ways to raise money such as uniforms, dress down day and wondered if the Board had thought about these ideas.

XIII. Executive Session – 9:11 pm

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi		X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn	2 nd	X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah	1 st	X									

Topics:

- Negotiations

XIV. Adjournment Executive Session -9:30 pm

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell	1 st	X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi		X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters	2 nd	X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									

MOTION: To approve the Budget for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi		X				Shelley Skinner		X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn	2 nd	X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah	1 st	X									

Adjournment Public Session – 9:31 pm

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Achal Agarwal		X				Bertram Okpokwasili		X			
Mace Bell		X				Sangeeta Ranade		X			
Tia Biasi	2 nd	X				Shelley Skinner	1 st	X			
Bhavini Doshi		X				Brian Uy		X			
Colin Dunn		X				Tammy Walters		X			
Dr. Yasmin Meah		X									