

# **Lighthouse Academy Board of Directors**

## **Approved Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Mission:** *A safe harbor that provides innovative whole-child education and ensures success despite life's storms.*

**Date:** June 24, 2025

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Place:** Lighthouse Academy – South Campus  
3330 36<sup>th</sup> St SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

A. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Peter VanGeldereren called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.*

B. **Board Members Present.** Peter VanGeldereren, Aaron Toffoli, Dr. Brenda King and Patrese Davis-Beckford and Erica Galat.

C. **Board Members Absent (with prior notice).** Todd Penning and Angela Bunn.

D. **Others Present.** Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, Executive Director Business Office; Dr. Michele Siderman, FSU Representative; Lucas Yax, Assistant Superintendent of Juvenile Justice and Residential Programs (virtual); Stacey Martinez, School Leader; Ronda Dyer, School Leader (virtual); and Tracy Clawson, Recording Secretary.

II. **Public Comment (limited to agenda items only).** *None.*

III. **Approval of Agenda.** *It was noted that Angela Bunn had taken the Oath of Office in March, accordingly item VI A should be removed from the agenda. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Erica Galat and supported by Dr. Brenda King. The motion passed unanimously.*

IV. **Consent Calendar.**

A. Approval of May 20, 2025 Proposed Regular Board Meeting Minutes. *A motion to approve the May 20, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Aaron Toffoli and supported by Patrese Davis-Beckford. The motion passed unanimously.*

V. **Old Business.** *None*

VI. **New Business.**

A. Student Achievement: *Dr. Heidi Cate presented the Academic Success Measures report to the Board and discussed how the outcomes align with MICIP goals in areas of behavior, social skills, and attendance.*

B. FSU-CSO Updates &/or Report - *Dr. Michele Siderman discussed the results of the QPR audit and congratulated the Board for maintaining Level 1 status. She also briefly discussed the Charter Contract changes sent out in advance to the Board.*

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- C. DAN Update. *The DAN Update was provided to the Board in the meeting handouts. No further discussion took place.*
- D. Board Governance Framework Update: *Aaron Toffoli informed the Board that he and Erica Galat are working on completing a guidance handbook for the Board and will plan to share it in September.*
- E. Review Strengths and Growth Area Stakeholder Feedback. *Dr. Heidi Cate reviewed the handout. Some of the pages were missing from the printed copies in the Board package. Dr. Cate will summarize the feedback and bring it to the Board in either the July or August meetings. Tracy will include complete printouts of the materials.*
- F. Update Barry County. *Leslie Cummings shared that the architect has submitted the responses to the questions asked by BFS and we are waiting on BFS approval to proceed.*
- G. Kent County Millage Resolution. *Dr. Heidi Cate presented the resolution prepared by Thrun Law in support of the proposed millage. A motion was made by Aaron Toffoli to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was supported by Erica Galat. The motion passed unanimously.*
- H. Board Development Credits/Reports. *None.*
- I. Integrity Educational Services Reports.
  - 1. Financial Reports
    - a. Monthly Financial Reports. *Leslie Cummings reviewed the monthly financial report and discussed the May financial activity. A motion was made by Dr. Brenda King to approve the monthly check register and the motion was supported by Aaron Toffoli. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - b. Approval of the 2024-2025 Final Operating Fund Budget. *A motion was made by Dr. Brenda King to approve the 2024-2025 Lighthouse final school year operating budget as presented, and was supported by Erica Galat. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - c. Update Financial and Internal Control Policies: *Leslie Cummings discussed with the Board the updates or modification that have been made to the financial and internal control policies. A motion was made by Erica Galat to adopt the policies with the addressed modifications and was supported by Aaron Toffoli. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - d. Food Program Update: *Leslie Cummings provided the Board with an update regarding the status of the new food service provider for the upcoming school year. Leslie discussed the requirement for forming a school food wellness committee, which will need to meet in the fall. The Board was requested to approve Hope Academy of West Michigan to serve as its School Food Authority for the South Community building for the 2025-26 school year. Aaron Toffoli motioned to approve Hope as the SFA for the South Community building for the 2025-26 school year. The motion was supported by Dr. Brenda King and passed unanimously.*

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2. Human Resources: *Leslie Cummings provided an update on the status of staff contracts for the new school year. She thanked the Board for their continued support.*

**VII. Correspondence.** *Dr. Michele Siderman discussed the Charter Contract changes and the QPR audit results in her FSU CSO overview.*

**VIII. Extended Public Comment.** *None.*

**IX. Reconfirmation of Next Regular and Organizational Board Meeting Date.**

July 29, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.

Lighthouse Academy – South Campus

3330 36<sup>th</sup> St SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49512

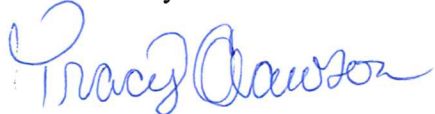
**X. Adjournment.** *Motion was made by Erica Galat to adjourn the meeting and was supported by Aaron Toffoli. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 12.55 p.m.*

*Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors under Items II and IX above are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and a total time allowance not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.*

*Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the Academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) days prior to the Board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner. (Source: Board Policy 0167.3)*

*Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Integrity Educational Services Central office at 3300 36th Street, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.*

Submitted by:



Tracy Clawson  
Recording Secretary

Date: 7/21/25

Approved by:



Aaron Toffoli  
Board Secretary

Date: 7/29/25

