

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: August 26, 2025

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Place: Lighthouse Academy – South Campus
3330 36th St SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

A. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Aaron Toffoli called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.*

B. **Board Members Present.** *Aaron Toffoli, Angela Bunn, Erica Galat, Patrese Davis-Beckford, Dr. Brenda King, and Todd Penning.*

C. **Board Members Absent (with prior notice).** *Peter VanGelderren*

D. **Others Present.** *Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, Executive Director Business Office; Dr. Michele Siderman, FSU Representative; Shea Williams, School Leader; Matt Milanowski (virtual), School Leader; Lucas Yax, School Leader; Ronda Dyer (virtual), School Leader; Angela Graham, Director of Special Education; Elisa DeMaar, Director of Multilingual Programming; and Tracy Clawson, Recording Secretary.*

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

III. **Approval of Agenda.** *A motion was made by Angela Bunn and was supported by Dr. Brenda King to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.*

IV. **Consent Calendar.**

A. *Approval of July 29, 2025 Proposed Regular and Organizational Board Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Angela Bunn to approve the July 29, 2025 meeting minutes for the Regular and Organizational Board meetings with the noted necessary correction to be made in the Board members present (item B) section of the regular meeting minutes. The motion was supported by Patrese Davis-Beckford. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

VI. **New Business.**

A. **Student Achievement.** *Elisa DeMaar provided a presentation to the Board of the 2025 spring WIDA testing results. Overall, the testing results showed growth in each assessment area district wide.*

B. **FSU-CSO.** *Dr. Michele Siderman discussed key points of the monthly FSU Board update report. Dr. Siderman informed the Board that the competitive grant opportunity of up to \$20,000 was available for application again this year. She also discussed the importance of the Board annually reviewing the IES policy for protecting student records.*

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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. Update Barry and Muskegon community buildings; Ingham County RFP for day treatment program and review and approval of the Barry Co. Millage Resolution. *Dr. Heidi Cate provided the Board updates on the potential Hastings site, the Muskegon Community Building enrollment opportunities and the Ingham RFP.*

The Board reviewed the Barry Co. Millage Resolution document and a motion was made by Todd Penning to approve the millage proposal and was supported by Dr. Brenda King. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. 2025/26 MICIP. *Dr. Heidi Cate briefly reviewed the processes for the 2025/26 MICIP plans for all of Lighthouse Academy. A motion was made by Angela Bunn to approve the MICIP plans for the district and for each Lighthouse site, and was supported by Dr. Brenda King. The motion passed unanimously.*

- F. Board Development Credits/Reports. *None for the month.*

- G. Integrity Educational Services Reports.

1. Financial Reports

a. Monthly Financial Reports. *Leslie Cummings reviewed the July 2025 financial statements. Erica Galat made a motion to approve the July 2025 check register and it was supported by Todd Penning. The motion passed unanimously.*

b. Reminder of annual audit. *Leslie Cummings reminded the Board of the upcoming annual financial audit. Additionally, the Board reviewed the audit Board questionnaire and completed it for the audit firm.*

c. Update on law suit. *Leslie Cumming updated the Board on the current status of the law suit discussed in the July meeting.*

2. Human Resources: *Leslie Cummings updated the Board on the current recruiting efforts for teacher vacancies at Muskegon and Eagle Village.*

VII. Correspondence. *None.*

VIII. Extended Public Comment. *None.*

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

September 23, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.
Lighthouse Academy – South Campus
3330 36th St SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

- X. Adjournment.** *A motion was made by Dr. Brenda King to adjourn the meeting and it was supported by Todd Penning. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.*

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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

Tracy Clawson
Recording Secretary

Date: 8/27/2025

Approved by:

P. Van Gelderen
Peter Van Gelderen

Angel Bunn
Board Secretary *President*

Date: 9/23/25

