

**Lake Eola Charter School**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Minutes**  
**For August 24, 2011**

**Members Present:** Victoria Shade, Pete Clarke, Jim Craner, Jeff Bush, Ronnie DeNoia, Mary McCormick

**Absent:** Deanna Guiseppi

**Visitors:** Jordan Clark (PTSA Liaison), Carol Dierksen, Ed Langdon, Sharon Morell

Meeting commenced at 5:40 p.m. & adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Motion to approve June 2011, Minutes was unanimous.

Motion to approve June 2011, Confidential Minutes was unanimous.

**Old Business**

Board Members: J.Bush asked about bringing on new members to the Board & stated that he thought new members should be brought onto the Board that had connections to help the Board & LECS. P.Clarke stated that he agreed that the Board should be increased by 3-4 members. Discussion held concerning skill sets such as fundraising, educators, etc.

Bullying Policy: J.Craner reported that R.DeNoia, C.Dierksen, & J.Clark had a couple of committee meetings to establish a policy. Two policies were established, a short form & a long form. He said that they tried to define the policy, gave examples, notifications, etc. Sanctions & consequences do not escalate, but each individual incident is addressed. P. Clarke asked for comments. R.DeNoia said she thought it is very comprehensive & everyone added their own expertise. P.Clarke said he also thought the policy was very comprehensive. Discussion held & some changes noted. R.DeNoia will send the final policy for review prior to publishing on the website. J.Bush motioned to accept both the long & short form policies with changes noted. V.Shade seconded. Vote unanimous. P.Clarke thanked the committee very much for their work.

DaVinci Lease: R.DeNoia reported that she has ceased operations for DaVinci Charter HS. She thanked the Board for their generosity in allowing the school to lease space at LECS for the 10/11 school year. She reported that DaVinci could not locate affordable space for the 11/12 school year. The DaVinci Board had made arrangements with a Baptist church that pulled out at the last minute for this year, and a tentative agreement with the Orlando Science Center fell through when the lease amount increased from \$2,000 per month to \$50,000 per year. They met with many entities without success. R.DeNoia said that the current enrolled parents were anxious about where the school would be & the prospective 9<sup>th</sup> grade parents were anxious because there was no location to show them. She said the State had problems with a shared space arrangement & their grant money was reduced. The Board met & with the cuts & no place to go they decided not to open & sent a letter to OCPS stating that they were ceasing operations even though they had the best FCAT scores in the county, successful internships, & 100% pass rate on the End of Course Exam. R.DeNoia said on behalf of the DaVinci Board she was asking that the LECS Board forgive the remaining lease debt still owed. P.Clarke stated that he was saddened to hear of the closure. V.Shade motioned to forgive the remaining DaVinci lease debt still owed. J.Craner seconded. Vote unanimous. R.DeNoia thanked the LECS Board. She also reported that the computer room needs to be restructured as a lab with

desktops & laptops for the EOC exams. The netbooks purchased for DaVinci will remain the property of LECS.

## **New Business**

Financials: E.Langdon reported expenses low & revenue is up as usual due to the summer months. P.Clarke asked if there was any news on when the mileage revenue might be available & how much it might be. R.DeNoia responded that it is a percentage given per county & not expected until at least November. V.Shade motioned to approve the July financials. J.Craner seconded. Vote unanimous.

Faculty Report: M.McCormick reported that school is off to a great start & Meet-n-Greet went very well.

### Directors Report:

- Foundation – \$46,263
- Building – All overhead beams, pipes, etc., have been cleaned, all interior spaces on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> floors have been painted, new carpet or tile in the classrooms & common areas, & new teacher desks & bookcases in the classrooms. The office carpet will be replaced in November over Thanksgiving break.
- Faculty – Almost 50% turnover in faculty but have amazing new staff in place, 1 teacher out on medical leave & will return in a few weeks.
- First Week – Pick-up has been backed up & teachers are working on it, first few days have gone very smoothly.
- Pre-Planning – Staff had bullying training administered by the Holocaust Center staff utilizing their Upstanders program, classroom rules discussed & continuing training programs.
- Budget Cuts – Health insurance premium decreased & pension contribution reduced to 7% as requested.
- High Performing Status – The State has awarded LECS the designation of a “High Performing Charter School”, which among other things, allows schools with that designation a 3% decrease of their district administration fee & quarterly submittals of financials instead of monthly.

