**Lighthouse Community School specializes in highly individualized, flexible, and intensive strategies to meet the educational needs of youth in the child welfare system.  We take pride in employing unconditional positive approaches to foster a safe, stable community that develops effective social skills and enhances academic progress for students whose current or ongoing needs are best met in our small school.**

**Lighthouse Community School Board Meeting Minutes – February 20, 2017**

A board meeting of the Lighthouse Community School Board was called to order by David Greenfield, Board Chair, February 20, 2017 at 6:00pm at Lighthouse Youth Services, 401 E. McMillan Street, Cincinnati Ohio 45206.

Board Members Present: David Greenfield, Carolyn Campbell, Fran Unger, Nancy Shepardson, Chris Harris, Tatianna Rozhnova, Kent Friel, Rickell Howard and Shannon Fricilone-Long

Staff: Nicki Hagler, Daniel Trujillo, Nathan Lynch, Judy Oakman and Paul Haffner

**Welcome and Approval of Minutes**.

David Greenfield welcomed all board members and staff. Paul Haffner introduced the new Board members, Rickell Howard, Shannon Fricilone-Long, and Kent Friel. Paul also informed the board that David Markstein will be joining the LCS board in April replacing Susan Frankel who resigned in February. Daniel introduced Nathan Lynch, the LYS Vice President of Juvenile Justice. Nathan will be supervising Daniel as Paul’s designated appointee. The President and CEO of LYS, or designee, supervises the School Administrator as part of the contract with CPS. Board members and staff reviewed the minutes from December 19, 2016. Chris Harris moved and Nancy seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:**

 Nicki Hagler presented the Board members with copies of December and January financials (Attached).

The budget spreadsheet shows the first half of fiscal year reporting on a cash accrual. The second half budget is a projection. The January column shows a loss of $102,000. However, if you were to look at the budget in an accrual budget, there would be no loss showing for January. There is still a $118,000 receivable for the SBH funding that is due in March. There is also a $75,000 receivable from CPS. The final FY17 projected budget predicts a $2,270 negative balance. However, the cash balance shows an upward trend, from $604,000 in November to $638,000 in January.

The unrestricted cash balance increased from $707,504 in November to $712,405 in January. Net assets ($676,047) remained unchanged since November. Now that all the IEP data has been submitted, the total cash balance is $638,507.

The draft of the FY 16 Audit is completed without any findings. However, in the management letter recommendation, the auditor suggests that the Urban Agriculture account that is under LYS, be moved under LCS. The account is used for students who participate in the Urban Agriculture Program. They learn how to run an agricultural business. The account manages about $3,000 yearly. The auditor believes this should have been shown in the schools financials. Judy Oakman and Nicki Hagler will make the required changes.

Nicki will send out the final audit report to board members upon receipt. We will not be asking for an exit meeting. Nicki will request that LCS receive an Auditor’s Award. This helps with the school’s credibility.

Shannon Long moved and Nancy Shepardson seconded a motion to approve the December and January financials. The motion passed unanimously.

**Student Census Report**

Student enrollment was budgeted for 61 FTEs this school year. November’s enrollment indicates 60.58 FTEs . There were 35.83 Cat 3, 5.43 Cat 2 and 19.32 Regular Ed. students. These numbers are close to the goals of 38 Cat 3, 5 Cat 2 and 18 Regular Ed. students.

**Cincinnati Public School Sponsor Rating Update**

Cincinnati Public School has decided to ask ODE to re-evaluate the score given to CPS. ODE has agreed but will not be able to respond until March 29th. At this time, ODE can ask for more time to complete the re-evaluation, give CPS a higher rating or keep the rating the same. If CPS gets a higher rating, they will be able to continue sponsoring for at least another year. They will have to complete a corrective action plan. The other schools that have corrective action plans must complete them by April 28th. We hope that in this scenario, ODE would give CPS more time to complete their corrective action plan. Should ODE either ask for more time or not change the rating, CPS would follow through with the appeal. This would take the process into April. In the worst case scenario, ODE would take over sponsorship of LCS.

In the meantime, Daniel is working on the contract to submit to CPS.

ORC 3314.036 requires that the school employ an attorney, independent from the school’s sponsor or the operator, for any services related to the negotiation of the community school’s contract with the sponsor or the school’s contract with the operator.

Daniel asked the board to approve the hire of Albin Bauer, II Esq., of Day Ketterer, LTD. at a rate of $260 per hour not to exceed $6,000.

Chris Harris motioned and Kent Friel seconded the motion to hire Albin Bauer at a rate of $260 per hour not to exceed $6,000. The motion passed unanimously.

**Legislative Update**

Daniel reported on the latest legislative bills that may affect LCS.

HB 37 SCHOOL FACILITIES (ARNDT, S.) To require the Ohio School Facilities Commission to establish a program assisting school districts in purchasing technology and making physical alterations to improve technology infrastructure and school safety and security.

SB 34 ACADEMIC YEAR (MANNING, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.

SB 21 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (HAMBLEY,S.) Requires a community school, instead of a school district, to verify a community school student’s resident district.

SB 3 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (BEAGLE, B., BALDERSON, T.) To revise the laws governing the state's workforce development system, programs that may be offered by primary and secondary schools, certificates of qualification for employment, and the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency, and to designate the first week of May as In-Demand Jobs Week.

HB 49 Biennial Budget Section 265.390. COMMUNITY SCHOOL FUNDING GUARANTEE FOR SBH STUDENTS. This allocates additional revenue to schools whose student population is greater than 50% SBH or Emotional Disturbance.

**Salary Increases**

Daniel reported that Paul Schick and Ashley Gallahar became Highly Qualified Teacher status outside of their teaching field. We give 4% increases for teachers who do this at my request so that we can maintain our HQT status in subjects that we do not have teachers for. Paul is the Science Teacher and became HQT in Integrated Mathematics. Ashley is the Language Arts Teacher and became HQT in Social Studies.

Kent moved and Carolyn Campbell seconded a motion to give 4% increases to Paul Schick and Ashley Gallahar. The motioned passed unanimously.

**Policy Approvals:**

Daniel presented the board with a revised attendance policy (attached) that incorporates the new ODE requirements. The new policy:

* + Changes days to hours.
	+ Incorporates the school’s responsibility to include an intervention plan.
	+ Describes how the school will report the information regarding truancy to the Department of Education.
	+ Authorizes the School Social Worker to act as the Attendance Officer

Nancy Shepardson moved and Kent Friel seconded a motion to accept the revised Attendance Policy.

**Student Transportation**

Daniel met with Tatianna Rozhnova, Nancy Shepardson, David Greenfield, Nicki Hagler, and Nathan Lynch to begin the discussion of LCS providing school transportation. Further review by Daniel and Nicki is needed in order to proceed. Daniel and Nicki need the actual cost of buses, fuel, maintenance, drivers and other related costs.

**School Calendar**

Daniel asked the board to approve the 2018 and 2019 school calendars. The 2018 Calendar will have 193 Teacher work days, 177 school days for a total of 1044 hrs of instruction.(920 hrs is the state minimum) The 2019 Calendar will have 194 teacher days and 178 school days for a total of 1050 hrs of instruction.

**Garden Program**

Students participated in the Wise Temple Chicken Soup Contest for the 4th year in a row. Four of the hens from the Urban Ag program were processed off-site and brought back to the school. The students learned how to make noodles. The also learned how to cut a whole chicken.

**Adopt a Senior**

All the students participated in collecting dry goods during the fall. The dry goods were placed in laundry baskets and distributed to the residents of St. Pauls’ Senior Center. A total of 37 baskets were delivered on the last day of school before the Winter Break.

**Dental Day**

Dr. Rebecca Hayden has been helping our students with dental care since 2010. Every year she volunteers her time to do dental screenings with students. She also coordinates a Dental Fair Day were she invites her colleagues to come and present to the student body. She also arranges for youth to go to the Dental Smiles Clinic for free dental care. This year she went above and beyond by arranging for the OSU Mobile Dental Clinic to stop at the school. The OSU Mobile Dental Clinic was only able to do this because Dr. Hayden “arranged” for their overnight accommodations. The OSU MDC provided 13 cleanings, 11 fillings, 8 X-Rays and 3 Teeth polishing.

 

Next Board Meetings:

**April 24, 2017 this is a new date.**

June 19, 2017 - This meeting is at Lighthouse Community School, 6100 Desmond Street, 45227

Dr. David Greenfield moved and Kent Friel seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by, Nathan Lynch and Daniel Trujillo