**Lighthouse Community School specializes in highly individualized, flexible, and intensive strategies to meet the educational need 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 – May 18, 2015**

A board meeting of the Lighthouse Community School Board was called to order by Board Chair Kent Friel on May 18, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the offices of Lighthouse Youth Services.

**Board members present**: Kevin McDonnell, Fran Unger, David Greenfield, Carolyn Campbell, Chris Harris, Nancy Shepardson, Allison Kahn, and Kent Friel

**Staff present**: Judy Oakman, Daniel Trujillo, Elissa Veite, Shannon Kiniyalocts, and Bob Mecum

**Guests present:** Louise Bangel and Nicki Hagler (School Treasurer)

**Welcome and Approval of Previous Minutes**

Kevin McDonnell moved and Fran Unger seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion passed.

**Financial Report**

Nicki Hagler and Judy Oakman gave the financial report. The unrestricted cash balance decreased in March from $357,000 to $343,000; the March payment from ODE met the full time equivalent goal of 59 students; and the net assets of the corporation as of March 2015 are $715,947.

Nicki then gave a presentation on the five year forecast. Following her report, David Greenfield moved and Allison Kahn seconded a motion to accept the five year forecast. The motion passed.

**Student Census Report**

Daniel Trujillo spoke about the increasing number of students coming to the Lighthouse Community School directly from residential treatment centers for behavioral health hospitals. After some discussion, we agreed that Daniel and Bob will reach out to the Cincinnati Public Schools to seek their counsel and support for how the Lighthouse Community School will be able to continue to effectively meet the needs of all of its students. Daniel and Bob will report back to the board at its next meeting on the outcomes of this discussion.

**Introduction of Guest**

David Greenfield introduced our guest Louise Bangel. Louise is the founder of the Center for Peace Education where she worked for 30 years. Louise has extensive experience as a parent and a professional with young people with ADHD and thus brings a wealth of experience as a potential new member of the board.

**Transportation for 2016**

Daniel talked about the transportation challenges that we face. Because so many of the students at the Lighthouse Community School have serious behavioral health issues, the contract bus company has given notice that they are no longer going to be able to manage transportation. Therefore, Daniel has proposed that we purchase three new vans for transportation of our youth. However, we will need to wait until next January to apply for these vans for the 2017 school year.

**Approval of 2016 Calendar**

Elissa Veite presented the proposed 2016 school calendar, a calendar that describes 201 teacher days for the next school year. Carolyn Campbell moved and Fran Unger seconded a motion to approve the 2016 school calendar. The motion passed.

**Teacher Contracts**

Currently, the teachers of the Lighthouse Community School are compensated in the same manner in which other Lighthouse staff members are compensated. Daniel has suggested that we change the teacher contracts to provide more incentives for teachers to stay over the next year. Chris Harris moved and Nancy Shepardson seconded a motion to accept Daniel’s recommendation. The motion passed.

**Potential New School Board Members**

Kent presented a brief report on potential board members for the Lighthouse Community School. They include – Louise Bangel, Gloria Samuel and Susan Frankel. We will address the election of new board members at our next meeting.

The following board members will complete their **third three year term** as of September, 2015:

* Kent Friel
* Bob Halonen
* Kevin McDonnell
* Fran Unger

The following board members will complete their **first three year term** as of September, 2015:

* Carolyn Campbell
* David Greenfield
* Chris Harris
* Allison Kahn
* Dan Pfau
* Nancy Shepardson

**Updates Since Last Board Meeting**

Daniel reported on the GE Volunteer 10 year anniversary. Elissa Veite and Kent Friel also spoke about the event and described it as an inspirational and motivational event. There have been over 150 GE volunteers who have served the Lighthouse Community School.

After this presentation, Bob Mecum suggested that we consider including other volunteers in this routine report and that we in fact change the title to read “Volunteer Report”, instead of “GE Report”.

Graduation will take place on May 17 at 6:00 pm. We anticipate that there will be at least four graduates and perhaps five. The awards event for the students will take place on May 28 from 11:00 to 12:30 pm. The Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, planned by members of the Lighthouse Community School Board, will take place on June 4 at 11:00 am.

The next meeting of the Lighthouse Community School Board will be July 20, 2015 at the Lighthouse Community School.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Mecum