



Lake Norman Charter Board Meeting Minutes
September Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2021
07:00 PM Eastern Time

General Meeting

Attending: Shannon Stein-superintendent, Rick Buckler, Jared Tilley, Nicole Benford, Jennifer Johnson, Ridgely Chapman, Amy Carr, Greg Kilpatrick, Elizabeth Timkovich, Leslie Fogarty

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Rick Buckler

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the August 12, 2021 minutes by Amy Carr; Elizabeth Timkovich seconds; motion carries.

- I. **Statement from the board to all members:** Welcome back to in-person instruction. Thank you for adapting. Culture change over the past few months and tension needs to be corrected. Carpool dress code, COVID issues have been brought to light with positive feedback and ideas for change. Many communications, however, have not been kind. The board is promising to work collaboratively to help and assist in making change and working towards the common goal of making positive change in our school. The board is also proud of the school's academics, teachers, and administrators. Pledge to model a positive approach in order to improve our culture.
- II. **Support Group Update**
 - A. **PTO:** No update for this evening.
 - B. **Athletic Boosters:** We are up and running. All teams have been able to participate in games. One was canceled, but will be rescheduled. The Ticket Spicket has been rolled out for digital purchasing of tickets.
- III. **School/State Report**
 - A. **National Gold Key Winner-Maya Dabney:** The largest art and writing competition in the country happens in December. Because this is so large, you must enter the regional one first. Maya decided to enter Gold key, Silver key and honorable mention. She won 6 awards and Abby Lake won a silver key for writing. Gold Keys move on to National Competition, so Maya did. Maya won our FIRST National Gold Medal. Maya has been taking classes this summer and selects her subject matter by selecting things she wants to learn more about. This is an amazing student who reflects all the values of LNC.
 - B. **Knights Kids:** Kids are happy, teachers are happy in the ES. In the Knights Kids program, the kids are having fun, HS students are counselors, kids come running to get to Knights Kids. We are having success with the after-school program and the COVID protocols. They are playing, doing HW, and having snack time. Way to go Nikki Steele!
 - C. **Congratulations to Mr. Smith.** He has been accepted to the Professional Education and Standards Program. They advise the State Board of Education.
 - D. **AIM Conference:** Stein, Graham, Holland, and Smith have been asked to attend the AIM conference at the end of November. They will present on the global diversity program and diverse talent employment search. They will be sharing our recruitment video and talk about how they are working with the staff.

- E. **Office of Charter Schools Symposium:** Stein has been asked to be a part of this. They will place emphasis on starting a new school. She will discuss head of schools relationships, working with a board, recruitment, etc.

IV. Old Business

A. Committee Reports

1. **Safe Schools:** Mask mandate August 18 in Mecklenburg County requiring masks in all indoor spaces. Biden has spoken of a booster shot and availability. LNCS will be holding a vaccination clinic on October 18. August 30, governor passed bill SB654: This is a wide-ranging bill touching on graduation requirements, driving privileges, grading requirements, and use of remote instruction. This bill requires a board to revisit the masking requirements monthly. For the first time, LNC needed to quarantine a class due to a cluster. Students have been receiving remote instruction. We have a new contract with a new nurse who will work at the ES and work with Mrs. Shipman. We will be able to get more rapid tests because we have a nurse in the school. This is great for our families because tests are hard to come by at this time. The test kits will come from the state. With the health department, the contact tracing is done to identify clusters and determine where COVID came from (5 or more cases are a cluster). The health department says 7-12, but this is an operational issue, so we will keep this at 5. The class that we chose to quarantine will be out for 10 days. Our school felt this was in the best interest of the children.
 - a) Local metrics: DELTA variant is much more contagious. August 25 was the last update for Mecklenburg County, which did show an increase over the last 14 days. Daily 564 average compared to 288 last month. Hospitalization numbers are up. 56% of the total population of Mecklenburg County is partially vaccinated and 52% are fully vaccinated.
 - b) LNC does have a dashboard with our number of cases. We started in October of 2020. It is updated every Wednesday evening. Best advice: Wear a mask even with friends and family. Always look for symptoms. If you are exposed or think you were exposed, get tested and email Rebecca Shipman BEFORE sending children to school.
 - c) The committee will commit to the community to meet as an active committee to continue to layer protection and make recommendations to the school.
 - d) Communication is part of the protection provided. After Mrs. Shipman does the contact tracing, communications are sent out to people directly involved/exposed.
 - e) Given the current data and trends, the safe school committee wants to continue with masking within the buildings for all.

Motion to approve the masking requirement presented by the Safe School Committee in LNCS by Jennifer Johnson; seconded by Ridgely Chapman seconds; motion passes.

2. **Global Diversity and Inclusion:** The committee had the first meeting recently. The objective of GDI is to give students the best chance for success by expanding awareness and appreciation of cultures other than their own. At the HS back to school night, Mrs. Stein shared a slideshow to express what the GDI committee is and what they are doing in all of the schools and what their mission is. They will maintain their annual goals: facilitate teacher and administration PD, develop and deliver an age-appropriate understanding of GDI and research and adopt best practices for GDI. Training took place this summer and another will happen on September 16. The administration continues a book study. A large turnout for the HS GDI group. The student council will partner with GDI and find a way to integrate with each club in the school. One representative from each club will be in the GDI committee. MS did DET, ES engaged with students to get them excited about school and working with staff and teachers to reinvigorate GDI ideas into the school. In September for research and best practices, the administration has been consulting with a firm that will

come in to do an assessment and provide recommendations for GDI in our school.

- i) In October there will be implicit bias training for the board. Indian Heritage and Pride Parade at HS and MS. Admin will look at the logistical implementation of the recommendations from the consultants.
- 3. **New Strategic Committee:** Goal is helping students experience leadership, wellness, well-rounded community-minded adults who positively impact the community. They met on August 25 with the current leadership team and created their mission statement. They are the THRIVE Committee. How do we look at innovative thinking and how LNC helps prepare students for their future. They spoke to a diverse group of alumni who graduated between 2013-2019. Themes that emerged: student first mentality, staff care deeply about the students and are qualified, ties that bind through rigor and community, Values: hard-working, disciplined, self-aware, passionate. They felt ready and prepared for college in all areas.

V. New Business:

- A. **Dress Code:** Conversations are occurring about conducting a holistic dress code review for K-12 at LNC. More to come at the next meeting from the Policy Committee.

Motion to move to a closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes § 143-318.11(a)(1) by Leslie Fogarty at 8:29PM by Jennifer Johnson; seconded by Nicole Benford; motion approved.

Motioned to return to open session by Jared Tilley; seconded by Jennifer Johnson at 8:40 PM.

Motioned to adjourn the meeting by Greg Kilpatrick; seconded by Nicole Benford at 9:10 PM .