Linden Steam Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Linden STEAM Academy Library

October 26, 2015

**Call-to-Order: 5:50pm**

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| Boswell, Sarah (parent) | Present |
| Bransfield, Richard (principal) | Present |
| Marino, Scott (teacher) | Absent |
| Coye, Kathleen (teacher) | Present |
| DeRuosi, David (superintendent) | Absent |
| Goldstein-Fghani, Susan (parent) | Present |
| Federico, Margherita (parent) | Present |
| Froio, John (school committee) | Present |
| Gray, Rachana (parent) | Present |
| Leisk, Judy (teacher) | Present |
| Miller, Sonia (teacher) | Absent |
| Mitala, Conrad (parent) | Present |
| Page, Bonnie (MEA representative) | Present |
| Rittershaus, Elaine (teacher) | Present |
| Terban, Susan (teacher) | Absent |
| Walsh, Callie | Present |
| Young, Leonard (community member) | Absent |

**Action Items**  
    
1.   Public Comment:

1. no public comment

2. Vote to approve minutes:

1. Motion made by Bonnie to approve September Minutes. Seconded by Elaine. Motion Carried.

3. Old Business:

1. Election Results
   1. Official announcement of GB's elected officers. Rachana and Sonia are co-chairs. Judy is treasurer. Sarah is secretary.
   2. Scott Marino is joining board. No election held as no one else was running to fill the seat.
2. PTO as GB Subcommittee Proposal
   1. Sarah Finn has stepped up to be president of PTO. Will be shadowing current president this year.
   2. Different committees will run different events. Book sale already made more money that ever!
   3. PTO issue considered resolved

4. Student Council Report by teacher Dan Francisconi.

1. Goal of student council to promote school spirit. Students do academic, service oriented, and social projects
2. 5 elected 8th graders. Executive Committee of 7th and 8th graders. Council is open to anyone. Students must be in good standings academically and behaviorally to stay on council. Currently there are 38 students.
3. Projects undertaken so far:
   1. Kidnap the teacher. Each homeroom raise money – winning homeroom get pizza party.
   2. In charge of Harvest Dance – goal to get better attendance than PTO run dance.
   3. Thinking about winter homeroom door decorating contest.
4. Council is keeping track of own budget. All Funds being held by PTO and money goes into PTO pool.

5. Subcommittee reports

1. Management and Operations
   1. Bonnie elected Chair
   2. Main topic was about parking. conclusion 84 spaces and lots of street parking and no resident only parking. Make a map or list of streets where you can park. Decided not to make lottery etc about parking.
   3. Bonnie found side letters regarding start and end time of school day for teachers. Will discuss as committee and report back to board.
   4. Building leaks mostly fixed
2. Curriculum and Instruction
   1. Only two members able to make meeting – no chair selected. Judy report
   2. Discuss report card. Want to make goal for year to revamp report card to better reflect common core and teaching going on at school. Will look at other innovation school report cards and try to incorporate project based learning.
3. Family and Community Engagement
   1. Susan is the chair.
   2. Want to re-do survey from last year to see if attitude about school improved
   3. Need to improve communication about school wide events to parents. More than a weeks notice about back to school night, conferences etc.
   4. Discuss GB Facebook page.

6. Principal's Report

1. Pass out copy of innovation plan. Needs to be re-written by JANUARY.
   1. LSA teachers need to vote
   2. Then needs to be voted on by school committee
2. Discussion on innovation plan
   1. Need to move in different direction as a board
   2. Need programs that we can get funded by using parent connections in local tech companies.
      1. Ideas – 1:1 computers to students, wifi hotspots for city, need to get teachers to propose plans that we can then reach out for funding.
      2. Family and Community Engagement could work on local funding
3. Ms Pricket looking to work with Tufts on running program. Studies on exercise and kids performance.
4. Discuss idea for school pride – make special shirts for kids working on student council or in running group or math Olympiad. LSA logo shirt with that "extra" printed on it.
5. PAARC results out – but only by whole state – still waiting for breakdown.
   1. Nov 16th at Malden High school is hosting a hearing about PARCC.
6. Center based instruction – all teachers really trying!
7. Funding for Tufts robotics – $10,000 - to bring in more robotics and set up Maker space.

7. Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn made by Bonnie and seconded by Rachana.
2. Motion carried.
3. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm