

LNS Board Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2023 (Third Meeting of the 2022-23 Board)
In Person

Attendees:

- **Present:** Emily Lines, Raleigh Werner, Kate Brooks, Nancy Fincke, Bridget Healy, David Henry, Anique Lebel, Andrew West, Emily Beekman, Laura Mellen, Caroline Nordstrom
- **Absent:** Aidan Flanagan, Annie Magee, Colleen Bixby, Abigail Flanagan, Vickie Slingerland, Mara Rus
- **Also present:** Several attending via Zoom: Mitch Brooks, Bryan Wynn, Jenny Rogers. Lauren O'Neil, Robin Blesius

President: Emily Lines

Welcome

(see attached PDF of slides)

- Introduction to the meeting agenda
- Slides from this presentation will be made available

Secretary: Raleigh Werner

- Approved November 15th, 2022 board meeting minutes. Andrew West motions and Kate Brooks seconds.

Anique Lebel

Programs Update

- Community building has been the focus, especially in post-Covid time – core to the LNS experience
- Thanks to all Room Parents, thanks to the Social Chairs, for supporting that goal
- Reminder of Studio Updates on March 14th
- Andrew West: reminder of the forthcoming “Reverse Book Fair” (virtual) at independent Wellesley bookseller – portion of proceeds go to LNS. Details to follow.

Emily Beekman

Gala Update

- Logistics & format overview: date (5/19), activities/features, silent auction (incl. website), etc.
- Kate Brooks: proposed idea of doing event at deCordova every other year with a lower-cost event in the off-years
- Request for ideas/suggestions for sponsors for the event

Laura Mellen

Enrollment Update

- In great shape for upcoming year – nearly fully enrolled
- 75 applications submitted to date (incl. current families)
- Primary change: increased enrollment deposit from \$1,000 to \$2,000
 - Rationale: 9 families chose to give up their deposit and go elsewhere last year – want to avoid same attrition
- Record open house attendance
 - Lot of effort into marketing this year
- Exploring the idea (for the long-term) of how LNS could provide programs for younger children (2+)

Emily Lines

Strategic Planning Project Update

- Overview of refreshed Mission Statement and Strategic Focus Statement (2023-27)
- Identified 11 strategic components (core themes & objectives) – details included in PDF deck
- Strategic Plan expected summer 2023

Call for Additional Updates/Questions

- Bridget Healy: update re: status of deCordova liaison work – idea of having an “Art & Ales” event prior to next board meeting (5/9)
 - Community engagement (parents interacting) + possible means of increasing turnout at board meeting
- Andrew West: question re: enrollment challenges for Blue → Purple or Yellow
 - Laura Mellen: try our best to accommodate parents’ preferences – tends to result in being split mostly along age lines (younger in Yellow, older in Purple)

Bryan Wynn

2023-24 Budget Review and Approval (Executive Session)

- Emily Lines: overview of budget process
- Overview of budget drivers & changes from this year’s budget to next year – details in deck PDF
 - Nancy Fincke: update about hiring a top-tier teacher for Studio Red (increasing teacher count to three, cost offset by adding two students)
- Bryan Wynn: walkthrough of the 2023-24 annual budget
- Emily Lines motions to approve the budget
- David Henry seconds
- All in attendance vote to approve the budget