

**High Desert “Partnership in Academic Excellence” Foundation, Inc. dba
LEWIS CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH**

17500 Mana Road, Apple Valley, CA 92307 (760) 946-5414 (760) 946-9193 fax

**Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board
August 18, 2025**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vice Chairman Marisol Sanchez called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members: Steve Levin, Mike Razo, Jessica Rodriguez, Marisol Sanchez, Pat Schlosser, and Lucy Tello (arrived at 4:33 p.m.) were in attendance. Board Member Yolanda Carlos was absent.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
 - .01 LCER Ambassadors Student Update - Ellianna De La Rosa and Sahara Dawson updated the board on recent AAE events that included a girls' volleyball game with AAE against NSLA, and AAE won. The Ambassadors have an ARISS proposal on 08/26/25. ASB has a car wash on 08/23/25 that will fundraise for prom, and also a prep rally on 08/27/25. JROTC took Chain of Command photos, and they are displayed in the gym. Sahara is Delta Commander for JROTC this school year and they are working hard preparing for their unit evaluation. Tennis tryouts were held last Monday, and they will have a game on Wednesday. Marisol Sanchez congratulated Sahara on her accomplishment as Delta Commander and thanked them both for keeping up with the inner school sports and friendly rivalry. Tiffany Good updated the board on NSLA events, including that she was elected Ambassador President and PR Intern for the school year. Over the summer, Ambassadors held a blood drive and family orientations in the same day. Today the Chilean exchange students arrived, and she had the pleasure to meet them. Secondary back to school night was a success, and there were also changes announced for the secondary pick-up procedures. Tiffany was happy to see AAE and NSLA's varsity volleyball game and that Norton's final score was closer this time around than last school year. Senior sunrise was on the first day of school. Marisol Sanchez thanked her for getting the school off to a successful start and she looks forward to hearing more about the Chilean student's visit.
 - .02 AAE School Update – Chet Richards reported to the Board his updated attendance data, and it is looking great at 97%-98%, higher than last year during the same time period. Back to school night was a good success with Boba drinks and Kona Ice. Everyone had a good time, and it was a good turnout. Himself and the VPs are being more intentional with classroom walkthroughs this school year by providing feedback and giving opportunities for growth. Within the first three days of school, they visited nearly every classroom. New ALT and PLC teams were selected to lead academic progress. CKH is going great, and more staff have been trained, reaching every teacher except for 2 or 3. Uniform and dress code is a focus, even though not much has changed, with students abiding to the dress code, it has given the school a more professional feel. There are a few staffing holes in classified that they are still working to fill. After school pick up procedures for elementary has changed to help the flow of traffic. Right now, dismissal is on inclement weather until it cools off, but once the weather gets better, it will streamline the process. Upcoming events include Parents and Pastries on 08/29/25 and a 09/11 Remembrance Ceremony. Marisol Sanchez thanked Mr. Richards and is hopeful that attendance continues to stay up. Marisol also congratulated Mr. Richards on his nearly 100% training rate for CKH.
 - .03 NSLA School Update – Erika Agosto reported to the Board her updates that included Back to School Night. It was hosted differently this year based on feedback they received. Elementary was held on Tuesday and secondary on a Thursday. Middle school was packed and overall it was a really great turnout. Her attendance goal is to maintain a 95% for the entirety of the year. Majority of

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Norton’s staff has also been trained in CKH, except for 3 teachers. Staff had not made a social contract in the past, nor completed the profile of a graduate previously. Last year, they created the profile of a graduate to include norms and skills they want to lead with, which are also the norms they want to model. The norms of a graduate were used as part of their own social contract. It also included being empathetic listeners, being a social solution focused participant, and being engaged. The team will hold one another accountable. Samantha Gonzalez currently has the contract and is having it framed. AVID goals were created, which started in elementary grades to help them grow into Middle and High School. Binders were passed out to all students. CERT included school-wide writing goals and making sure all students know how to write. Marisol Sanchez thanked Erika for the update, appreciated the vast participation from all families, and stated that her AVID and CERT goals are great.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

.01 Approve Minutes of June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting

On a motion by Steve Levin, seconded by Jessica Rodriguez, vote 6-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Item 5.01 by roll call vote.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

.01 Discuss Strategic Planning Meeting – Dr Lamb is looking forward to meeting on 10/02/2025 and reminded the board that it is an in person meeting at AAE. It will be a good time to dig into all the data and include new dashboard data. The team will be looking at the current strategic plan, and updating it as needed to include feedback and trends. She encouraged the Board to wear their Lewis Center polos. Breakfast and lunch will be provided, and the board will be given an opportunity to review the report in advance. Clarification is given that the meeting time is from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

.02 Lewis Center Foundation Board Update

- Committee Selections
- Annual Gala

Marisol Sanchez, Foundation Board Chair, announced that the foundation sub committees have launched. Sub committees include Gala, Social, Scholarships, Golf Tournaments, and Staff Recognition. The Gala sub committee will meet every other Friday. The first meeting was scheduled for 08/15, but was canceled due to the Chilean student’s arrival, and a new date will to be determined. Board members are encouraged to identify sponsorships. The Gala will include a costume contest, delicious food, and an exclusive raffle that will be announced soon. If you or a sponsor is unable to attend, they can still support by donating a quality item for the silent auction or making a direct contribution to the foundation. Marisol is looking forward to seeing everyone on September 27th.

7. INFORMATION INCLUDED IN PACKET:

.01 President/CEO Report

.02 Grant Tracking Report

.03 LCER Financial Reports

- Checks Over \$10K
- Budget Comparisons
- Lewis Center Foundation Financial Reports

.04 AAE and NSLA Cash Management Data Collection for Categorical Funds

.05 LCER Board Attendance Log

.06 LCER Board/Lewis Center Foundation Give and Get

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8. BOARD/STAFF COMMENTS:

.01 Ask a question for clarification –

.02 Make a brief announcement or a brief report on his or her own activities – Jessica Rodriguez announced that she will participate in the Inland Empire Latina Economic and Policy Summit on 09/23/25. She will be on the panel for Culture, Career, and Care. It will be held at the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art at the Mission Inn in Riverside. Lucy Tello attended a webinar on 08/13/25 hosted by Charter School Development Center on Equipping School Leaders to Respond to Immigration Enforcement. They provided different resources for situations that may be encountered within our communities. Lucy asked, as far as the Lewis Center goes, what is being put out there to families and knowing that when they come on campus, they are in a safe environment? Lucy hoped to discuss this further and possibly create a board policy in the future, as this topic is something that is important to her. She added that given the current climate, this is also very important to the communities and to their children’s safety. Lisa shared that she and her team also attended that webinar and found it useful. She added that the school webpage included immigration resources, current board policies and resource information. The board policy was revised in 2020, and the team is continuing to review it. The Mexican Consulate hosted a parent forum across both schools, providing support on how to make a family plan if that was needed. During orientation, emphasis was made that families list several points of contact in the event of an emergency. They also provided additional red cards. Front line staff have been trained to what our policy states. Dr. Lamb had personally sent out communications to staff. It may be pertinent to do refreshers, and they will make sure that continues. Lucy thanked Dr. Lamb. Erika Agosto added that the kiosk, front office, and CSOs are trained and given a script if anyone shows up on campus. One of the first trainings their new receptionist received was also this, with all the steps that needed to be taken. Erika continued that admin is trained and there is a very clear plan. Dr. Lamb stated that those internal documents can be shared with the board, and Mrs. Agosto agreed. Marisol thanked Dr. Lamb and Mrs. Agosto. Steve Levin noted that with board policies in general, it’s important to not only keep them updated but also to have discussions about how they are enforced, and how everyone knows what the policy is. He said this policy has been done quite well and would like that same consistency applied to all policies. Dr. Lamb agreed, adding that some policies are very old and haven’t been updated in a long time. It was a good point raised by Steve, and this will be added to future meetings. There has been progress on board policy revisions, but no drafts were complete enough to bring to today’s meeting. In Yolanda Carlos’s absence, Dr. Lamb was asked to report to the board on her behalf that she had also signed up for the Board Governance meeting and Immigration Webinar. Dr. Lamb announced to the board that the State of the County meeting is on September 17, and NSLA student Emily Barcenés was selected as one of 5 students showcasing CTE. She was selected because of her participation in dual emersion, as well as her role in Club Chile. Emily’s family will be there along with board members and executive team members. The Lewis Center has been highlighted twice in 3 years, with Space Force being recognized previously. Dr. Lamb continued that she picked up the Chilean visitors from LAX on Friday and they are off and running. Students are spending time in classes at Norton today, then AAE tomorrow where they’ll join the GAVRT team and deep space network engagement. They will also receive tours and participate in fun and games. Dr. Lamb gave Toni Preciado a shoutout, as it had taken her a lot of time to coordinate everything with such a large group. During their stay, the exchange students will also join Norton’s Club Chile to be hosted at JPL, visit CalTech, be given a tour of Cal State, along with a lot of other great things. Dr. Lamb shared her pride of the GAVRT program and its continued to growth. Dr. Lamb is keeping herself accountable with classroom walkthroughs, completing 64 to date with notes, detailed feedback, and follow-up. She is excited to share those observations with Chet and Erika. In addition, Dr. Lamb announced that she was approached to help establish the

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Space Force JROTC Boosters and was also asked to serve as Governor on one of their boards, representing the supporters. She is looking forward to continuing to support those efforts. Marisol Sanchez concluded by inviting all to join the State of the County meeting. She congratulated Emily on her recognition and thanked Dr. Lamb for her updates.

.03 Future agenda items – Dr. Lisa Lamb would like to add the discussion of student board members.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:** Vice Chairman Marisol Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m.