

Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Lewis Center for Educational Research Board
April 21, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Carlos called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** LCER Board Members: Yolanda Carlos, Steve Levin, Mike Razo, Jessica Rodriguez, Marisol Sanchez, Pat Schlosser and Lucy Tello were in attendance.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**
 - .01 LCER Ambassadors Student Update - Lilyan Fundell and Ward Halwani updated the board on AAE events. Students thanked the Lewis Center Foundation for their \$3000 donation that supported their DC Trip. Lilyan attended the AI task force where they focused on AI literacy and programs being implemented in our school. On May 21st, TK-12 is having a Talent Show. ASB is having an Applebee's fundraiser on April 26th for next year's seniors. SFJROTC updated that their Military Ball will be on May 3rd and April 24th will be their awards ceremony, announcing all newly assigned positions. The Ambassador's Washington DC trip went great. Yolanda thanked the students for representing the Lewis Center. Max Goodly updated the board on NSLA Events. DC was an amazing experience and also thanked the Foundation. Celestial Showdown is happening on April 25th and invited all to come and see student talent. Students have been working hard and it will be a memorable event. Yolanda thanked them for their great leadership and commended them.
 - .02 Poetry Out Loud Recognition – Erka Agosto - On behalf of the Board and LCER, awards were presented to 4 students and Mr. Tellyer. Lisa recognized Mr. Tellyer and his leadership role. Lisa congratulated the students and that they bring such honor to our school. Students read their poems out loud and Dr. Lamb and the Board thanked them.
 - .03 Boys and Girls State Recognition- Chet Richards - On behalf of the board and LCER, awards were presented to 4 students. Dr. Lamb and the Board congratulated them.
 - .04 NSLA Principal Update – Erika Agosto - Reported to the board on attendance updates, suspension updates, and highlights the great work that CSOs are doing, CAASPP and A.P. testing prep has begun. At Family Voices/LCAP Townhall, parents gave ideas and shared concerns where they would like to focus their attention next year. Parents would like a built up library and have that additional access to literacy. They asked for better communication and time to plan to be at events. They also asked for after school support to be increased and extended into middle school. Ms. Agosto shared that tutoring services have extended into 9th and 10th grade. Reminders to save the date were provided for Celestial Showdown on April 25th. May 2nd is NSLA's Multicultural Fair. June 12th will be to celebrate the first senior graduating class for NSLA. Lucy Tello asked if the partnership with Enchanted will continue next school year? Ms. Agosto responded that it is currently not within our needs, and she will be putting out requests for proposals. Mike Razo asked what the current methods are that Norton is getting the word out to families for events? Ms. Agosto responded that there is a calendar on the school website, a Wednesday newsletter and Infinite Campus reminders. There is also a "Remind" for parents that is sent out. Parents requested a printed calendar, but when changes are made, it makes it difficult to update the parents with that method. Chairman Carlos thanked Erika for her updates.
 - .05 AAE Principal Update – Chet Richards - Mr. Richards reported to the board attendance updates and suspension updates. April 26th will be the next Saturday WIN day for students to participate in. TVs were installed in the MPR over break to display honor roll during student lunch and recognize their efforts. CAASPP was discussed through Parents and Pastries, including incentives and providing information on how families can better prepare their children for testing. Ricky Baca will also be providing information about College and Career Indicators (CCI), and Dr. Lamb will speak to 11th graders to let them know how their effort impacts their success. Ethnic studies got great feedback regarding the curriculum and syllabus, and Mr. Richards shared how it meets state standards while

providing different literature.. The Family Voice feedback was valuable to hear the community and what they want; Families asked about approved volunteers to be allowed to help out with supervision of bathrooms and other high traffic areas. AAE has plugged in to local Veterans groups and working with the culture of our school. Mr. Richards and families would like to have the school calendar updated to be more in tune with what is going on with the school. He would like all the events happening to be located in one area. They are also looking into financial literacy and adulting skills for seniors, creating an opportunity for our students. The app “Remind” will no longer be used, and “Parent Square” will be it’s replacement beginning next school year. Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH) will be shared out with the community and shared with the parents in hopes that it will develop better connections with our kids and make subject matter come to life. An unscheduled earthquake drill took place two days prior to the scheduled drill. Our “Catapult” alert system got put into action and overall it was a good indicator of how our kids do in a real situation. 16 students participated in the last Saturday WIN. Upcoming events include April 22 for Paint Night in the MPR. CAASPP testing will begin April 28 through May 15. STEM night at AVCI will be Wednesday April 23. Tiny Knights in Training will be on May 1. 1st grade is holding a play “How Your Garden Grows”. 2nd grade Tea-rrific Moms for Mother’s Day on May 9. May 8th will be Band’s Spring Concert. May 12th “Welcome to Middle School”, teaching our 5th graders what it is like to begin Middle School. Chairman Carlos thanks him for his updates.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Approve Minutes of March 17, 2025 Regular Meeting
- .02 Approve AAE and NSLA Bell Schedule Revisions for 2025-26 to Remove Block Period
- .03 Approve AAE and NSLA Calendar and Bell Schedule for 2026-27 School Year

On a motion by Steve Levin, seconded by Pat Schlosser, vote 7-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Consent Agenda Items 5.01-5.03 by roll call vote.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- .01 Approve the mCLASS by Amplify Tool to be Used for Reading Difficulties Risk Screener in Grades K-2 – Lisa Lamb, Toni Preciado, Marcelo Congo – Ed Code 53008 requires all LEAs must adopt a state approved reading difficulties risk screener by June 30, 2025. Three screeners were looked into that included bilingual screeners. Students will be screened in English and their home language. Benefits of the screener were mentioned. Implementation timelines were reviewed. Piloting will begin April 28 and next steps were outlined. Steve asks for clarification that the start date was noted as April 14. Toni responds that training began on April 14, but the piloting has not yet begun. On a motion by Pat Schlosser, seconded by Jessica Rodriguez, vote 7-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved the mCLASS by Amplify Tool to be Used for Reading Difficulties Risk Screener in Grades K-2 by roll call vote.
- .02 Approve Readopting the Original BP and AR 5145.7 Sexual Harassment – Stacy Newman – On a motion by Marisol Sanchez, seconded by Pat Schlosser, vote 7-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Readopting the Original BP and AR 5145.7 Sexual Harassment by roll call vote.
- .03 Approve Readopting the Original BP 1312.4 Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures – Stacy Newman – On a motion by Marisol Sanchez, seconded by Pat Schlosser, vote 7-0, the LCER Board of Directors approved Readopting the Original BP 1312.4 Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures by roll call vote.
- .04 Discuss NSLA Charter – Lisa Lamb - Dr. Lamb is meeting with Angel Arrington and wants the board to be assured that all suggested revisions were submitted prior to the Board Meeting and has since not heard back or been given an MOU for the Board to review. There is no issue with the MOU or its terms. There was a lot of learning as it relates to AB1505 and we were the first to go through the process. Dr. Lamb has lead a lot of Charter renewals, and this last renewal had the fewest revisions submitted, all being very minor. We work well with the County staff and they are very supportive. Chairman Carlos thanks Lisa and states that it was mostly clerical.

- .05 Discuss J-13A Application for NSLA School Closures on 9/11/24, 9/12/24 and 9/13/24 due to State of Emergency – David Gruber – Mrs. Annalee Carrillo joins Mr. Gruber and the days mentioned were closures due to fire smoke. NSLA followed suit with neighboring districts to ensure staff and students were safe. Meal distribution was provided during the time of closure. Pat asks for clarification on signatures required on the forms. David asks that the board please sign and Board members will be contacted to complete it. Chairman Carlos thanks David. No board approval required, signatures will be collected. If subsequent action needs to be taken, it will be brought back to the Board.
- .06 Discuss Budget Forecasting for the 2025-26 School Year – David Gruber - David thanks his team, Annalee and Heather, and provides details of their strategic plan for 2025/26. Surrounding district salaries were compared and through those processes, LCER's starting teacher pay was below neighboring district. Developing the budget around LCAP. David is looking forward to next month and discussing the May Revision taking place on May 28. Identifying staffing needs and drafting a proposed salary schedule. Considering an increase in new benefit plans and increased medical costs. Provides details of the compensation change over 8 years from 2018 to 2025. The goal is to be more competitive and have growth opportunities to bring on new staff. Next steps are finalizing the LCAP, and developing those objectives. The final budget and LCAP will be presented for final board approval on June 9. Dr. Lamb shares that in the past, pending board approval projections are presented to staff, and hoping to be able to do the same this year so that staff can make an informed decision. Pat asks that if the proposed salary adjustments are affordable, and David clarifies that we only budget within what is permitted; one time dollars are not included. Currently only one position is part of a one time grant, and Mr. Richards is looking into absorbing that cost and no lay offs are anticipated. Steve asks if the hard numbers presented are what neighboring districts are doing now, or has anyone attended other board meetings to see what their projections are. Lisa states that they are looking at how benefits are being structured, they are looking for layoffs and other trends, and have been in communications with other connections. As Lisa prepares and understands the direction from the board, she will prepare slides to better help address any questions after June.
- .07 Discuss Strategic Planning and Budget Workshop – Reminder the Workshop is on May 29th, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. in room A101 at AAE. Everyone is encouraged to wear their LCER polos this day.
- .08 Lewis Center Foundation Board Update – Marisol Sanchez, Foundation Board Chair
 - Annual Social Update - \$1428 was raised in raffle ticket sales, it had great attendance and was a great event. Would like to hold a social close to both locations in the future. \$345 donated from the Apple Valley Golf Course and the Schnieder family. Chairman Carlos mentions that the social was a very nice event and supports a good cause.
 - Annual Gala – September 27, 2025 - location TBD, in the High Desert.

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 LCER Board Attendance Log
- .05 LCER Board/Lewis Center Foundation Give and Get

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 - Pat Schlosser explained his previous absences and apologizes. Yolanda states that he was missed and it is good to have him back. Mike Razo also apologizes for his past absences. Yolanda also states that he was missed. Steve, Mike, and Jessica are still to complete Conflict of Interest Training. Form 700 needed from

Steve Levin. Attending graduation responses needed. Lisa encourages our distinguished board members and having them attend the upcoming ceremonies.

.03 Future agenda items

9. CLOSED SESSION:

.01 Public Employment: President/CEO - The LCER Board convened into closed session at 6:08pm.

The LCER Board reconvened in open session at 6:50 p.m. Chairman Carlos reported that no action was taken in closed session.

10. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Carlos adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.