

Lighthouse Academy Board of Directors

Approved Regular Meeting Minutes

Mission: *A safe harbor that provides innovative whole-child education and ensures success despite life's storms.*

Date: December 9, 2025

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Place: Lighthouse Academy – South Campus
3330 36th St SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

- A. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Aaron Toffoli called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. as an informational meeting due to lack of a quorum. Official meeting called to order at 12:21 p.m. once a quorum was present.*
 - B. **Board Members Present.** *Aaron Toffoli, Patrese Davis-Beckford, Todd Penning and Angela Bunn (joined at 12:21 p.m.)*
 - C. **Board Members Absent (with prior notice).** *Peter VanGelderen, Dr. Brenda King and Erica Galat*
 - D. **Others Present.** *Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, Executive Director Business Office; Dr. Michele Siderman, FSU Representative; Shea Williams, School Leader; Matt Milanowski, School Leader; Lucas Yax, School Leader; Stacey Martinez, School Leader; Ronda Dyer, School Leader (virtual) and Laurie Strach, Recording Secretary.*
- II. Public Comment (limited to agenda items only).** *Two items were added to the agenda under Old Business: Approve reappointment of Aaron Toffoli to the Board for another term and approve the 31aa Resolution. Under New Business: Student Achievement was moved to the end of the section and the Board Handbook draft review and the Presentation on school funding were deferred until the January meeting.*
- III. Approval of Agenda.** *A motion was made by Todd Penning and was supported by Angela Bunn to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.*
- IV. Consent Calendar.**
- A. **Approval of October 28, 2025 Proposed Regular Board Meeting Minutes and the November 12, 2025 Special Board Meeting Minutes.** *A motion was made by Angela Bunn to approve the October 28, 2025 meeting minutes for the Regular Board meeting and the November 12, 2025 meeting minutes for the Special Board meeting. The motion was supported by Patrese Davis-Beckford. The motion passed unanimously.*
 - B. **DAN Update.** *Handout provided prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the Board.*
 - C. **New Stakeholder surveys (parent/community partner, student, teacher, support staff).** *The surveys were provided prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the Board.*

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V. Old Business.

- A. **Board Reappointment.** *A motion was made by Todd Penning to reappoint Aaron Toffoli to the Board and was supported by Patrese Davis-Beckford. The motion passed unanimously.*
- B. **31aa Resolution.** *New updates on the 31aa funding allowed for an opt in date of no later than December 4, 2025 and the right to rescind the opt in election no later than December 30, 2025. The Board President had previously approved allowing Dr. Heidi Cate to opt in. Thrun provided Resolution D2 Ratification of Opt-In, Subject to Recission. A motion was made by Todd Penning and supported by Angela Bunn to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.*

VI. New Business.

- A. Student Achievement – Ottawa JJI, Kent Harbor and Beacon. *Shea Williams provided a handout to the Board summarizing key items for the three programs.*
- B. FSU-CSO. *During the informational section of the meeting, Dr. Michele Siderman referred the Board to the December 2025 FSU Monthly Board Communication handout. She pointed to the receipt of the \$20,000 competitive grant received from FSU. She also reviewed the key sections of the FSU-CSO CPR Report.*
- C. Update Barry and Cedar Springs community buildings; Muskegon Community; Ingham County RFP for Day treatment program. *Dr. Heidi Cate informed the Board that an initial visit with Ingham County had occurred in early December. Next steps will include an interview and a site visit by the Court. She stated that Muskegon Community is working on a pilot program with a Muskegon area school district to provide educational services to eligible students. Leslie Cummings shared that the Barry County lease and construction contract had been signed. Leslie also shared the draft lease agreement for the potential Cedar Springs location. A motion was made by Todd Penning and supported by Angela Bunn to send the draft lease to Thrun for review and to proceed with architectural drawings for a public construction bid. The motion passed unanimously.*
- D. FSU-CSO CPR Report. *During the informational section of the meeting, Dr. Heidi Cate discussed the alternative measures agreed upon and utilized in the FSU-CSO CPR Report.*
- E. Board Handbook draft review. *Deferred to the January 2026 meeting.*
- F. Integrity Educational Services Reports.
 - 1. Financial Reports
 - a. Monthly Financial Reports. *Leslie Cummings reviewed the October 2025 financial statements. Todd Penning made a motion to approve the October 2025 check register and it was supported by Angela Bunn. The motion passed unanimously. Leslie shared that the PSA Insurance Policy had been approved through the FSU-CSO and that \$20,000 competitive grant received from FSU-CSO will be used for camera systems at the new locations.*

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b. Presentation on school funding. *Deferred to the January 2026 meeting.*

2. Human Resources: *Leslie Cummings updated the Board that HR is currently recruiting for a couple of open positions. She shared that the school had received a Level 1 rating during the October QPR audit with no issues identified.*

G. Board Development Credits/Reports. *None for the month.*

VII. Correspondence. *None*

VIII. Extended Public Comment. *None.*

IX. Reconfirmation of Next Regular
January 27, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.
Lighthouse Academy – South Campus
3330 36th St SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

X. Adjournment. *A motion was made by Angela Bunn to adjourn the meeting and it was supported by Todd Penning. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.*

Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors under Items II and IX above are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and a total time allowance not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.

Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the Academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) days prior to the Board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner. (Source: Board Policy 0167.3)

Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Integrity Educational Services Central office at 3300 36th Street, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.

Submitted by:



Laurie Strach
Recording Secretary

Date: 2/24/26

Approved by:



Angel Bunn
Board Secretary *President*

Date: 2/24/26

