

# LEXINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ONE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2024: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Lexington District One Central Services Auditorium

The Lexington County School District One Educational Foundation Board of Directors convened Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM at the Lexington District One Central Services Auditorium.

**Board Members:** Chair Lisa Phillips, Secretary/ Treasurer Randy Cooper, Immediate Past Chair Rosemary Wilson, Michael Boone, Katrina Bryant, David Chao, Harriet Coker, Rod Dooley, Katy Handell, Bryan Jones, Brandi Keefer, Rebecca West, Bridget Winston, and Executive Director, Julie Washburn.  
*Absent: Vice Chair Chris Goumas, LCSDO Board Liaison Kathryn Henson, LCSDO CCO Libby Roof, Angela Douda, LaMyron Jenkins, Brandon Mogan, Vandan Shah, Dr. Scarlet Taylor, and Michelle White.*

**1.0 Call to Order & Welcome** – Secretary/Treasurer Randy Cooper welcomed everyone to the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter board meeting and then Chair Lisa Phillips presided over the meeting.

**2.0 Minutes** – March 14, 2024 Board meeting minutes were presented for approval. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously by all in attendance.

| Motion | Second | Action               |
|--------|--------|----------------------|
| Boone  | Keefer | Approved Unanimously |

### 3.0 Committee Reports

#### 3.1 Finance Committee – Randy Cooper, Committee Chair

**3.1.1 Financial Report** - Mr. Cooper reviewed Financial Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Balance Sheet and Revenue vs. Expenses Statement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. Revenue highlights reflects \$1.7 million assets with \$1.3 invested and the remaining \$440,530 in more flexible funds.

**3.1.2 Investments Update** – When the CD with South State Bank matured on March 1<sup>st</sup>, quotes were obtained from 12 banks. The executive committee shifted the investments into two different banks due to better rates. \$143,000 (12-month) is with Founder’s FCU and \$100,000 (5-month) is with Synovus Bank. Reorganized categories on the financial statements will now reflect a separation of unrestricted funds and restricted funds, as well as Scholarships now separated into endowed and non-endowed. LPL Financials & CD Investment Reports reflect a positive status.

#### 3.2 Governance – David Chao, Committee Chair

##### 3.2.1 Board Member Ending Terms & 2024-2025 Slate of Nominees

With the timing of board members’ terms ending and one board member’s relocation not allowing him to serve on the board, the board has four openings. In addition, Mrs. Washburn was just recently informed that the board has two more openings due to Brandon Mogan ending his tenure after his first 3-year term and Vandan Shah ending his board membership after five years of service. As a result of these changes, the board has a total of six vacancies to fill. Four of the nominees were vetted and are nominated by the

Governance Committee. On behalf of the Governance Committee, Mr. Chao presented a motion to approve the following slate of board nominees:

- Julie Bartels
- Will Salley
- Jennifer White
- Cheryl Bartolotti

A motion was made for approval, seconded, and approved unanimously for the nominees.

| <b>Motion</b>                    | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b>        |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Chao/<br>Governance<br>Committee | N/A           | Approved Unanimously |

A motion followed by Bridget Winston to approve Jackie Kaminer as a nominee (*terms starting 2024-2025 school year*), seconded by Rosemary Wilson, and approved unanimously.

| <b>Motion</b> | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b>        |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Winston       | Wilson        | Approved Unanimously |

Educational Foundation leaders gave a celebratory recognition to Chris Goumas, Bryan Jones, Katy Handell, Brandon Mogan, Vandan Shah, and Rosemary Wilson in honor of their many gracious contributions and hours given to advancing the mission of the Educational Foundation.

### 3.2.2 Foundation Bylaws

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mrs. Wilson moved to temporarily suspend the portion of the Bylaw Article 4.1.3 a, which specifies term limits and how a board member must rotate off the board for one year, in order to allow Lisa Phillips to remain on the board and fill the executive committee position of Immediate Past Chair. Motion was approved.

| <b>Motion</b>                  | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b>        |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Wilson/<br>Executive Committee | N/A           | Approved Unanimously |

### 3.2.3 2024-2025 Slate of Officers

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Mrs. Wilson moved to accept the following slate of Foundation officers for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Bridget Winston – Chair
- Katrina Bryant – Vice Chair
- Randy Cooper – Secretary/ Treasurer
- Lisa Phillips – Immediate Past Chair

Motion was approved.

| <b>Motion</b>                  | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b>        |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Wilson/<br>Executive Committee | N/A           | Approved Unanimously |

**3.2.4 Foundation Meetings Schedule 2024-2025** – The 2024-2025 draft of the Educational Foundation Meeting Schedule was included in the meeting packet. No conflicts were noted in the schedule.

**3.3 Allocations- Chris Goumas, Committee Chair**

In the absence of Committee Chair Chris Goumas, Mrs. Katrina Bryant presented the committee report.

**3.3.1 Innovation Grants for K-8 Schools 2023-2024 Report** – Mrs. Bryant noted we funded four successful grants and impacted 3,323 students at five schools.

**3.3.2 Bucks for Books FY2024 Report** – Grants were presented to 17 elementary schools this year to support kindergarten readers. Funds purchased books for 89 classes that impacted 1,413 kindergarten students in all 17 elementary schools in our district. Investment impact was very positive.

**3.3.3 Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants Report 2023-2024** – This year funded 16 teacher grant projects that positively impacted 1,549 students. The account has \$1,134 in unused funds that will remain in the account to be used in the upcoming school year.

**3.3.4 Michelin Robotics Teams Grants Report 2023-2024** – Tremendous impact in three high school teams and five middle school teams that reached 170 students. A few school leaders are creating all girls’ teams to encourage female student participation. Two LTC teams and one RBHS team had another exceptional year filled with success, as the three attended the VEX World Robotics Championship in Dallas, TX. Mrs. Washburn secured Walmart Foundation Grants again this year in the amount of \$3,000 to support these teams and the international competition. The challenges next year will be fulfilling open positions for robotic classroom coaches in three school locations.

**3.3.5 Helping Hands Grants Update** – Informational emails were sent to those schools receiving new awards for the upcoming school year. A separate email was sent to the schools that will not receive awards this year. Foundation staff is working with some locations in regards to discrepancies in the financial report details. Allocations Committee discussed guidance for updated requests from the schools that did not receive grants.

A motion was made by Bridget Winston for Executive Committee to be empowered with decision making authority to determine financial grant amounts as school locations were to make updated request. Motion was approved.

| Motion  | Second | Action               |
|---------|--------|----------------------|
| Winston | Keefer | Approved Unanimously |

**3.3.6 Higher Education Support Grants Report 2023-2024** – There were 40 submissions from Lexington One Seniors for these grants. All 12 approved students have significant, documented financial need. Nine applicants are still pending due to delayed financial aid packages. There were 19 denied applicants due to lack of documented need. This grant can assist Lexington One seniors who are pursuing a college education with laptops, basic needs of residential housing, books, and/or tuition payments. This year they will benefit both residential and non-residential college students (e.g., students staying local to pursue a tech or four-year degree) with this need-based grant support.

**3.3.7 International Teacher Grants Report** – During 2023-24, the Foundation supported 18 teachers at eight different schools spent 86% of the allocated funds. All but one received the grant benefits, as the one did not remain employed with the district.

**3.3.7.1 Report 2023-2024**

**3.3.7.2 Proposal**

Foundation Staff recently met with a Lexington One Human Resources team to discuss challenges and improvement suggestions in IT grant implementation. As a result, HR created a rubric to use when determining financial need of new international teachers. They also requested increases in the total grant award amount if numbers were reduced due to tighter guidelines. After discussion, board members asked for clarification of some points and an emailed vote is to follow.

**3.4 Philanthropic Partnerships- Angela Douda, Committee Chair**

In the absence of Committee Chair Angie Douda, Brandi Keefer presented the committee report on her behalf.

**3.4.1 Celebration of Excellence in Education Financial Report 2024** – The 2024 Celebration event was a huge success. Expenses were comparable to 2023, which included student gifts to the honored seniors. Cash revenue sponsorships totaled \$31,550, with an additional \$1,600 in-kind support, which resulted in a cash net gain of \$23,330.

**3.4.2 Scholarship Awards Report 2023-2024** - Out of 82 applications from Lexington District One seniors, the foundation awarded 16 scholarships totaling \$16,000 to 14 students. (Two of the students were each awarded two different scholarships.) The Tommy Long Scholarship received the most with 21 applications. Scholarship Committee members shared that it was tough to make decisions as the Lexington One seniors who applied were impressive and accomplished individuals. The Foundation will celebrate winners on social media.

**3.4.3 Special Events**

**3.4.3.1 “Leading As One” Administrators’ Breakfast** – Will be on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at Lexington High School. Our Foundation Chair will present an overview of Foundation efforts to Lexington One administrators and event sponsors.

**3.4.3.2 Fore the Foundation Grand Golf Tournament** - We are promoting our upcoming October 24, 2024 event in efforts to raise funds via sponsorships and golf team registrations. Contact Julie Washburn with suggestions or to sponsor the tournament.

**3.4.4 2024 Joseph M. Bedenbaugh Administrator of the Year Award Winner** – Dr. Bill Coon, MGMS Principal, was our 2024 Award Winner. It was truly a special night as his family and school leadership showed up for the surprise announcement to celebrate this honor.

**3.4.5 Cats Kick Cancer Fund Report 2023-2024** – The LHS boys soccer team created this fund and continues to sustain it. Recipients are either Lexington One students or employees who are struggling financially while battling cancer. Please refer potential recipients to foundation Staff.

**3.4.6 LEAP Annual Campaign Plans 2024-2025** – Foundation staff are preparing for the fall campaign. Theme is “Cheers to 20 years of LEAP serving Lexington District One” and promo materials – video, poster, flyer, social media posts - will reflect this focus. Staff are attempting to finalize the LEAP Representative volunteer list, since the Campaign Kick Off / Training will be held on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> and attendance is important.

This campaign raises money for the LEAP Emergency fund and Educational fund, as well as supporting the foundation’s operational costs to some degree. Foundation This year 20% of the total funds raised as of June 30<sup>th</sup> (end of fiscal year) will go back into the foundation’s general fund. The executive secretary and the executive director are both involved in administering LEAP emergency assistance.

**3.4.7 Michelin Golden Apple Teacher Grants – Fall 2024** – Foundation has only received a few grant applications to date. Focus is first on STEM projects, but then is open up to all other areas. Grants that meet qualifications are funded on a first-come, first-served basis. Teachers must submit applications by Monday, June 17, 2024. Many thanks to Michelin for their generous support.

**4.0 Executive Director Report** – Ms. Washburn shared words of thanks to the Educational Foundation’s board of directors and in particular to those board members whose terms end this June.

**5.0 Adjourn** - The chair adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.

### **ADDENDUM to June 13, 2024 MINUTES**

The Lexington One Educational Foundation Board of Directors discussed two matters following the June 13, 2024, Board of Directors meeting via an email sent by executive director Julie Washburn on June 20, 2024. The first item was regarding a revised International Teacher Grant Proposal. The second item was regarding a potential new board member, Missy Moore, who was highly recommended by Katy Handel following the June board meeting.

**Motion 1:** I move to approve Melissa "Missy" Moore for the Educational Foundation's Board of Directors starting in the 2024-25 fiscal year.

| <b>Motion</b> | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| West          | Winston       | Approved      |

The motion passed. (Note: 17 “Yes, I am in favor of the motion” votes and 3 did not vote.)

**Motion 2:** I move change our International Teacher Grant selection process to utilize the new ITG Rubric and to award each approved teacher a \$400 one-time payment towards rent; a \$200 one-time grocery gift card; and the amount needed to cover the first 60 days of breakfast and lunch meals in the school cafeteria.

| <b>Motion</b> | <b>Second</b> | <b>Action</b> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Winston       |               | Approved      |

The motion passed. (Note: 17 “Yes, I am in favor of the motion” votes and 3 did not vote.)

Ms. Washburn notified the board members of both passing motions via an email (with voting results included) on June 27, 2024.