LION LEADERS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD CHARTER SCHOOL

June Board Meeting Notice

Monday, June 16th, 2025 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/etn-agyb-uhz
Or dial: (US) +1 216-532-5481 PIN: 804 329 437#

830 Hunts Point Avenue, Bronx, NY

715 Village Lane, Orient, NY
172 West 79th Street, New York, NY 10024
415 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022
50 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10075

Proposed Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule - 2025-26 School Year

July 28th	August 25th	September 29th	October 27th
November 17th	December 15th	January 24th *Board Retreat*	February 23rd
March 23rd	April 20th	May 18th	June 15th

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- Vote on May's Board Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
- CEO's Board Report (20 minutes)
- Finance Report including Discussion & Vote on the FY 26 Budget (45 minutes)
- Development & Marketing Report (5 minutes)
- Committee Updates (10 minutes)
- Public Comments
- Adjournment

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LION LEADERS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
CHARTER SCHOOL

June Board Meeting Minutes, June 16, 2025

Board Members Present: Talal Rojas David Schatsky Nicholas Ober Tony Stoupas Catherine Jessup Herb Fixler Julie Medler **Board Members not in Attendance:** Ruth Jarmul Rosann Santos Deborah Dumont	**Others LION asked to be in Attendance:** Keveney McCrillis, Director of Communications and Strategic Projects Celia Sosa, CEO Leslie Rich, Interim Director of Finance Maya Severns, Director of Development and Marketing **Members of the Public:**

Tony Stoupas, board chairman, called for a motion to begin the meeting at 6:05 PM. The motion was seconded by Catherine Jessup and unanimously approved.

Tony Stoupas then motioned to dispense the reading of the minutes and approve the May meeting minutes, which were shared before the meeting via email. Talal Rojas seconded the motion. The May meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Celia Sosa, LION's Chief Executive Officer, reviewed the CEO report, which was shared via email before the meeting. She reported out on the DOE's Special Education Funding Group in which LION participates. Celia then discussed some human resources updates, including some positive news about recruiting, including a high response rate from candidates and a quick time to hire. She discussed hiring highly qualified faculty and staff. She identified a new area of focus for LION: teacher certification. There was a board question about teachers who are in the process of being certified. Celia answered. There was a board question about the statistics related to uncertified staff and why someone might remain uncertified. Celia answered.

Celia gave a positive update on teacher retention going into the new school year. She then discussed the administration and completion rates of LION's school culture surveys, both internal and external. She highlighted areas of growth and areas for continued improvement. There was a board question about the results for the quality of school discussions. There was a board question about middle school response rates. Celia answered both questions.

Celia discussed enrollment. LION remains on track to be fully enrolled. There was a board question about possibly moving the birthday threshold for incoming kindergarten students. Celia answered. Celia highlighted some speeches families gave at Family Celebration, the partnership LION Elementary School has with Horace Mann, and the positive results from the high school boys' and girls' track and field teams. There was a board suggestion to use excerpts from the parent speeches in marketing materials.

Leslie Rich, LION's Interim Director of Finance and future CFO, then presented her financial report, which was shared along with the proposed budget for FY'26 and the monthly financials via email prior to the meeting. She began discussing the May year-end forecast. There was a board question about the projected net surplus. She discussed the public and private revenue. Leslie announced that LION will begin their interim audit tomorrow.

Leslie discussed the FY 2025-2026 budget, on which the board would be voting. She discussed both revenue and expense projections. She gave highlights for each, including LION's budgeted FTE for next year. Leslie discussed LION's conservative stance on budgeting for the new year. She gave highlights of expenses in the budget, including the effects of the salary scale implementation.

Leslie answered a question that the finance committee posed about risk mitigation. She called out net income, SpEd enrollment, contingency, and fundraising. Tony Stoupas asked if there were any questions about the budget. There were none that weren't already answered. Tony Stoupas called for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 budget. Nick Ober seconded the motion. The budget was unanimously approved.

Maya Severns, LION's Director of Development and Marketing, presented the Development and Marketing report, which was previously shared via email with the meeting attendees. She highlighted the elementary school musical, the middle school's first-ever sports media day, and the high school's college signing day. She then discussed the progress toward fundraising goals for the year. Maya highlighted the Spring Social event the previous week and how much it had raised so far for the college persistence fund. She then discussed the LION graduation campaign and ways the board could support that campaign. There was a board question about the deadline for placing an ad in the graduation program.

Tony asked if there were other committee updates. Keveney McCrillis gave a facilities committee update about the classroom redesign project. There is a nominating committee meeting on the calendar for next week. There was a board question about the education committee. Celia answered. Maya Severns gave an update from the marketing committee, including an update on the plan for work being done on LION's website.

Tony Stoupas opened the meeting for public comment.

Tony Stoupas motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM. Nick Ober seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Notes prepared by Keveney McCrillis.