LION LEADERS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD CHARTER SCHOOL

October Board Meeting Notice

Monday, October 27th, 2025 6:00 – 8:00 pm

830 Hunts Point Avenue, Bronx, NY 10474

Google Meet joining info
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/zwc-nqgq-eoj
Or dial: (US) +1 318-596-1082 PIN: 506 225 462#

715 Village Lane, Orient, NY
172 West 79th Street, New York, NY
415 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022
3 Brooklands, Bronxville, NY

Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule - 2025-26 School Year

July 28th	August 25th	September 22nd	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 September's Board Meeting Minutes
- CEO's Board Report (20 minutes)
- Finance Report (10 minutes)
- Review & Feedback on Board Retreat Agenda (10 minutes)
- Committee Updates
- Public Comments
- Executive Session (15 minutes)
- Adjournment

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CHARTER SCHOOL

October Board Meeting Minutes, October 27, 2025

Board Members Present:	**Others LION asked to be in Attendance:**
Rosann Santos	Keveney McCrillis, Director of Communications and Strategic Projects
Deborah Dumont	Celia Sosa, CEO
Talal Rojas	Leslie Rich, CFO
Nicholas Ober	Maya Severns, Director of Development and Marketing
Julie Medler	
Tony Stoupas	
David Schatsky	
Ruth Jarmul	
Catherine Jessup	**Members of the Public:**
Herb Fixler	Skarlene Rodriguez

Tony Stoupas, Board Chair, called for a motion to begin the meeting at 6:01 PM. The motion was seconded by Ruth Jarmul and unanimously approved.

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

Celia Sosa, LION's Chief Executive Officer, reviewed the CEO report, which was emailed before the meeting. She discussed October's staff K-12 Character PD and seminar. There was a board question about staff takeaways that Celia answered. Celia then addressed the state of the sector, as discussed at the recent NYC Charter Center meeting, and her key takeaways. There was a board question about local political officials' support for LION or charter schools. Celia answered this question. There was discussion about NYC schools' enrollment decline and how LION has staved this off for the most part. There were several board questions about LION expanding to include Pre-K. Maya Severns, Director of Development and Marketing, and Celia Sosa answered those questions.

Celia then discussed LION's updated enrollment. There were no questions about that. Celia Sosa moved on to discuss the impact of ICE raids and the possible DOE bus strike on LION students. She then highlighted the fall social fundraiser to benefit the Middle School World Scholars program. There was strong board support for this event. There was a board question about the mayoral race, which Celia answered.

Leslie Rich, LION's Chief Financial Officer, then presented her financial report, which was shared via email along with the FY 2025 audit and monthly financials before the meeting. She discussed closing the year with a strong balance sheet and our healthy outlook for the SUNY scorecard. There was a clean, unmodified opinion with no recommendations from the auditors. The single audit is being held at the federal level, so LION cannot file until that is released.

Leslie then discussed September's close-of-month numbers, which were favorable. She discussed how Special Education billing, capitalization of several projects, and hiring have affected this year's budget so far.

Keveney McCrillis, LION's Director of Communications and Strategic Projects, led a discussion about the board retreat scheduled for January. She asked for and received feedback on the agenda shared via email before the meeting.

Tony Stoupas asked for committee updates. Keveney gave a facilities committee update. Talal Rojas and Maya gave an update from the marketing committee. There was a question about the timing for the new website review and launch, which Maya answered. Tony provided an update on the nominating committee, including three new candidates for the board of trustees who are in the pipeline. Maya Severns gave a development committee update, including positive news about the fall social.

Tony Stoupas then motioned to move into executive session. Catherine Jessup seconded the motion, and the board moved into executive session at 6:52 PM. The board returned from executive session at 7:07PM. LION CEO's goals were voted on and unanimously approved in the executive session.

Tony Stoupas called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM. Talal Rojas seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Notes prepared by Keveney McCrillis.