Announcing: School Board Elections

Dear Lakes International Parents and Teachers,

The Lakes International Community is currently seeking interested candidates for positions on the School Board. **There will be openings for one teacher, two parents, one at-large (teacher or parent), and one community member.** The term of office for the teacher, parent and at-large positions will be for two years, from July, 2024 – June, 2026. The term of office for the community member position will be for one year, from July, 2024 – June, 2025.

In accordance with Lakes International By-Laws, teacher applicants who hold a Minnesota teaching license are eligible to run for the board if they have taught at Lakes International for one full year prior to the election. Parents are eligible to run if they have had a child attending Lakes International for one full year prior to elections. The LILA board will also include a “community member” who is not employed by the school and does not have a child attending the school, in accordance with Minnesota statute 124E.07, passed in 2009.

Note: While applicants may be eligible for multiple board positions (Example: At Large and Parent) only one board position can be selected and applicants will not be considered for other board positions.

Board elections logistics:
- Board seats held by teachers and parents are two-year terms.
- Board seat held by a community member is a one-year term.
- A board member may run for a second two-year term.
- No board member may be elected for more than two consecutive two-year terms.

Interested eligible individuals are kindly requested to apply no later than February 12th, 2024 at 5:00pm Central Standard Time. Application packets are available on the LILA website.

This is a great opportunity to become even more involved in supporting the mission and vision of LILA. Additional information about the expectations and qualifications of the candidates – as well as information about the election procedure – follows. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any current LILA School Board member.
EXPECTATIONS OF BOARD MEMBERS

TIME COMMITMENT

- 2 hour board meeting once per month
- 2 hour working meetings up to twice monthly
- 2 – 4 hours of committee meetings each month (each board member is expected to serve on/lead at least two committees or task forces at any given time)
- 2 – 4 hours of preparation for committee meetings each month
- Occasional evenings/weekends (e.g. attending ISD 831 meetings, LILA PTO meetings, LILA Foundation meetings, school events)
- Special tasks as assigned
- Approximately 1 hour preparation time for reviewing meeting materials
- Four full days of board training within 12 months of election
- Making/maintaining community connections time commitment
- Other occasional commitments
- Additional time commitment necessary for board officers

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- The highest level of honesty, integrity, loyalty and prudence
- Ability to act without bias
- An inquiring mind open to both sides of an issue
- A willingness to disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest
- Ability to be organized and prepared for board meetings
- Enthusiasm
- Innovative thinker
- A positive attitude

PROFESSIONAL / BOARD

- A commitment to understand and support the mission and vision of Lakes International Language Academy
- A commitment to the importance of service to the school and community
- A willingness to balance a prudent concern for fiscal stability with a spirit of creative risk - taking
- A willingness to learn while preparing for and serving as a board member
- Ability to work in a group and be a good team player
- Ability to approach topics and others’ opinions with an open mind
- Commitment to provide services to all students
- Ability to focus on the overall good of the school rather than special interests only
- A willingness to give of your time and talents and follow through on commitments
- Ability to further knowledge of language immersion, charter schools, and IB PYP
- A willingness to serve within the directives outlined by the LILA by-laws
- A willingness to support board decisions even if not fully agreeing
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively, orally and in writing

School Mission

LILA prepares tomorrow’s critical thinkers and global citizens through language immersion and inquiry-driven study
ELECTION PROCEDURE

1. Election filing period opens upon the distribution of this announcement. Candidates submit applications with information to share with LILA voters, as well as a photo in jpg format. If candidates do not have a photo in jpg format, LILA personnel will take a digital snapshot as applications are turned in.

2. Election application filing period closes Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 5pm Central Standard Time.

3. Candidate bios, photos, and answers to questions on application paperwork will be published on the LILA website and at the polls.

4. Voting will take place online from Friday, February 16th through Friday, March 1st, 2024. All staff and parents or legal guardians of current students, aged 18 and above, are eligible to vote.

5. Election results will be announced at the Lakes International Language Academy Annual Meeting, held Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 at 5:30pm Central Standard Time.

6. New board members will be inducted at the July 2024 School Board meeting.

Application packets are available on the LILA website under the School Board tab in the Board Elections section.

-Please submit your filled application and a photo of yourself to the Election Committee: elections@mylila.org -