

LBPS Committee Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2025

Attending: Beth Marshall (Vice-Chair), Emily Thomson, Linda Hayes, Heidi Anderson, Rick Blum (staff), Karen Smith (Board)

Not attending: Hannah Falley, Shannon Davis, Paul Bekx (Chair)

Quick recap

The meeting covered various topics including committee structure, enrollment challenges, and summer programs. The committee discussed its future, agreeing on quarterly meetings and the need to recruit new members. They also addressed budget concerns related to low 4K enrollment and explored potential solutions to increase participation in summer and after-school programs.

The meeting began at 7:15 p.m. with a prayer from Rick.

Addressing Low Enrollment in 4K Program in Verona

Linda discussed the low enrollment in the 4K program at their school, which is impacting their budget. Enrollment is low district wide. Typically, we have 20 students in our 4k classroom. Right now, we have 11-12 in 4k.

To address this, Linda proposed a solution where older 3-year-olds could be moved into the 4K program, paying tuition but becoming tuition-free the following year. This would help build up the enrollment and allow them to bump through their waitlist into the 3-year-old classes. Rick also mentioned that they are taking a second look at everyone's hours worked specifically in Verona to see if they should budget lower to help fill some of the gaps.

Linda has offered 6 families the opportunity to go to the class, 4 of the 6 families are interested. Linda said one 4k site in the district had to close because of low numbers.

Karen asked whether we can do anything publicity wise? Linda said she wanted to hold off on the publicity first. She wants to see what her families want to do first. Then I will see what to do from there.

It was suggested that we should promote the 4k program in the Church bulletin/Facebook – register your kid for 4k, request Little Blessings. Verona or Madison.

Summer Programs Enrollment and After School

Heidi discussed the summer programs, noting that they are almost full with 45 student days total. She mentioned that the Thursdays are capped at 16 students and that the total

number of student days last summer was 35. Heidi also mentioned that they have after-school programs with two students enrolled, and that they are trying to increase enrollment. Need 8 kids per day to sign up by July 15 for the program to go forward. No fee for after school has been charged yet, but we will charge a fee July 15, if the program happens. She expects a third child to show up.

Heidi said a note had gone out to Orchard Ridge parents. She will follow up and get us names of social workers at other schools to send flyers to.

She suggested that they could send out more internal publications to increase awareness. Rick also discussed the possibility of adding a table for the first week of June AT Music Monday, as it might have more impact than in July.

Committee's Future Discussed

The meeting then focused on the future of the committee, with discussions on its value, connection with the church, and the need for consistency and activity.

Linda said it's nice to have people to discuss ideas with.

Emily said there is value in keeping the connection between the program and the church. Heidi agreed. Her question was how we make a bigger connection, especially when we're not in stay afloat mode.

Linda said when she was in church yesterday, she had kids in front of me and behind me that were in the program.

Karen was wondering if there's a way to build dialogue between LBPS and CYF committee. There's going to be a bigger push to recruit.

The committee members agreed on quarterly in-person meetings, with the option for remote participation. They also discussed the importance of recruiting new members and the ideal size of the committee. The conversation ended with the understanding that the committee's continuation would depend on its perceived value and the ability to attract new members.

Recruiting Additional Committee Members

Rick discussed the need for additional committee members, with Emily and Shannon already recruited. He suggested that the next member should be a chair, and that the chair's role would involve setting the agenda, running the meeting, and communicating with members. Rick also mentioned the potential use of AI for notetaking and committee reports. The team agreed to recruit one more member for the committee.

After learning the responsibility of what a chair does (Sets agenda, runs meetings.), Emily agreed to serve as chair for one year.

Quarterly Meetings and Committee Recruitment

The committee decided to hold their quarterly meetings on the 4th Monday of each month. They also agreed to recruit one more member each to join the committee. The next meeting was scheduled for August 25th. The committee also discussed the possibility of moving the Quarterly meeting in May to the second or third week due to Memorial Day.

Next steps

Linda to write up 2-3 sentences about 4K enrollment for Rick to include in church communications.

Rick to include 4K enrollment information in church bulletin and e-news

Heidi to put 4K enrollment information on Facebook

Linda and Heidi each try to recruit one new committee member

Rick and Emily to try to recruit one new committee member from the church

Next Meeting: August 25th 6:30 p.m.