



## **Requirements & Expectations for Lake Country Classical Academy Board Members**

Lake Country Classical Academy (LCCA) is the first K-12, public/tuition-free classical charter school in the state of Wisconsin. LCCA's mission is to train the minds and improve the hearts of young people through a content-rich, classical education in the liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue. As a Hillsdale College Member School, we use the Hillsdale K-12 licensed curriculum focusing on the core subjects of literature, history, science, and mathematics with attention to the arts and foreign language. LCCA opened in the fall of 2021 initially serving 400 kindergarten – 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our current enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is 550 K-11<sup>th</sup> grade students. The school will be a fully K-12 institution by the fall of 2024 with a maximum projected enrollment of 850 students.

The Hillsdale College K-12 instructional team works as a curricular advisor to more than 20 existing charter schools across the U.S. and has a complete set of curricular and resource recommendations from kindergarten through 12th grade. Through the Barney Charter School Initiative (BCSI), Hillsdale College can express its philosophy of education in a K-12 school setting, a philosophy that defines good education as did America's founders and rejects the Progressive educational philosophy. Hillsdale College Member Schools commit to embrace and uphold the following key characteristics, which promote ongoing mission-focus and sound implementation of the curriculum and program:

- (1) The centrality of the Western tradition in the study of history, literature, philosophy, and fine arts,
- (2) A rich and recurring examination of the American literary, moral, philosophical, political, and historical traditions,
- (3) The use of explicit phonics instruction leading to reading fluency, and the use of explicit grammar instruction leading to English language mastery,
- (4) The teaching of Latin,
- (5) The acknowledgement of objective standards of correctness, logic, beauty, weightiness, & truth intrinsic to the liberal arts,
- (6) A school culture demanding moral virtue, decorum, respect, discipline, and studiousness among the students and faculty,
- (7) A curriculum that is content-rich, balanced, & strong across the four core disciplines of math, science, literature, & history,
- (8) A faculty where well-educated and articulate teachers explicitly convey real knowledge to students using traditional teaching methods rather than "student-centered learning" methods,
- (9) A school that uses technology effectively but without diminishing the faculty leadership that is crucial to academic achievement, and
- (10) A school that serves grades K -12, although the grades at school opening may be scaled back if reasonable.

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A Hillsdale College Member School

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All LCCA Board Members must agree to uphold these key characteristics, follow all board policies, and undergo all state-required background checks, along with employment verification and reference checks. Desired professional experience includes finance, fundraising, communications/marketing, legal, and education.

Candidates understand that as a public entity, LCCA must treat their application materials as public records, as well as the discussion and vote on their nominations during public board meeting(s). They understand that LCCA is covered by Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law and agree to learn and abide by these and all other parameters concerning public charter school boards. Candidates understand that, once appointed to the LCCA Board of Directors, they are obligated to read the charter contract and related materials (Board Bylaws, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Articles of Incorporation) and commit to the following:

- Attend all regular monthly board meetings (in person is preferred, but virtual attendance is allowed on occasion). The board generally has open meetings on the third Wednesday of each month with the exception of August and December (10 in-person meetings a year);
- Serve on at least one board committee (if/when committees are actively meeting – there are currently no board committees);
- Attend board training at Hillsdale College (November or April) at least once and commit to ongoing board development; and
- Uphold the highest standards of ethics and behavior as representatives of LCCA.

The mission of the LCCA Board is to provide oversight of school management, not to be a participant in it. We focus our work on ensuring that the school accomplishes the student outcomes that we were chartered to produce and ensuring that the school operates within all required parameters at all times.

The LCCA Board appreciates your interest in helping to ensure that the school creates adults capable of assuming their roles as responsible, productive citizens of a free and just society under the rule of law. LCCA has a solid foundation but can achieve and maintain excellence in its performance only with excellence in governance and oversight.

**In order to be considered for service on LCCA's governing board, candidates must submit a letter of intent/statement of interest, an affirmation of the school's mission, and a resume/CV to LCCA Board President, Tom Branigan, at [tbranigan@lakecountryclassical.org](mailto:tbranigan@lakecountryclassical.org). We are grateful for your interest in LCCA's mission and your willingness to serve!**

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