



For Immediate Release

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The Lincoln Academy Board Explores Campus Expansion to Meet Growing Demand

BELOIT, Wis - The Lincoln Academy (TLA) Board of Directors has authorized preliminary actions — including a construction design contract — to determine the feasibility of expanding the school's campus and adding capacity for additional scholars.

The potential expansion would aim to increase access for more scholars, broaden career pathways, and create additional space for extracurricular and athletic programming. The school's current site has limited capacity for outdoor sports facilities, and expanding those opportunities is a key objective for the Board. Work to allow for expansion within the Eclipse location has already begun, including demolition of a portion of the vacated Elder Beerman building.

"Our top core value at TLA is *children first*," said Lisa Furseth, TLA Board Chair. "Given current demand and educational needs within the community, the question of expansion continues to surface. The TLA Board collectively believes there is nothing more important than a high-quality education."

Families have embraced that mission. Since opening in 2021, TLA has drawn strong community interest, with nearly 200 families currently on its wait list and ongoing enrollment inquiries.

That enthusiasm is fueled by results. "TLA's latest academic performance data shows strong growth among our scholars," said Dr. Kristi Cole, Chief Education Officer. "The state of Wisconsin views 3rd grade English Language Arts and 8th grade math as indicators of learning progress, and TLA's results in both areas have surpassed state averages. This demonstrates that all children can learn — and we are successfully teaching them here."

Dr. Cole added that TLA's educators and staff remain focused on closing achievement gaps while working with scholars to cultivate their unique potential. "We believe children are more than just their test scores," she said. "Our mission to prepare scholars for a happy, choice-filled life is rooted in our

Three Pillars: Academic Rigor, Character Development, and Career Exploration. This framework guides everything we do.”

About The Lincoln Academy

The Lincoln Academy (TLA) is an innovative K4–12 public charter school in Beloit, Wisconsin, chartered through the University of Wisconsin System’s Office of Educational Opportunities. Since 2021, TLA has provided a free, high-quality education for Wisconsin families, with enrollment determined by a random lottery when the number of applications exceeds available seats. Learn more at www.thelincolnacademybeloit.com.

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