

W-A-Y Michigan
407 E. Fort St., Suite 201, Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 6 38-2716

Board of Directors' Regular Meeting

Date: September 16, 2020

Time: 6:00 pm

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order by the President at 6:05 pm

Roll Call:

Bogart X

Brown X

Donoghue X

Long X

- II. Approval of Agenda – Board President Gregory Brown indicated he'd like to amend the agenda by adding New Business Discussion # 5 – Beasley Beach Response/Insurance Plan & Approval Item # 5 Approval of Beasley Beach Response/Insurance Plan

It was moved by Greg Brown and seconded by Mandi Brown to approve the September 16, 2020 agenda as amended. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart Aye

Brown Aye

Donoghue Aye

Long Aye

- III. Call to the Public

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of W-A-Y Michigan in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. We now invite members of the public to address the Board and share any thoughts or concerns regarding agenda items only.

Gregory Brown requested the public in attendance to introduce themselves:

Jennifer Reinhardt Insurance agent for WAY Michigan

Isis Gibson – Recent graduate of WAY attending Albion College

Ada Parris – Educator (submitted application to join the board)

- III. Approval of Minutes Regular Meeting August 19, 2020.

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Amy Long to approve the August 19, 2020 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart Aye
Brown Aye
Donoghue Aye
Long Aye

V. Educational Service Provider Report
Superintendent/Director

Superintendent Madeline Black shared that the WAY Michigan online store is up and running. Ms. Black mentioned that she has prepared a 10-minute video to share with the board around HERO. The board requested the video to be emailed to all members. Ms. Black shared information around testing guidance that was provided from MDE. We will be conducting NWEA testing. We hope to conduct additional testing in the spring.

WAY Michigan Director James Middleditch shared information with the board around attendance, enrollment and credit attainment and provided them with the handout virtually. The board requested that James provide them with his board report prior to the board meeting via the board portal.

In the month of August, we had an overall increase of 17 researchers. We have averaged 10 enrollments per week for August. Currently, we have 34 active applications and 16 researchers scheduled for enrollment as of September 1st.

In August our biggest change was an increase in our Middle School cohorts. Both 6th and 8th grad cohorts doubled in size. We have been processing grade changes leading up to the start of the new year. Currently, we have nine 9th grade applications and 12 Middle school applications. Our goal is to increase our 3-year cohort of researchers.

The Researcher retention at WAY Michigan decreased by 5 percent in August. We expect the next several months to fluctuate as researchers finalize their plans for 2020-21 and we process summer graduates. We had 4 researchers that graduated in August.

Our online attendance is 9 percent higher than August 2019. I continue to believe that the improvement from last year is due to the enforcement of our new Summer Expectation Policy. I think it is important that we work on stressing the fact that WAY Michigan is a year-round school. Over the 2020-21 school year our goal is to increase our online attendance to 80%.

Our average credit attainment is .04 credit above August 2019. I look forward to September being a great month for us. I predict that we will surpass our September 2019 credit by working to reinforce our recommitment process. In meetings with the Assistant Director and Team

Leaders, we hope to work towards increase the number of researchers on the Honor Roll each month.

In August the only cohort to not have a .25 credit average was our 11th grade cohort. As we have processed grade changes for the upcoming school year this may have affected the credit average for several of our cohorts. We need to continue to remind researchers that WAY Michigan is a year-round school and that they must continue working in July and August.

Points of Pride:

1. As of the end of August WAY Michigan currently has 155 active enrollment leads, 34 applications in progress, and 58 total verified enrollments for the 2020-21 school year. Currently, 52% of the verified enrollments have come from enrollment leads.
2. WAY Michigan will be using Xello for our education development plans (EDP) this year. Our staff is currently working on a project to let the researchers know what they will need to complete for each grade level. We are excited for this change as Xello seems to be a lot more user friendly then Career Cruising.
3. One of our Experts, Kimberly Iorillo, has been asked meet with the editor of Edutopia. They would like to have her collaborate on an article about Project Based Learning (PBL) in a virtual environment. This is a good way to highlight what we do differently to make PBL work as a Cyber School.
4. We have our first WAY Michigan researcher signed up for the AP courses offered in Hero. We are excited to see how his experience is and to expand the number of researchers taking AP courses in the future. This will be something that we can use as a researcher story to highlight throughout the year.
5. After updating our data on enrollment applications we found out the following: 38% of applicants are referred by family or friends, 23% found our program through our online marketing, 32% of applicants do not complete their enrollment application, and the last 7% found us through a variety of other sources.

Board member Mandi Bogart inquired on marketing efforts and how that is impacting our enrollment. James Middleditch indicated he has this information and shared it with the board virtually. Board member Jesse Donoghue asked for additional clarification on the spreadsheet and monies spent for marketing which Ms. Black and Mr. Middleditch addressed for the board. Board held additional conversation around enrollment and budget. Central Michigan University Liaison Jennifer Joubert indicated the board could form a finance committee who could meet to discuss items deeper and then present them to the board.

James Middleditch shared information around state testing and the enrollment trend timeline and provided the board with this information virtually. He also shared information with the board around goals for the School Improvement Plan and provided the board with this information virtually. Mr. Middleditch will email the board the HERO tutorial for their review.

Board President Gregory Brown indicated the board would discuss the formation of a finance committee at an upcoming meeting.

VI. Treasurer Report

A. Discussion Items:

1. August 2020 Financial Statements

Thea Daniels shared information with the board around the August 2020 Financial Statements and provided this information with the board prior to the meeting and virtually as well. Ms. Daniels extended her apologies for the uploading issues she experienced with placing her documents on the board portal.

Board President Gregory Brown shared info around line items that are over the 100% budget mark. He indicated that the board had previously discussed moving some monies around to even out those items that may be overbudgeted. Ms. Daniels shared information around grant monies the school has received and indicated the budget is amended approximately three times per year.

B. Action Items:

1. Accept August 2020 Financial Statements

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Jesse Donoghue to accept the August 2020 Financial Statements as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart__Aye__
Brown__Aye__
Donoghue__Aye__
Long__Aye__

VII. Correspondence

Board President Gregory Brown indicated CMU had a recent webinar around board roles for board members. Mr. Brown shared a letter with the board that he recently received from Central Michigan University.

None.

VIII. Central Michigan University liaison updates

Jennifer Joubert shared information around webinars/sessions that will be scheduled for board members. Ms. Joubert and Board President Brown have been in discussion around specific webinar topics that might benefit the board.

IX. Old Business

A. Discussion Items:

None

- B. Action Items:
None

X. New Business

A. Discussion Items:

1. WAY Michigan Contract Amendment #2

Madeline Black shared information around WAY Michigan's Contract Amendment #2 with the board and provided this information to the board virtually. Ms. Joubert indicated the changes are standard changes incorporated into the contract amendment.

2. Title IX Special Release Board Policy Updates

Board President Gregory Brown asked if the board had a chance to review this information. Board confirmed they had reviewed.

3. Discussion of Potential Board Candidate

Board President Gregory Brown asked Ada Parris to present her bio and background information virtually with the board.

4. Letter for researcher parent handbook from Board Director

Board President Gregory Brown shared information around the researcher/parent handbook which had been provided to the board prior to the meeting.

5. Jennifer Reinhardt - Insurance agent for WAY Michigan – Beasley Breach Response/Insurance Plan

Jennifer Reinhardt shared information around Cyber coverage that is available to the board. She indicated this is a better option that is now available for WAY. The coverage information was provided to the board prior to the board meeting. The cost is likely double what the school currently pays, however, would provide triple coverage. Board member Amy Long inquired if we've had to use these services before with our currently policy. Thea Daniels indicated WAY Michigan has not previously filed any claims.

B. Action Items

1. Approve WAY Michigan Contract Amendment #2

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Amy Long to approve WAY Michigan Contract Amendment #2 as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart __ Left Meeting ____
Brown __ Aye ____
Donoghue __ Aye ____
Long __ Aye ____

2. Approve Title IX Special Release Board Policy Updates

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Jesse Donoghue to approve Title IX Special Release Board Policy Updates as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart __ Left Meeting ____
Brown __ Aye ____
Donoghue __ Aye ____
Long __ Aye ____

3. Approve Nomination of new board member

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Amy Long to approve board member nomination of Ada Parris as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart __ Left Meeting ____
Brown __ Aye ____
Donoghue __ Aye ____
Long __ Aye ____

4. Approve Letter for researcher parent handbook from Board President

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Jesse Donoghue to approve letter for researcher parent handbook from Board President as presented. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart __ Left Meeting ____
Brown __ Aye ____
Donoghue __ Aye ____
Long __ Aye ____

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Amy Long to table the Beasley Breach Response/Insurance Plan vote for a future board meeting. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart ___ Left Meeting_____
Brown ___ Aye_____
Donoghue ___ Aye_____
Long ___ Aye_____

XI. Call to the Public

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of W-A-Y Michigan in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. We now invite members of the public to address the Board and share any thoughts or concerns. Comments should only be addressed to the person chairing this meeting, and per Board policy should be no longer than three minutes.

WAY Michigan graduate Isis Gibson shared on her positive experience with attending and graduating from WAY Michigan with the board. Ms. Gibson is now attending Albion College. Board President Gregory Brown inquired if she could cite anything that might have made her experience better at WAY Michigan? She indicated that she would have liked to have had more student interaction with her peers. She really likes the credit system that WAY Michigan offers and it's very beneficial for students.

XII. Adjournment at 7:24 pm

It was moved by Gregory Brown and seconded by Jesse Donoghue to adjourn at 7:24 pm. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Bogart ___ Left Meeting_____
Brown ___ Aye_____
Donoghue ___ Aye_____
Long ___ Aye_____

A copy of the meeting minutes are available for public inspection at the offices of WAY Program, 407 E. Fort St. Suite 201, Detroit, MI 48226 within 8 business days for proposed minutes and within 5 business days of approval for approved minutes. Approved minutes will be posted on the WAY Academy's website <http://www.wayprogram.net>. Public notice of this meeting was posted as required by the Open Meetings Act.

The Academy shall comply with subtitle A of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Public Law 101-336, 42 USC § 12101 et seq or any successor law. Should you require specific accommodation(s) please contact WAY Michigan offices at (313) 444-9292 prior to the meeting.

Minutes Certification:

Approved minutes of September 16, 2020 Regular meeting
respectfully submitted,

Maudi Bogart

Board Secretary

10/26/2020

Date

Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: HKEBM-L4RYD-GUW43-JACBS

Document signed by:

	<p>Mandi Bogart Verified E-mail: mandimbogart@gmail.com</p> <p>68.43.100.160 26 Oct 2020 19:15:36 UTC</p>	<p><i>Mandi Bogart</i></p> 
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