

WAY MICHIGAN ACADEMY

407 East Fort - Suite 201

Detroit, MI 48226

Telephone: 313.638.2716

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REGULAR MEETING WAY MICHIGAN ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: 10/12/2023

TIME: 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Globe Building

407 E. Fort

Suite 201

DETROIT, MI 48226

APPROVED

MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: ☒ REGULAR ☐ SPECIAL ☐ PROPOSED ☒ APPROVED

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT DAVID BEAUMONT called the meeting to order at 6:00 ☒ P.M./ ☐ A.M. on Thursday, October 12, 2023.

II. ROLL CALL

Dr. David Beaumont, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ms. Marquita Tharpe, Vice-President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Dr. Tamara Halliburton, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Dr. Schequita Owens, Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Isaiah Pettway, Superintendent, WAY Michigan Academy

Ms. Madeline Black, Executive Director, WAY (**Virtual**)Ms. Kelli Glenn, Interim Finance Director (**Virtual**)

Ms. Sherry Lynem, Interim Finance Director

OTHERS PRESENT (*all or a portion of the meeting*)

Mrs. Vanessa Gulley, Board Liaison, Provision

Mrs. Rachel Horne, Board Liaison, Provision

Mr. Fred Borowski, Field Operations, CMU

THE PROPOSED AGENDA WAS DISTRIBUTED.

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III. PUBLIC COMMENT *(on agenda items only)*

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE Thursday, October 12, 2023 MEETING AGENDA

MOTION: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 MEETING AGENDA WITH CHANGES: REMOVE FY 22 AUDIT PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL.

SUPPORT: TREASURER SHEQUITA OWENS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. APPROVAL OF THE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: TREASURER SHEQUITA OWENS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 MEETING MINUTES.

SUPPORT: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE SECONDED.

AYES: THARPE, HALLIBURTON, OWENS

PRESENT: BEAUMONT

MOTION CARRIED.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

None.

VIII. ESP REPORTS**a. Superintendent Report**

- **Mr. Pettway** provided highlights on the following:
 - The current enrollment is 124.
 - There are 6 enrollment applications that are currently in progress, which will bring the enrollment to 130. The goal is 140.
 - The RAG Grant (just over \$150,000) and MI Kids on Track Grant (\$300 per pupil) will cover the difference in enrollment.
 - MICIP/CSI plan has been approved.
 - One full-time Math Teacher and two Mentors have been hired.

Vice-President Tharpe asked what the credentials of the mentors are and what their function is.

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Mr. Pettway shared that the mentors must have at least 60 credit hours. Their role is to be an initial contact for all students.

Vice-President Tharpe asked if the mentors are subject-matter specific.

Mr. Pettway stated no. The mentors are assigned a caseload of 10 kids.

Treasurer Owens asked how many students were found not proficient.

Mr. Pettway stated that there was a total of 26 kids found not proficient.

Secretary Halliburton asked if those 26 kids will receive special services.

Mr. Pettway stated yes. They will receive additional tutoring, as well as, specifically in Math and ELA, be part of the Interventionists' caseloads.

President Beaumont asked Mr. Pettway if he could provide another report or chart that shows comparisons from year-to-year. He would like to see whether enrollment is trending downward or upward.

Mr. Pettway stated yes.

- **President Beaumont** asked Ms. Lynem if she will have to do a budget modification because of the new funding.

Ms. Lynem stated yes. She would like to present the budget amendment at the December Board meeting, as she would like to make sure that the audit is finalized.

b. **WAY Director Report**

- **Mr. Pettway** shared the following:
 - Overview of September 2023 enrollment.
 - Credit attainment for September 2023.
 - The \$50,000 salary allocation is for a Math Teacher, not a Science Interventionist.
- **President Beaumont** asked if stipends are provided to the faculty for mentoring.

Mr. Pettway said yes. The mentors are not considered full-time faculty, and they are paid through 31a At-Risk funds.

President Beaumont asked if the whole system has experienced an enrollment decrease.

Ms. Black stated enrollment has been maintained at WAY Michigan and the other schools have met their goals.

Mr. Pettway shared that since COVID, many families have opted to have that in-person aspect of the operation. He and James have discussed marketing, and emphasized the benefits of a virtual environment and what that offers to students.

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MOTION: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE MADE A MOTION TO RECEIVE THE ESP REPORTS.

SUPPORT: TREASURER SHEQUITA OWENS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Acceptance of September 2023 Financial Statements

- **Ms. Lynem** stated that there has been no revenue for this fiscal year so far. The actual numbers for revenue will be shared during next month's meeting, after the State Aid is received.

Secretary Halliburton stated that under the Expenses, Section 98c Tutoring is almost \$10,000 over budget, but there is no amount budgeted for that.

Ms. Lynem stated that Section 98c Tutoring was put into the 2022-2023 budget. The grant ran from October 2022 through September 2023, and the tutoring did not happen until after July 1st.

Secretary Halliburton asked if it will still come out of the funds from last year.

Ms. Lynem stated yes. The funds cannot be drawn down until after the tutoring happens. When she does a budget amendment, she will move the budget back to the 2023-2024 budget.

Mr. Pettway shared that the grant year is different from the fiscal year. The fiscal year is from July 1st through June 30th, and the grant year is from October 1st through September 30th.

President Beaumont shared that after a brief discussion with Vice-President Tharpe, she recommended that a Finance Committee be formed. He will let the Treasurer and Vice-President decide how much paper will be needed for the financial reports.

b. Approval of September 2023 Payables Transfer

- **Ms. Lynem** discussed the following:
 - Monies owed as of August 31st was \$148,102.28
 - Monies transferred as of September 30th was \$141,486.50
 - Difference is due to the transfers crossing two months

President Beaumont asked Ms. Lynem to explain again what was owed for August.

Ms. Lynem stated that the \$141,486.50 that was transferred in September, \$100,000 of that amount was for the month of September, and \$41,000 of that amount was still owed from August. The issue is that only \$100,000 can be transferred at a time.

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Vice-President asked if more money is owed for the month of August.

Ms. Lynem stated no. August is all set and nothing else is owed for September. The transfer for September was not completed until October 2nd.

Treasurer Owens shared that she forgot to do the second transfer.

Vice-President Tharpe asked Ms. Lynem if there's a better way to reflect what she just stated, and if the \$48,102.50 is applied toward September's payment.

Ms. Lynem stated yes. all monies that were owed have been transferred.

President Beaumont asked if we are current, based on what we agreed to on September 23rd.

Ms. Lynem stated yes. The total amount that they are requesting to be transferred is \$140,250.60.

Vice President Tharpe asked if we were able to confirm that the person that was discussed on the payroll and presented on the statement did not receive any our money.

Ms. Lynem stated yes. We confirmed that none of the amount that was charged to that line item, none of that amount was paid to that person.

President Beaumont asked Treasurer Owens if she has any reaction to the concept of establishing a Finance Committee.

Treasurer Owens stated that she is for it, but she will not be available until some time next month.

MOTION: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE MADE A MOTION TO ESTABLISH A FINANCE COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF TWO BOARD MEMBERS.

SUPPORT: PRESIDENT DAVID BEAUMONT SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- Mr. Borowski shared that it is good practice for the Board to have a minimum of 3 Committees: Finance, Curriculum/Program and Governance.

MOTION: PRESIDENT BEAUMONT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SEPTEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2023 PAYABLES TRANSFER AMOUNT OF \$140,250.60.

SUPPORT: VICE-PRESIDENT MARQUITA THARPE SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

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XII. AUTHORIZER COMMENTS

- **Mr. Borowski** provided highlights on the following:
 - Reauthorization is in process.
 - Potential Board Candidate Dr. Rochelle Massingill.
 - Email from CMU's public relations person regarding some of the things going on in Lansing.
 - Corresponding with their Michigan State Senator, State Representative and Congressman regarding 15 bills that could affect charter schools.

Mr. Pettway shared that WAY already has a working relationship with their Michigan State Senator, State Representative, and Congressman.

Ms. Black shared that it would be nice to obtain funding to take a group of students up to Lansing to meet those individuals.

Mr. Borowski stated that it is a good idea, but it would be better to get the Representatives to come to the building so that the students don't miss a day of school. Also, meetings could virtually allow the students to feel in touch as well.

XIII. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Mr. Pettway** shared that the landlord has made a proposal regarding the Landlord Lease Agreement, which has been turned over to the Board's attorney, Aimee Gibbs, for review. The attorney will reach out to President Beaumont.
President Beaumont stated that Mr. Pettway should never give their Attorney anything without asking again.
Mr. Pettway stated that the landlord sent the information to the Attorney.
President Beaumont stated that it is problematic for anyone to approach the Board's Attorney without the Board's knowledge or permission.
Mr. Pettway stated that he understood.
- **President Beaumont** stated that the Board needs to consider having a retreat to discuss items such as the reauthorization process, lease agreement, ESP agreement, etc. He asked that the Board suggest some dates to the Board Liaison and to consider a Saturday morning for the retreat.
Mrs. Gulley stated that she will send out a poll for November 4th, 11th, and 18th, and , if needed, add some dates for December as well.

XIV. BOARD COMMENTS

President Beaumont thanked Vice-President Tharpe for running the Special Board Meeting on September 23rd.

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XV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: SECRETARY TAMARA HALLIBURTON MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:15 ☒ P.M./ ☐ A.M.

SUPPORT: PRESIDENT DAVID BEAUMONT SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,

Rachel Horne

Recording Secretary

10/19/2023

Date

Approved by the WAY Michigan Academy Board of Directors:

Tamara L Halliburton
Tamara L Halliburton (Nov 13, 2023 10:37 EST)

Board Secretary

Nov 13, 2023

Date

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