

W-A-Y Academy Detroit
(Widening Advancements for Youth)
19321 West Chicago, Detroit, MI 48228
**Note: January 21, 2020, Regular Meeting will be held at
19321 W. Chicago, Detroit, MI. 48228**

Board of Directors' Regular Meeting
January 21, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Minutes

I. Call to Order by the President

Roll Call:

Murray X

Chavez-Wazeerud-Din X

Torres Absent

Flanagan X

Moesner X

II. Approval of Agenda

Motion made to approve the January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

III. Call to the Public

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of W-A-Y Academy 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.

None.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes, Regular Meeting, December 17, 2019

Motion made to approve the December 17, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

V. Educational Service Provider's Report /Superintendent/Director's Report

Southwest Director Jocelyn Farkas shared information around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment at the Southwest Campus and provided the board with a handout. Our current enrollment number is 161. We currently have a waitlist and plan to add enrollment from the waitlist if one of our active researchers drops

before the beginning of the count period. Board Member Patricia Moesner inquired as to why Southwest is limiting enrollment at this time. Ms. Farkas indicated we are working very hard on working with our researchers on testing, as well as, other work to get them on track. Superintendent Black shared information on this as well.

Southwest had three researchers graduate at the recent commencement. We are focusing on our 8th grade researchers and looking forward to helping them transition to the High School. As we prepare for spring testing, it is our plan to focus on SAT Prep with our 9th-11th grade researchers, through Khan Academy.

During the month of December our Middle School researchers were working toward the attainment goal of 0.5 credits for the month. We had several researchers working on Aleks Math, as well as, Reading Supplemental Practices. Those do not always translate into HERO Credit. The shortened month also impacted credit. We are looking forward to MS Live Learning sessions, provided in HERO, beginning in January.

Our High School researchers worked on hands-on projects, in Chemistry and Fine Arts. Our lab goal was to focus on projects that would earn credit in those specific areas. We collaborated with the Expert Team, to provide two experiences: Ugly Sweaters and Snow Globes. Our lab attendance on those days, was the highest of the month. Overall credit attainment may have been affected by the shortened month. We are actively working to build parent/family awareness that researchers are able to work at home, even when the building is closed.

Our virtual researchers are those who are not able to be in the building for lab sessions, for a variety of reasons. After reviewing the December data, our Team Leader will be making personal contact and conducting home visits to our virtual students in January. We will work as a team to ensure that their needs are being met and that we are working to remove barriers to learning.

Our overall building attendance was better in December. We replaced our Wireless Infrastructure and are pleased to report that we only experienced 1 minor internet outage in December. We made several phone calls, to reach out to families and we made weekly calls/texts, through School Mint. The weekly calls were to alert families/researchers about the things/projects taking place in the lab for the week.

Points of Pride:

1. Our staff hosted and prepared breakfast for students on the last day before the holiday, to reward positive behaviors in our school. Board President Murray suggested offering more reward days to incentivize student attendance.
2. We graduated three researchers in the month of December.
3. Our internet access has been revitalized and our equipment updated. We only tracked one outage in December.
4. As a team, SW decided to embark on rebranding and revitalizing PBIS to build a stronger culture and positive school climate. The journey begins in January with our school leadership team. Board President Murray asked how we are measuring the systems that we use? Superintendent Black indicated she'd be sharing out on this later in the meeting.

West Campus Director Charles Hyman shared information around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment and provided the board with a handout. WAY Academy West enrollment after the fall count is 160

researchers. The goal is to maintain 160 researchers throughout the year. We currently have a waiting list for researchers that are requesting enrollment, in which we will conduct enrollment, when an active student is dropped/removed from our school; we will replace the inactive researcher with a researcher from the waiting list.

Credit for the month of December has declined from .5948 in November to .4409 in December. We are constantly focusing on getting researchers to understand our HERO system, our credit goals, and how to work the software needed to complete assignments. That includes getting students and family to understand the system, the projects they need to complete, how to check their progress and grades; daily, weekly and monthly, as well as, using the online experts. Our goal is to create an environment that is centered on a positive culture and academic success.

Attendance percentages for the month of December were 43% for High School and 47% for the middle school. We are trying to collaborate with the community, businesses and other academic/training programs, to help increase our attendance through engaging STEM, STREAM, Robotic and work ready programs and engaging project base programs, as well as, calling parents and researchers to discuss barriers for lack of attendance and credits. Board President Michael Murray asked what measures are in place pertaining to lack of attendance? Mr. Hyman explained the truancy policy which also includes calls to home, home visits, parent meetings, etc.

Points of Pride:

1. Our researchers reached our PBIS schoolwide celebration goal for the month of December in which we celebrated on December 19, 2019. Students enjoyed playing basketball, games, and ice-cream sandwiches.
2. Researchers enjoyed their third "Game/Movie Day" for the 2019/20 school year for achieving .500 credits for the month.
3. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority donated 16 coats for our families at West Campus to help support families during the winter season.

Board President Michael Murray asked why credit attainment was low in October? Mr. Hyman shared we had numerous new middle school students who were still getting acclimated to our program.

VI. LSSU Authorizer's Liaison 's Report - Garnet Green – LSSU representative

Mr. Green wanted to welcome Dr. Moesner to the board. Mr. Green also shared it was board appreciation month and provided each of the board members with a gift on behalf of Lake Superior State University. Board training webinar will be scheduled in April. After you attend the board training webinar, please write down three things that you learned from the webinar, send the information to Jenny Peterman and she will give the board members training credit. Board members can check the website for various webinars that are available.

Mr. Green shared on the restoration of the Charter School funding. Form letter which can be used for thanking the legislative body for their work on the funding restoration. Mr. Green will send the letter template to Michelle Sarkody who will share with the board.

Motion made to approve "thank you letter" to legislation by Sheila Flanagan/seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Board President Murray inquired on the recent training and was wondering why this training couldn't get scheduled on the weekend so that more board members could attend. Mr. Green shared on the process of scheduling and indicated he'd share the board requests for weekend session information with LSSU.

VII. Old Business

Update for Potential West Campus Move: Paul Fershee was present to discuss with the board.

Motion made to go into closed session by Michael Murray/seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray - Aye
Chavez-Wazeerud-Din - Aye
Flanagan - Aye
Moesner - Aye

Motion made to return to open session by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud/seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray - Aye
Chavez-Wazeerud-Din - Aye
Flanagan - Aye
Moesner - Aye

Motion to approve Lease Provisions in Concept for Submission to LSSU by Laura Chavez/seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business

A. Discussion Items:

1. Discussion of Academic

- Establishing goals
- How to monitor goals
- How to monitor current student's vs. established students

Board President Murray indicated that the board would want to see ongoing data at future board meetings. Superintendent Black indicated she'd share information around MiData with the board at the February board meeting. Director Jocelyn Farkas shared additional information around researcher testing. Board member Sheila Flanagan inquired as to what type of conclusions can we draw by our researchers who are completing credits, however not passing test. Do the credits still reflect students meeting their goals? Ms. Black shared information around student testing. Ms.

Farkas shared that our credit attainment is based on standards that are set by the state, and therefore should be meeting their target goals.

Discussion was held around hiring a reading specialist in the future to serve students at our Detroit campus sites. We could potentially use some title funds for this position. Board President Michael Murray asked if there are any intentions in place to assist students until the reading specialist has been hired? Southwest Director Jocelyn Farkas shared on reading implementations she is establishing at Southwest to assist with her researchers. This includes reading time at the library. Board member Laura Chavez indicated she has team members at the bank that would come and read at the Southwest Campus. She would need something to present to the bank ahead of time and could obtain volunteers. Board Member Patricia Moesner asked for clarification on the age out process. Ms. Black explained the age out process.

Board President Michael Murray asked that we discuss Adult Ed programs at the next board meeting. He also inquired as to what we are doing to address “mental health” issues? Ms. Black shared we are using a program called Mindfulness, which provides resources that can be used at our schools.

Board asked that Superintendent Black forward her power point to them via email. Board Member Laura Chavez asked if the board could have a meeting date on a future Saturday? Board had conversation around suggested dates. March seems to be good for the board members.

IX. Board Committee Reports/Comments/Action

Finance Committee:

A. Discussion Items:

1. Monthly Financial Report –December 2019– accept subject to audit

Kelli Glenn shared the financial information with the board and provided them with a handout. Due to the restoration of state funding, the board should anticipate a budget amendment to be presented at a future meeting for approval. Board President Michael Murray inquired on negotiating the management agreement which would allow the school to be eligible for the state aid note program next school year. Ms. Glenn shared on the process of how the negotiations of the agreement would work. Ms. Glenn shared this process with the board and indicated this needs to be complete by June 20, 2020. Board President Murray indicated we should move forward on this.

B. Action Items:

1. Accept December 2019 Monthly Financial Report – accept subject to audit

Motion made to accept the December 2019 Monthly Financial Report as presented by Laura Chavez/Seconded by Patricia Moesner. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

X. Announcements:

Next Regularly Scheduled Board meeting will be: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at W-A-Y Academy Detroit, Southwest Campus, 8701 W. Vernor, Detroit, MI. 48209

Garnet Green wanted to remind the board that Board Member Sheila Flanagan's term will expire on June 30, 2020. She will need to complete/submit the reappointment application submitted by March 20, 2020.

Board Member Sheila Flanagan shared that she will not be able to attend the February board meeting.

XI. Call to the Public

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of W-A-Y Academy 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.

None.

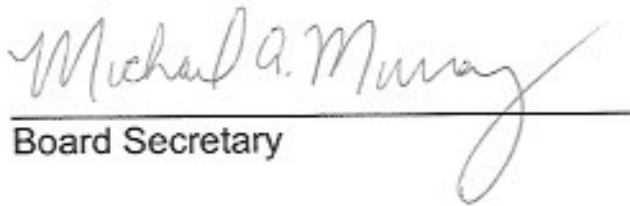
XII. Adjournment at 7:53 pm.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:53 pm by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Laura Chavez. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Minutes of all Board of Director's meetings are available after approval by the Board and will be posted on the W-A-Y Academy Detroit web site, www.wayprogram.net. Public notice of this meeting was posted as required by the Open Meetings Act.

Minutes Certification:

Approved minutes of January 21, 2020 regular meeting respectfully submitted,



Board Secretary

2/18/20
Date