

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

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

Minutes

I. Call to Order by the President at 6:06 pm

Roll Call:

Murray X

Chavez-Wazeerud-Din X

Torres Absent

Flanagan X

Moesner X

II. Approval of Agenda – Board President Michael Murray requested adding under Old Business Discussion Item #1-West Campus lease and Old Business Action Item #1-Approval of West Campus Lease LSSU liaison Garnet Green shared that the board would need to vote on the lease tonight as well.

Motion made to approve the April 21, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by Laura Chavez /Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray Aye

Chavez-Wazeerud-Din Aye

Flanagan Aye

Moesner Aye

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, March 24, 2020

Motion made to approve the March 24, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes by Laura Chavez/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_____

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

Madeline Black shared on community group proposal/grant that was sent to United WAY and WAY received \$6000 from this proposal/grant. We will purchase incentives for our researchers who are working at home. We will be providing them with online Amazon gift cards.

Website update shows link on COVID 19 which is useful for our parents in providing them with resources.

Our Continuity plan has been submitted and approved by Lake Superior State University. The plan was shared with the board prior to this meeting.

West Campus Director Charles Hyman shared information around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment. He also provided this information with the board virtually.

WAY Academy West enrollment after the fall count is 160 students for the 2019-2020 school year; However, returning back from break, we have been targeting are high absent and low credit attaining students, in which we've been calling, emailing and visiting those students homes that have not been productive or in contact with us. For those reasons we've had to drop many students from our program. So our enrollment number has decrease significantly from 160 to 127.

Board requested information on how many researchers have logged on during the month of April and shared at the next board meeting. Mr. Hyman indicated that all researchers logged in during the month of March.

Credit for the month of March, has decreased from (.5776) in February to (.3336) in March. We are constantly focusing on getting students 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. We have recently outlined your virtual expectations for students, parents and staff.

ZERO CREDIT EARNED RESEARCHERS – MARCH 2020

In the month of March, we show 59 students with "Zero Credit" earned. Out of the 59 students:

- 30+ students did not have reliable technology to use.
- 59 students have been signing into Hero, starting projects but not fully completing or submitting them.
- 7 students have medical and or family extenuating circumstances.

- 28 have not responded to any contact attempts, nor has his parent, since March 16. We will be sending out first notices to students that have not made con

- 0 are on academic probation, parents/students have received the first notice and have not made contact or attempts to complete work.

Students that have not had access to technology, will be credited .125 credits, for each week they did not have access. Our Leadership team will add the compensatory credit, once the student confirms receipt of their school issued technology. Students without technology will also receive weekly phone calls from the Team Leader or their mentor. The staff member will walk the student through a section of a project, scribe it and submit it on their behalf.

Students that are signing in and not completing whole sections of projects, will be contacted by phone and will have additional instructional coaching by the Team Leader and Lab Mentor. Students on academic probation, for the second month, will be offered a final opportunity, for a recommitment plan. If they do not respond by April 30, they will be placed on a soft- drop and a drop letter will be mailed home.

The attendance percentages for the month of March were 47% until the school build was closed due to the pandemic. We are currently using school Hero login as the attendance, starting in April.

Discussion was held around technology for some of our researchers who don't currently have internet access and are experiencing technology issues.

Points of Prides

1. WAY Academy West robot was completed and ready for competition.
2. WAY Academy West "My Black Family Reunion" play was schedule for Month but will have to reschedule

Board President Murray inquired if we could offer a COVID 19 course for credit? Mr. Hyman and Ms. Farkas indicated this is a possibility as an educational opportunity for our researchers. Ms. Farkas shared a sample of what this might look like and held additional conversation around this. Ms. Black indicated our school social worker is creating a staff video around COVID 19.

Ms. Black shared information around marketing for our Detroit schools. We need to get the message out to our current researchers to re-enroll. Ms. Black shared that some parents will be looking for an alternate option for their students in the fall. Ms. Black shared we will advertise the option of working online, dual enrollment, one-on-one options, technology, etc. We will begin marketing next week. Also plan to host some virtual open houses.

Board President Murray asked Mr. Hyman for an update on researcher who had recently been expelled/suspended from school. Mr. Hyman indicated the parent has been seeking social work services for the student. Academically the researcher has not been working as we would have liked. Board President Murray asked if Mr. Hyman could contact parent and let them know the board asked about the situation and wanted to support them.

Southwest Campus Director Jocelyn Farkas shared information around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment. She also provided this information with the board virtually.

Our enrollment number for the Spring Count is 129. We are currently in the re-enrollment period and will be scheduling New Enrollment Drives/Activities, once it is safe to do so.
The Middle School students continue to earn credit from the Expert live sessions, as well as the local teacher hosted sessions. Students are being monitored daily, and their parents have been provided a schedule of the Live Sessions.

Credit Info: High School credit has remained fairly static since December. The drop in March Credit can be attributed to the closure of the school building and some misunderstanding regarding the Governor's school closure order. We feel that we have clarified the Governor's order and have presented our Continuation of Education plan to our families. We expect credit attainment to increase, once all students have technology.

During the count period, the credit gains for Virtual students increased, due to the consistent communication from a mentor. We will continue to monitor the data to see if adding a mentor for Virtual students will be viable for the new school year.

ZERO CREDIT EARNED RESEARCHERS – MARCH 2020 - In the month of March, we show 43 students with "Zero Credit" earned.

Out of the **43** students:

- **16** students did not have reliable technology to use.
- **20** students have been signing into Hero, starting projects but not fully completing or submitting them. - **4** students have medical and/or family extenuating circumstances.
- **2** are on academic probation, parents/students have received the first notice and have not made contact or attempts to complete work.
- **1** has not responded to any contact attempts, nor has his parent, since March 16. He has been soft-dropped as of March 21, 2020.

Students that have not had access to technology, will be credited .125 credits, for each week they did not have access. Our Leadership team will add the compensatory credit, once the student confirms receipt of their school issued technology. Students without technology will also receive weekly phone calls from the Team Leader or their mentor. The staff member will walk the student through a section of a project, scribe it and submit it on their behalf.

Students that are signing in and not completing whole sections of projects, will be contacted by phone and will have additional instructional coaching by the Team Leader and Lab Mentor.

Students on academic probation, for the second month, will be offered a final opportunity, for a recommitment plan. If they do not respond by April 30, they will be placed on a soft-drop and a drop letter will be mailed home.

Points of Pride:

1. Several of our students are taking advantage of 1 on 1 tutoring time, to complete Math requirements.
2. Top Credit earners for March will be recognized in our newsletter

100% of researchers logged into the HERO system during the month of March.

Board President Michael Murray asked about plan for summer school closure during month of July? Ms. Black indicated she's busy working on what graduation might look like, however, staff will be available online for those researchers who work during the month of July.

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

Garnet Green shared a thank you to Superintendent Black and her team, along with Melissa Weisburger from LSSU who put together and submitted a very strong Continuity Plan on behalf of WAY Academy Detroit.

VII. Old Business

Discussion Items:

1. Discussion of West Campus Lease

Discussion was held around the attorneys who had been reviewing the lease. Mr. Fershee shared information with the board around the lease. Mr. Fershee indicated that state requirements were followed. WAY Academy board reviewed the lease and added adjustments which were necessary. The lease then went to LSSU and Dykema for review. All reviews have been completed and Mr. Fershee provided the board with a copy of this lease prior to the board meeting.

Action Items:

2. Approval of West Campus Lease

Motion made to accept the West Campus Lease as presented allowing Board President Murray consent to make any changes needed by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Laura Chavez. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray _Aye_____
Chavez-Wazeerud-Din _Aye_____
Flanagan__Aye_____
Moesner__Aye_____

Mr. Fershee shared information and provided an update on the recent damage to the Southwest Campus Building. The bulk of the damage will be covered by landlord insurance and WAY Academy insurance. Work is anticipated to be completed by August 2020.

Board President Murray asked if building windows are covered with unbreakable glass? If not, what would be additional cost to add this feature? Mr. Fershee indicated they are looking at adding barriers to prevent future incidents from occurring. Carpet will be replaced, and interior will be painted.

VIII. New Business

A. Discussion Items:

1. Continuity of learning and COVID 19 Response

Superintendent Madeline Black shared information around this with the board. The plan has been submitted and approved by LSSU.

2. WAY Academy Audit Engagement Letter 6/30/2020

Kelli Glenn shared on the Audit Engagement letter and provided a copy to the board prior to the meeting and presented it virtually as well.

B. Action Items:

1. Approve Continuity of learning and COVID 19 Response Plan

Motion made to approve the Continuity of Learning and COVID 19 Response Plan as presented by Laura Chavez/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____

2. Approval of Audit Engagement Letter 6/30/2020

Motion made to approve the Audit Engagement Letter 6/30/2020 as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Laura Chavez. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray __Aye____
Chavez-Wazeerud-Din __Aye____
Flanagan __Aye____
Moesner __Aye____

IX. Board Committee Reports/Comments/Action

Finance Committee:

A. Discussion Items:

1. Monthly Financial Report March 2020– accept subject to audit

Kelli Glenn shared information around the March 2020 financial report and provided the board with this information prior to the board meeting and shared it virtually as well.

B. Action Items:

1. Accept March 2020 Monthly Financial Report – accept subject to audit

Motion made to accept the March 2020 Monthly Financial Report as presented by Laura Chavez/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_____

X. Announcements:

Next Regularly Scheduled Board meeting will be: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at W-A-Y Academy Detroit,
West Campus, 19321 W. Chicago Ave., Detroit, MI. 48228

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 7:21 pm

Motion made to adjourn at 7:21 pm by Laura Chavez/Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray __Aye_____
Chavez-Wazeerud-Din __Aye_____
Flanagan __Aye_____
Moesner __Aye_____

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 April 21, 2020 Regular meeting respectfully submitted,

Sheila Flanagan

Board Secretary



05/20/2020

Date

Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: AJDBL-YUHGS-ZB7ZE-4PK3E

Document signed by:

	<p>Sheila Flanagan Verified E-mail: sheilamflanagan@yahoo.com</p> <p><small>IP: 198.208.46.84 Date: 20 May 2020 23:28:59 UTC</small></p>	<p><i>Sheila Flanagan</i></p> 
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