

W-A-Y Academy Detroit
(Widening Advancements for Youth)
19321 W. Chicago, Detroit, MI. 48228
Note: May 19, 2020, Regular Meeting will be held virtually

Board of Directors' Regular Meeting
May 19, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Minutes

I. Call to Order by the President at 6:03 pm

Roll Call:

Murray X

Chavez-Wazecrud-Din Absent

Torres X

Flanagan X

Moesner Absent

II. Approval of Agenda

Board President Michael Murray requested adding approval of Spring 2020 Policy Updates under New Business Action Item #1, he also requested to remove approval of ESP Contract under new business action items. Mr. Murray also requested adding approval of Proposed 2020/21 School Calendar under New Business Action Item #2.

Motion made to approve the May 19, 2020 Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Renee Torres. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray Aye

Flanagan Aye

Torres 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, April 21, 2020

Motion made to approve the April 21, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Renee Torres. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray __Aye____

Flanagan __Aye__

Torres __Aye____

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

Superintendent Madeline Black shared information around student engagement during this time. Staff have been diligent in working with students to keep them engaged. She's excited about working with and fully supporting our charters during this time.

Southwest Director Jocelyn Farkas shared information with the board around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment. She shared this information with the board online as well. Attendance is currently at 129. We are currently in the re-enrollment period and will be scheduling New Enrollment Drives/Activities, once it is safe to do so.

Credit attainment and engagement plan: School Wide focus

Since the Southwest building was closed in March, due to the pandemic, we have been closely monitoring credit student engagement and credit attainment. What we learned from March, was that we needed a different approach to re-engaging students and reaching out to families. After reviewing our plan, as a team, we decided that all staff would become "teachers" and each student was assigned a personal mentor. Our goal, as a team, is to make contact with our assigned students weekly. Each mentor has reviewed and learned how to scribe HERO projects for students and is taking time to walk students through modules over the phone or over Zoom. We have also created some short response questions, that are standards focused and content specific, so students without technology can still participate and earn credit. Then mentors are having discussions with students and scribing answers.

While we still have students and families that have been difficult to reach and are unresponsive, we are making our best efforts to ensure that all students have support and access. We are looking forward to seeing our May data, as this action plan will have been running for the entire month.

Zero Credit Earned for Researchers: April

In the month of April, we show 37 students with "Zero Credit" earned.

Out of the 37 students:

- 16 students did not have reliable technology to use. (Down to 5, really 4)
- 14 students have been signing into Hero, starting projects but not fully completing or submitting them. - 4 students have medical and or family extenuating circumstances.
- 3 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 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 their personal mentor.

Students on academic probation, for the second month, will continue to receive notices and letters from the school. With the suspension of truancy filings, from the Governor, we are going to continue reaching out with care and concern and reminding families of the education law.

We have staff working as mentors with our students on a one-to-one basis during this time. We still have some families that we are unable to reach, however, we are trying to communicate with them by mail, email, phone, etc...

Monthly Attendance

Attendance is being tracked weekly, based on Hero logins. The mentors are also tracking their two-way communications weekly.

Points of Pride:

1. 13 students earned Gold Level Honor Roll, earning over 1 credit in April.
2. We have 4 graduates in April!
3. Our Special Education teacher, Erica Breshgold's mentor group earned over 17 credits in April!

West Director Charles Hyman shared information with the board around enrollment, attendance and credit attainment. He shared this information with the board online as well.

West Campus enrollment number is currently at 126. We are currently in the re-enrollment period and will be scheduling New Enrollment Drives/Activities, once it is safe to do so.

Credit attainment and engagement plan: School Wide focus

Credit for the month of April, has increased from (.3336) in March to (.3809) in April. Since our building was closed in March, due to the pandemic, we have been closely monitoring credit student engagement and credit attainment. What we learned from March, was that we needed a different approach to re-engaging students and reaching out to families. After reviewing our plan, as a team, we decided that all staff would become "teachers" and each student was assigned a personal mentor. Our goal, as a team, is to make contact with our assigned students weekly. Each mentor has reviewed and learned how to scribe HERO projects for students and is taking time to walk students through modules over the phone or over Zoom. We have also created some short response questions, that are standards focused and content specific, so students without

technology can still participate and earn credit. Then mentors are having discussions with students and scribing answers.

While we still have students and families that have been difficult to reach and are unresponsive, we are making our best efforts to ensure that all students have support and access. We are looking forward to seeing our May data, as this action plan will have been running for the entire month.

Zero Credit Earned for Researcher for April

In the month of April, we show 15 students with "Zero Credit" earned. Out of the 16 students:

- 7 students did not have reliable technology to use.
- 8 students have been signing into Hero, starting projects but not fully completing or submitting them.
- 0 students have medical and or family extenuating circumstances.
- 3 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.

Monthly Attendance

Attendance is being track on a weekly based by HERO log in, mentors are also track their two way communication weekly.

Points of Prides

1. WAY Academy West more students are logging to Hero and communicating with teachers
2. WAY Academy West has had one student graduate in the Month of April
3. WAY Academy West has had 3 students to reach over 1.00 credit for April.

Board Member Sheila Flanagan wanted to take a moment and say good job to Charles and Jocelyn for implementing the mentor program and working with the staff to embrace this program.

Superintendent Madeline Black shared we are working on the return to school plan and will be sharing this with the board once all the details have been determined. She shared that upcoming graduates will be having drive-by parades, lawn signs, etc... offered to our upcoming graduates.

Superintendent Black shared on a new appointment system which will assist our students with setting up zoom interaction with their teachers.

Superintendent Black want to remind the board that their Board Self Evaluation is due by June 30th, and the ESP Evaluation is due in July. She will send this information to the board for review and completion prior to the deadline.

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

LSSU Liaison Garnet Green wanted to remind the board that the compliance grant award invoices are due to Jenny Peterman asap. Superintendent Black shared she will have those submitted to Jenny by Friday.

VII. Old Business

None.

VIII. New Business

A. Discussion Items:

1. Board Policy Spring 2020 Update

Superintendent Madeline Black shared on the Spring 2020 Board Policy updates with the board and provided them with information on the updates.

2. Approval of proposed 2020/2021 School Calendar

Superintendent Madeline Black shared information on the proposed 2020/21 School Calendar and provided the board with a copy online for review.

3. Potential Budget Reductions/Impacts

Kelli Glenn shared information with the board around the economic impacts due to COVID 19. The school aid fund is indicating there will be a reduction for the 19/20 fiscal year, which will be shared with the board once it's been determined.

Ms. Glenn shared budget information with the board around what these cuts might look like. This could potentially look like a reduction of funding in the amount of around \$200,000. We could take the hit on our fund balance, or we could obtain ESSR funds to assist with the budget. There is a list of how the ESSR funds can be used (i.e. Title I, COVID 19 response efforts, etc.).

Board Member Sheila Flanagan inquired on additional information pertaining to the ESSR funds. Ms. Glenn shared information with the board around applying for the funds. The ESSR funds are "one-time" funds that are available to the school at this time. Ms. Flanagan asked about taking the one time

hit vs. using the ESSR funds for the following school year. Superintendent Black shared we'd want to use the ESSR funds to ensure that our facilities stay clean for the next school year, also would want to use some for student supports.

Board President Michael Murray shared that we should lean on the side of being conservative in budgeting for the next school year.

4. PSA State Aid Note Program

Kelli Glenn shared information around the PSA State Aid Note Program with the board. The academy will likely need to borrow monies to start the school year based on when the academy receives their state aid funding payments. Ms. Glenn shared the process, qualifications and timeline around borrowing. If approved, the funding would arrive in September.

5. ESP Contract Change

Ms. Glenn indicated there is progress on the documentation and she will present this to the board once she has the information. Ms. Glenn indicated the board may need to have a special board meeting to approve this contract change prior to the June board meeting.

6. West Lease Update

Superintendent Black shared information around the West Campus lease. This campus will now see a reduction in the rent. Superintendent Black indicated she will sign the lease once approved (with the board's approval) and get it to Chris Oshelski at LSSU. Board Member Renee Torres asked if the school would be losing any space? Ms. Black indicated we would not lose any space.

B. Action Items:

1. Accept Spring 2020 Board Policy Updates

Motion made to accept the Spring 2020 Board Policy Updates as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Renee Torres. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray ___Aye___

Flanagan ___Aye___

Torres ___Aye___

2. Approval of proposed 2020/21 School Calendar

Motion made to approve the proposed 2020/21 School Calendar as presented by Renee Torres/Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray ___Aye___
Flanagan ___Aye___
Torres ___Aye___

3. Approve West Lease

Motion made to approve the West Campus Lease as presented allowing Madeline Black to sign the lease by Renee Torres /Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray ___Aye___
Flanagan ___Aye___
Torres ___Aye___

IX. Board Committee Reports/Comments/Action

Finance Committee:

A. Discussion Items:

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

Kelli Glenn shared the April 2020 financial report with the board and provided them with the information prior to the meeting.

B. Action Items:

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

Motion made to accept the April 2020 Monthly Financial Report as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Renee Torres. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray ___Aye___
Flanagan ___Aye___
Torres ___Aye___

X. Announcements:

Next Regularly Scheduled Board meeting will be: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at W-A-Y Academy Detroit, Southwest Campus, 8701 W. Vernor Hwy., Detroit, MI. 48209

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.

XII. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn at 7:14 pm by Renee Torres/Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Murray __Aye____

Flanagan __Aye____

Torres __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 May 19, 2020 Regular meeting respectfully submitted,

Sheila Flanagan

Board Secretary

06/25/2020

Date

Signature Certificate

Document Ref.: VD9XZ-EFLWP-ZCTAE-RG2JX

Document signed by:

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  | <p>Sheila Flanagan Verified E-mail: sheilamflanagan@yahoo.com</p> <p>OR:32-15.230 25 Jun 2020 23:50:55 UTC</p> | <p><i>Sheila Flanagan</i></p>  |
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Page 1 of 1



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