

W-A-Y Academy Detroit
(Widening Advancements for Youth)
8701 West Vernor Highway, Detroit, MI 48209
**Note: Tuesday, October 16, 2018, Regular Meeting will be held at
West Campus, 19321 W. Chicago Ave., Detroit, MI 48228**

Board of Directors' Regular Meeting
October 16, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Financial Meeting Scheduled to begin at 5:45 p.m.

I. Call to Order by the President at 6:00 pm

Roll Call:

Chavez-Wazeerud-Din X

Flanagan X

Murray X

Torres X

II. Approval of Agenda

Motion made to approve the October 16, 2018 agenda as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Laura Chavez. 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, September 17, 2018

Motion made to approve the September 17, 2018 regular meeting minutes by Renee Torres/Seconded by Laura Chavez. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

V. Audit presentation by The Rehmann Group

Nate Balderman from The Rehmann Group shared audit presentation information and handout/report to the board members. Mr. Balderman shared information and asked the board to reach out to him should any members have any follow-up questions pertaining to the audit.

Financial statement information was shared and Mr. Balderman indicated the overall information was provided for the audit. He encouraged the board to review the Management Discussion & Analysis section.

Additional conversation was shared around the information included in the handout/report. The report showed no findings within the audit and information that was provided to The Rehmann Group for the audit.

Mr. Balderman shared one comment on the final report pertaining to internal journal entries, which didn't have a negative impact on the audit.

Board member Sheila Flanagan had a question around changes that may be occurring in 2021, which Mr. Balderman addressed. Board President Murray asked if any changes are pending in the future which project a different picture based on state funding legislation. Mr. Balderman shared he was not anticipating any changes in this regard.

Board congratulated Finance department for their work on this audit.

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

Jennifer Hernandez shared enrollment:

Southwest Campus has 167 students enrolled (67 students have recently grad)

West Campus has 120 students enrolled

East Campus has 49 students enrolled

Shared on enrollment and marketing strategies that will be ongoing throughout the entire school year. We had previously been working with Schola Marketing. Kyle Karriker (Ms. Hernandez's assistant) will be working on updating our marketing pieces and ensuring they are in place prior to the count period.

Ms. Hernandez shared on student push to ensure the currently enrolled students are engaged, working, and producing work within the program. Board President Murray shared he would like to keep it this way as it shows the students are working and we are not just enrolling students just to have students.

Comprehensive Support and Improvement School (CSI) - State is moving on requirements and we are looking at obtaining a \$70,000 grant for each of our schools. This grant will run through Wayne RESA and we can work with them on how the monies are utilized. This would provide supports for some of our teachers to stay after hours and assist our students. We would also have support from Wayne RESA to assist with our needs throughout this process.

DRIVE One East Campus – As discussed at the last board meeting, Lakeshore Consortium has been busing students into the school for the Drive One program. We are working on a proposal/contract with Lakeshore on how to obtain monies from the district to assist our school. Mr. Glen Taylor is currently working with Drive One on this proposal/contract.

Ms. Hernandez shared a handout with the board on data reporting information, which is provided to Lake Superior State University on an annual basis. This information shares information on our goals, student growth (performance series testing), student achievement (Mstep, Psat 9 & 10, SAT), academy specific goals and results.

Board President Murray asked what measures would be taken to improve reading skills. Ms. Hernandez shared on shortage of Reading Specialists and shared we have posted for ELA teachers. She shared that

increased writing would be written into the plan for the CSI grant and would be implemented at our campus sites. Board asked for clarification on if we are not paying these teachers enough for the Reading Specialist position. Ms. Hernandez shared that currently Michigan has a shortage of this type of teacher and are hoping to fill this gap when we work with Wayne RESA on the upcoming grant.

Parent attending meeting and Board President Murray requested the data information be placed on the website.

Board President Murray shared on how we can measure the data in an effort to address any issues that may arise and address them sooner. Ms. Hernandez shared on retention information that was shared by the marketing firm Schola. We'd like to track all of our students, however, we need to work on retention. As we focus on marketing, one of the things we want to achieve is market for our current students in an effort to retain them over the course of their high school career. Ms. Hernandez indicated that she could provide additional information around this at a future board meeting. Board member Renee Torres asked if we have the data as to why they students are leaving? Ms. Hernandez shared we have this information and it gets reported to the state throughout the year. Board member Laura Chavez asked if we do some type of quarterly review as to their intentions with staying enrolled at our school? Ms. Hernandez shared information on why students leave due to various circumstances and often times return to the school to enroll at another time.

Parent attending board meeting shared that people who have viewed the school are not impressed. (She indicated there are curriculum changes, the school can't keep teachers, and communication is lacking.) Parent shared on her child's experience at the West Campus. She shared on a conversation that was held recently between her and the School leader.

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

Garnet Green shared that LSSU is looking at having RECON pertaining to water testing. Additional information will be sent. Chris Oshelski wanted to remind the board about the board vacancy that is available. Chris Oshelski and the Charter School office will be putting new/updated information on the Charter School website. They will be trying to do more electronic communication in the future. Mr. Green provided the Charter School Board manual with the board for each academy site. The manuals are to remain onsite at the academy sites.

Mr. Green shared gifts with board members, which Jenny Peterman had sent.

As a reminder, Conflict of Interest forms will be due in the near future.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

None.

A. Action Items:

X. Board Committee Reports/Comments/Action

Finance Committee:

A. Discussion Items:

1. Monthly Financial Report – September 2018 – accept subject to audit

Kelli Glenn shared on the September 2018 financial statements and had previously provided the board with a digital handout. Deficits run high this time of year and clear themselves out as the year goes on. Board President Murray requested that Ms. Glenn share on the current contracts with new board member Ms. Chavez. Ms. Glenn shared that there is a contract between LSSU/WAY Academy, which is currently a five-year term. There is also a second contract between WAY Academy/WAY Program which reflects the board obtaining their three percent.

B. Action Items:

1. Accept September 2018 Monthly Financial Report – accept subject to audit

Motion made to accept the September 2018 Monthly Financial Report as presented by Sheila Flanagan/
Seconded by Laura Chavez. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

2. Accept 2017/18 Annual Audit

Motion made to accept the 2017/18 Annual Audit as presented by Sheila Flanagan/Seconded by Laura Chavez.
All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

XI. Announcements:

Next Regularly Scheduled Board meeting will be: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at W-A-Y Academy
Detroit, **Southwest Campus, 8701 W. Vernor Hwy., Detroit, MI 48209**

XII. 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.

Parent (Tya Twyman) who has a 12th grade student enrolled at the West Campus site wanted to share concerns around the teachers. The students are concerned they are not receiving adequate assistance. The 2nd concern she has is around the upcoming graduation date/time. Ms. Hernandez shared that the December graduation will be held at Southwest Campus as the Church is not available. Ms. Twyman shared concerns around board meetings not being held at West Campus. Board President Murray shared that we rotate the board meetings and have always done so. The parent asked about honors chords being provided to students

and whether or not this could be available. She shared that she was informed there was not enough money to purchase these items. Another concern she had was around international travel and lack of communication provided to West Campus. Her final concern was around the signage posted about board meetings. Board President Murray shared the board calendar is posted on the website and at all our academy sites. Parent shared parent group that used to meet at West Campus. Three of the parent group families have graduated, and the other three families have left the school. She shared there was an excellent job done in March with rewards that were offered to students for motivational purposes.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn at 7:11 pm by Renee Torres/Seconded by Sheila Flanagan. All members voted with Aye. There were none opposed. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

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 October 16, 2018 Regular meeting respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Flanagan
Board Secretary

11-27-2018
Date