

Board Meeting Minutes

W-A-Y Academy Detroit

(Regular Board Meeting)

Date: October 21st, 2025

1. Attendance

Board Members Present:

- Michael Murray (Wayne County)
- Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Wayne County)
- Danielle Bascomb (Wayne County)
- Sheila Flanagan (Wayne County) - Absent
- Patricia Moesner (Wayne County) - Absent

Others Present:

- Madeline Black
- Isaiah Pettway
- Trena Braswell
- Cameron Nichols
- Garnet Green (via Zoom)
- Marilyn Galan

Meeting called to order by Michael Murray at 6:11 PM.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda by Laura Chavez / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
 - o **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y).
Motion carries.

III. Call to the Public

- No public comments were made.

IV. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Motion to approve by Laura Chavez / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
 - **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y).
Motion carries.

V. Correspondence

- A. NONE

VI. LSSU Authorizer's Liaison's Report (Dr. Garnet Green)

- At this time, there is no new information to present. The board is encouraged to continue participating in the professional development sessions with Angie Irwin. Thank you to Trustee Bascomb and Trustee Moesner for already attending one of the sessions.

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

ESP Report / Superintendent Report (Superintendent Pettway)

- The State of Michigan has approved its budget. The per-pupil allowance increased to \$10,060 per student, marking the largest increase in the past four years.
- The school lunch program remains fully funded.
- The 31AA Mental Health Awareness Grant has new requirements and stipulations. The board will be updated once further details are received.
- At the federal level, the government remains in a shutdown over the budget. It is unclear at this time if there will be additional federal funding cuts.
- Title III - ESL Support Grant has experienced significant funding reductions. In the past, these funds supported language programs, offset summer school and tutoring, and have been used in the purchase of technology. Portions of tutoring and language supports have been reallocated to prevent programming cuts.
- During the shutdown, an order was issued to furlough the Department of Special Education within the U.S. Department of Education, with no current plans for reinstatement. This may have implications for students receiving special education services.
- The IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act grant, which provides supplemental support, may be impacted; updates will be provided as information becomes available.
- As of today, our Special Education Department is fully staffed and in compliance with Wayne RESA caseload guidelines.

ESP Report / Directors Report:

- We are still in the COUNT period and continue to enroll new students.
- Programming is going well, including several new programs recently added::

Kreative with Kris - graphic design class, has begun.

MILES (Music In Literacy Equals Success) launched last week, using music to support literacy development.

The *Metro Parks Science Program* is underway, and students are actively engaged and enjoying it.

The *ESL program* continues to show strong progress, with students making notable gains in English.

- Last month, students earned a total of 101 credits. Currently, 117 credits have been earned with two weeks remaining.
- Newly enrolled students are showing strong engagement and progress.
- We are preparing and excited for Spirit Week next week.

Superintendent Pettway added the following:

- An academic update report will be presented next month, following the completion of NWEA Benchmark Assessments.
- The school continues to face attendance challenges related to concerns about ICE activity.
 - Some students have dis-enrolled or are not attending regularly due to these concerns.
 - Families have been assured that the school is a designated safe zone.
 - Two letters have been mailed to parents reaffirming safety policies and procedures.
- The State of Michigan has incentivized traditional districts to implement blended learning programs.
 - This has increased competition, as traditional districts can now advertise similar programs while offering extracurricular activities such as sports.
 - The change presents a notable challenge for our academy's recruitment and retention efforts.
- The academy has maintained program and staffing stability over the past four years, as requested by the board.
 - This stability has supported growth in the fund balance while meeting all staffing requirements.
 - Despite reductions to Title III (ESL) funding, program cuts have been avoided through conservative management.
- Discussion is ongoing regarding the WAY Academy West location.

- We are exploring a potential transition to a new facility.
- Consideration is being given to maintaining a smaller space for students who may prefer not to transition.
- A site visit is being planned for board members to tour the 7 Mile and West Chicago locations.

VIII. Old Business - None

IX. New Business

A. Discussion Items

1. Strategic Planning Session

- Superintendent Pettway stated he was working on submitting some other items that have been requested.

2. School Improvement Committee

- Director Nichols talked about how the staff continues to meet on the second Friday of each month to review and share data. Weekly collaboration with Wayne RESA and Sabrina Rudy is ongoing. A meeting link can be provided upon request.

3. Career Day Committee

- Nothing new at this time.

X. Board Committee Reports / Comments / Action

A. Discussion Items

1. September 2025 Financial Statements:

- State Aid Payment Received: -
- State of Michigan: \$33,239.72
- Wayne Resa: \$4,926.21
- Payables as of September 2025: \$77,495.93
- Payroll Liabilities (10/16, 10/30, HC): \$92,510.25
- Request for transfer in the amount of: \$170,006.18

B. Action Items:

Motion Approval of the September 2025 Financial Statements

- Moved by Laura Chavez/ 2nd Danielle Bascomb
Roll Call Vote: Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

XI. Announcements-None

XII. Call to the Public

- No public comments were made.

XIII. Adjournment


- Motion to Adjourn moved by Laura Chavez/ 2nd Danielle Bascomb
Roll Call Vote: Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y).
Motion carries.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Marilyn Galan

Approved

Minutes Certification:

Approved minutes of October 21st, 2025 Regular Meeting respectfully
submitted,


Sherry Flanagan (Nov 21, 2025 10:00:32 EST)

Board Secretary

Nov 21, 2025

Date






Approved Minutes Certification - WAY - Detroit - Regular Board Meeting - 10.21.25

Final Audit Report

2025-11-21

Created:	2025-11-21
By:	Marilyn Galan (marilyn.galan@wayprogram.net)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAJlmsYD5s0bE1st2UGtqIG44HTxTP5dov

"Approved Minutes Certification - WAY - Detroit - Regular Board Meeting - 10.21.25" History

-  Document created by Marilyn Galan (marilyn.galan@wayprogram.net)
2025-11-21 - 2:56:29 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Sheila Flanagan (sheilamflanagan@yahoo.com) for signature
2025-11-21 - 2:56:32 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Sheila Flanagan (sheilamflanagan@yahoo.com)
2025-11-21 - 3:00:15 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Sheila Flanagan (sheilamflanagan@yahoo.com)
Signature Date: 2025-11-21 - 3:00:32 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2025-11-21 - 3:00:32 PM GMT