

# **Board Meeting Minutes**

## **W-A-Y Academy Detroit**

### **(Regular Board Meeting - Rescheduled)**

**Date: August 26th, 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)

##### **Others Present:**

- Isaiah Pettway
- Trena Braswell
- Cameron Nichols
- Sherry Lynem
- Marilyn Galan

**Meeting called to order by Michael Murray at 6:00 PM.**

#### **II. Approval of the Agenda**

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

#### **III. Call to the Public**

- No public comments were made.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes of July 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 Regular/Organizational Meeting
  - Motion to approve by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
  - **Roll Call Vote:** Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Patricia Moesner (Y) Michael Murray (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

#### **V. Correspondence**

##### **A. Governance Report - LSSU (Superintendent Pettway)**

- There are 4 areas LSSU uses to rate the school (academy) and board. The colors RED, YELLOW and GREEN are used. The board was at 94%, school rate was 85%, and accuracy for count was at 100% for (both) the board and the school.
- Governance and school culture is in the GREEN and there are two areas in YELLOW. The school has a process for evaluating the academy director and a process for evaluating the management company-annually that must be reviewed and redone.

- Board Attendance was at 100%, number of board meetings: 12, cancellations: 0.
- Overall comments for the 25/26 school year: The Charter School's Office has notified us that each board (for all schools) must review its **ESP evaluation process**. The focus is to ensure that the evaluation criteria are both **clear and appropriate**. The areas highlighted in **yellow** during the review are the sections requiring particular attention and follow-up.
- Compliance requirement was met which means a compliance grant will be issued from LSSU. The grant is \$15 per student based on the Spring count. The staff will be able to determine what the funds will be used for.

## VI. LSSU Authorizer's Liaison's Report

A. Dr. Green was absent.

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

### ESP Report / Superintendent Report

- The state has not passed its fiscal budget. The hope is that they will do so by Oct. 1st. If the budget is not passed, there will be a government shut down.
- There will not be any cuts to the per pupil funding. It will remain the same or we may see an increase.
- The good news is there is a proposal getting support out of the state senate that will allow for a school aid budget separate from the general budget of the state if the fiscal budget is not passed by July 1st. This will apply for future years; not this year.
- WAY-Detroit is in a position to be ok in the (immediate) future if the budget is not passed at this time.
- Title I allocations have been released and there was a slight decrease in funds for the upcoming year due to changes at the federal level but it is nothing we can not accommodate for. We will not have to make any major shifts or cuts to programming. Title II and Title IV allocations have not been received and that may have to do with the federal government.
- Staff is now back and students will be back the day after labor day. There has been a lot of training happening and staff just experienced a retreat. Lots of great work and great development at the school level

## ESP Report / Directors Report:

- Staff members went to a retreat in Bay City. Items of discussion were compliance, Two-Way communications, enrollment and more.
- Canva was introduced to staff members
- Training sessions included an E-WIMS session with Susan and a session with Sabrina Rudy from Wayne Resa. NWEA and Mckinney Vento were also discussed.
- Summer school was a success. Most students who participated in Summer school earned over a half credit within 2 weeks.
- Open Houses for both locations was a success. There was a back pack give-away, face-painting, video gaming truck, food trucks and more.
- LSSU has filled their cap-space, and we have been placed in the second cohort of January for dual enrollment classes. (Trena Braswell)
- We will be adding the Science Fair to southwest. We also have the graphic design class, ELL program and MILES language course.

We are currently going through a transition in staffing responsibilities.

- **Board Liaison Role:**  
As you know, Alex has been serving as the Board Liaison, managing minutes, and sending out board meeting packets. Moving forward, Alex will be focusing her time primarily on **pupil accounting** and ensuring compliance with critical reports, such as the **Registry of Educational Personnel (REP)** report. This is a major responsibility that requires significant attention and accuracy.
- **New Support Role:**  
To support this adjustment, we have created a new position titled **Assistant Pupil Accounting Coordinator**. This individual will continue to assist Alex but will also assume responsibility for:
  - Board meeting minutes
  - Board correspondence
  - Epicenter uploads and compliance documentation
  - Other board-related compliance tasks
- **Introduction of Marilyn:**  
We are pleased to introduce **Marilyn** in this new role. Marilyn has been with WAY for a significant amount of time and has worked closely with Alex, particularly in training

administrative staff and supporting pupil accounting functions. You will now see Marilyn corresponding with you regarding board matters, compliance, and related responsibilities.

This shift ensures that compliance and reporting remain a top priority while maintaining consistent support for board operations.

## **VIII. Old Business - None**

## **IX. New Business**

### **A. Discussion Items**

#### **1. Strategic Planning Session**

- The implementation worksheet was forwarded to management and they are working diligently. We will be working to provide her with a draft by the end of this month. (Danielle Bascomb)
- SAT numbers for the 25/26 school year - 10% and for 26-27 - 15% (Trena Braswell)

#### **2. School Improvement Committee**

- Bay City Retreat was already discussed.

#### **3. Career Day Committee**

#### **4. Lease Amendment 25-26**

- They have agreed to a graduated scale for lease payment. We are not paying full increase up front.
- Sub-lease situation is now prime-lease. We are now entering into an agreement with the Cody Community Center as a sublet to the Archdiocese of Detroit. The agreement is for one year. We are recommending that you vote to pass the revised lease.

## **Facility Update – Central Baptist Church**

We have begun preliminary conversations with **Central Baptist Church** regarding the potential use of their facilities for next school year.

- **Conflict of Interest:**  
Since the church's representative is my brother, **Mrs. Trena Braswell** will serve as the primary point of contact to avoid any conflict of interest. I will participate in the initial discussion, but Trena will manage ongoing conversations moving forward.
- **Audit and Approval Process:**  
Any potential facility must go through the **annual audit process** conducted on all of our

facilities. The requirements are more extensive for elementary schools; however, for middle and high school students, the standards are not as stringent.

- Before entering into any lease or agreement, we would send official notice.
  - The authorizer would then send out an inspector to review the facility.
  - After the inspection, a **written opinion** would be provided to confirm whether the facility meets compliance standards.
- **Next Steps:**  
Our immediate goal is to finalize the renewal of our current lease. Conversations with Central Baptist Church have already begun, and Trena will continue to meet with their representatives to determine if this option is viable for the future.

Motion to approve Lease by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din / 2nd Danielle Bascomb

- **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y) Patricia Moesner (Y) Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y). Motion carries.

## 5. NCSI Spring 25 Updates

### Annual Policy Updates – Spring 2025

As required, the board receives policy updates **twice per year**. The majority of these updates are **legally required**, and summaries were provided in advance. Key highlights are noted below:

#### Title IX Policy Update (Policy 5320)

- The Biden Administration proposed new Title IX language to strengthen protections against discrimination.
- As a result, the current Title IX policy must be **removed and replaced** with an updated version.
- If approved, the board will vote today to remove the old policy and adopt the new one.
- Note: This area of law is subject to further change. The Trump Administration has signaled plans to revisit Title IX, meaning the board may need to update this policy again in the near future.

#### Policy 0131.1 – Board Policy/By-Laws Revisions

- This is a **revised policy** and a best practice recommended by the **National Charter Schools Institute**.
- Key features:
  - Any proposed change to board policy or by-laws must appear on the agenda for **one month before action** is taken, allowing time for review.
  - The board retains flexibility to waive this waiting period if deemed necessary.
  - The superintendent is empowered to make **clerical, non-material changes** (e.g., “principal” to “school leader”) without requiring a board vote.
  - **Material changes** will still require a board vote and documentation in the board minutes.

#### **Other Legally Required Updates**

- **Use of Medication** – updated to reflect new legal requirements.
- **EpiPen/Medical Policies** – language revised in compliance with state law.
- **Graduation Requirements** – updated per new state requirements.

#### **Board Discussion Notes**

- **Patricia Moesner** asked when the title shift from “Director” to “Superintendent” occurred. Superintendent Pettway confirmed it was last year, citing examples where policy language caused legal complications (e.g., “principal” vs. “school leader”).
- Pettway explained that updates are intended to keep the board **legally protected** and aligned with current state and national practices.
- **Michael Murray** clarified that many of these updates are simply legal terminology adjustments (“legalese”) to prevent liability.
- **Patricia Moesner** expressed some difficulty understanding the rationale but accepted the explanation.

#### **Recommendation**

We recommend that the board **adopt all policy updates for Spring 2025**.

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Motion to Adopt the Policies 1 through 6 by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din /  
2nd Danielle Bascomb

- o **Roll Call Vote:** Patricia Moesner (Y) Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Michael Murray (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

#### **6. Resolution to Change Depository to Huntington Bank**

- A resolution was provided last month for your reading. We ask that you pass that resolution this month. Resolution must be formally passed by the board so that Sherry can begin. The resolution will give Sherry the authority to begin conversation and transition. We will be transitioning from Chase Bank to Huntington Bank. This has been discussed before and the goal is to get the money somewhere where our money can make money and we could better work with them. Mr. Pettway asked Sherry Lynem if she wanted to add anything and she responded NO.

Motion to change the depository to Huntington Bank

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

**B. Action Items:** NONE

#### **X. Board Committee Reports**

#### **Financial Report & Budget Update**

##### **1. July 2025 Financial Statements:**

- State Aid Payment Received of the amount \$251,529.40
- State of Michigan \$34,888.91
- Wayne Resa \$91,863.35
- Miscellaneous \$855.00
- Payables as of **July 2025** \$73,272.22
- Payroll Liabilities \$ 98,009.56
- Request for transfer in the amount of \$171,281.78

##### **B. Action Items:**

##### **Motion Approval of the July 2025 Financial Statements**

- Moved by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din / 2nd Patricia Moesner
- **Roll Call Vote:** Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Patricia Moesner (Y) Michael Murry(Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

#### **XI. Announcements-None**

#### **XII. Call to the Public**

- No public comments were made.

#### **XIII. Adjournment**

- o Motion to Adjourn moved by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din / 2nd Patricia Moesner

- o **Roll Call Vote:** Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Patricia Moesner (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y) Michael Murry (Y). Motion carries.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.

**Minutes submitted by:** Marilyn Galan & Alexandra Guzman

Approved