

Board Meeting Minutes

W-A-Y Academy Detroit

(Regular Board Meeting)

Date: February 20, 2024

Members Present: Michael Murray, Danielle Bascomb, Patricia Moesner, Laura Chavez and Sheila Flanagan.

Others present: Trena Braswell, Alexandra Guzman, Sherry Lynem (via zoom), Isaiah Pettway, Cameron Nichols, Madeline Black (via zoom) and Mr. Green (via zoom).

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:00 pm

Roll Call Attendance

Michael Murray (Wayne County)

Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din(Wayne County)

Sheila Flanagan (Wayne County)-Absent

Patricia Moesner (Wayne County)

Danielle Bascomb (Wayne County)

II. Approval of the Agenda

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

III. Call to the Public:

- Read by Michael Murray-No public present/no public comments.

V. Consent Agenda

Adding **Discussion on the Availability of the 3rd Floor of Odd Fellows Building-**

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

Approval of the Regular Board Meeting on January 16th, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Motioned by Laura Chavez / 2nd by Danielle Bascomb

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

Correspondence

- None

LSSU Authorizer's Liaison's Report

Mr. Green shared the following:

- Reminder of the ESP and Board Evaluations due by May31st.

- Administrative retreat is going to be at Bay City on July 16th-19th, they will reimburse mileage for one car and one hotel room per site. If more want to go that is on the school. Great networking opportunity.
- Way Academy's Solvency Report was issues on January 19th, 2024. Any issues on the report please notify Rebeca Clawson immediately.

Educational Service Providers Report

Superintendent Pettway shared the following:

Superintendents Report

WAY Program Updates

- No major updates

Enrollment and Recruitment

- Currently during the 10day window for count. They were fully funded at their budgeted amount, and they have done everything possible to keep the enrollment.
- They are starting their kick off enrollment in March.

Academy Updates

- NWEA Benchmark Testing. The winter data will be presented to the board at the March meeting.
- Reminder to the board they are entering the phase where they will start testing. They will update them where they are throughout the testing windows.
- They are working on increasing Attendance Rate and while they are there actually obtaining credit. This year they moved to two-way communications to be considered present for their weekly attendance.
- Board Pres. Michael Murry asked what two-way communications are. Supt. Pettway shared that is the communication they have with their mentor assigned.

Personal Updates

- They fulfilled the Math Interventionist who is also certified in science. The young lady started on Tuesday.
- Mr. Michael Schwartz, engagement coach, resigned because he found a job 5 minutes away from his house. He did travel one hour away from his home. He did refer someone and helped them find his replacement. She has a background in social work and is also bilingual.
- The positions that are vacant is only of the Special Education Teacher.
- Board Pres. Murray asked about the difference of a paraprofessional and a special education teacher.
- Supt. Pettway explained and summarized that a paraprofessional supports the students and the special education teacher. Where the special education teacher is certified in a context area but also to work with the students who have those needs.

State and Legislative Authorizer Updates

- Currently in the amendment period for the Consolidated Grants Application. No Material changes was necessary only language changes needed to be done. Initially they submitted a salary breakdown for staff but then realized the staff

doesn't work directly for the board because they are hired through the management company.

- They will need to amend because they didn't hire the math interventionist the full year that funding will need to be amended.
- 23g Michigan Kids on Track Grant they applied for was approved for \$12,578. These funds will be used for additional teacher training and tutoring cost.
- 31aa School Safety, Security and Mental Health Grant and will be used to purchase equipment for monitoring school safety materials to help with vaping. In addition to offset the cost of social and emotional counselor. Half the cost was put into the budget of 31A and 31AA. Security training with parents.

Directors Report

Director Cameron Nichols shared the following about the Southwest and West Campus:

Enrollment, Attendance and Credit Attainment Report

- Credit attainment was down in January because of the holiday and snow days.
- Currently there are already 15 students that obtained over one full credit already for the month of February.
- Explained their biggest class are 9th graders and they would like to work on retaining those students.

There are already 10 graduates between the campuses. They foresee the June graduation should be about 20 graduates.

- SMASH is a computer and science group. Not only do they help students obtain credit in technology, but they also get paid for it. The new hire, Ms. Hernandez is very familiar with those type of programs.
- They completed testing WIDA yesterday. NWEA ended two weeks ago.
- June 12th, 2024 will be the Summer Graduation Ceremony.

Old Business-

- Career Day-Board Member Patricia Moesner asked about the dates for career day. March is spring break if there could be a change in the date. Trena said that April is not a good month, but they can schedule it to May. Board Member Moesner mentioned all the people she was connected to.
- Supt Pettway clarified that they had a partnership with a fraternity/sorority that sponsored the career day and paid for it. Last year that did not happen. They will continue to plan it within the school.
- They don't have a set number of professions set in mind.
- Tuesday Wednesday or Thursday possibly in May.

New Business-

A. Discussion Items

1. Strategic Planning Session:

- Board Member Danielle Bascomb spoke about how well it went on Saturday.

- Mentioned She and Board Member Sheila Flannagan will be getting together to be able to work on the minutes and notes.

2. School Improvement Committee-

Director Cameron Nichols shared the following:

- Board Member Laura Chavez was able to be a part of the last meeting.
- He shared how they learned from a conference they attended at the beginning of the school year for MCIP. They witnessed a school that incorporated everything they do in their School Improvement Plan. Not only are they the biggest school but there are things they were able to learn from the.
- The next meeting is the second Friday in March.

3. Career Day

- Board Member Patricia Moesner asked how many presenters they were thinking of having.
- School to Tools comes in and pays for the parentship (apprenticeship) that the student would like to go to. On the job training at the local sites immediately starting at \$21 an hour. They have already come in to the West Campus and have brought the models and presented to the students.

4. Virtual Day Policy 21f -

Isaiah Pettway shared the following:

- The impacted peoples, and their parents are legal guardians will receive a letter explaining the plan of a virtual day of instruction. The communication to them will also outline the expectation of the student while on virtual days of instruction, and the expectation of the teachers during this time. It will also have a guide of what to do in case the technology given to them fails to work.
- The initial implementation will be made by sending home a letter to parents explaining the implementation of the 21f Virtual Plan. In the event of an emergency plan is to provide mass communication via robocalls, text messages and emails to all pupils and parent/guardians enrolled within the district. Within the communication there will be access to a zoom link students will be expected to login and meet with their mentor prior to doing work online.
- All students will have access to technology because they are provided with both computer and Internet service upon enrolling our district. This will give students access to login to Centric and continue working on any assignment as well as logging in via zoom during normal schedule time with teachers.
- All students will have access to all teachers and staff via zoom. The school has one zoom link that is provided to all students and available throughout the year in which teachers are required to login during the scheduled school day or work hours.

5. Building Awning Proposal-

- The awning in front of the building needs to be replaced. Just the fabric and not the aluminum of the awning.
- Executive Director Madeline Black was able to secure a grant to pay for \$10,000 of the cost. It will cost a total of \$15,000.

6. Discussion on the Availability of the 3rd Floor of Odd Fellows Building-

- The 3rd floor is available and they are interested.
- Ms. Madeline Black had proposed a grant to cover the cost of that. Ms. Sherry Lynem proposed moving something out of the general fund budget and having it covered by that specific grant. That will free up funds to cover the cost.
- This needs to be submitted to LSSU for approval first to get their signature and approval first. There are no changes to the lease they are only expanding on the lease.
- They are suggesting to the board to empower Board Pres. Michael Murry to sign off on anything that they have already discussed. They have been given a deadline of March 15th, 2024.
- The anticipation is to gain revenue by adding more students. Additional 5 students one year would cover the cost of rent for the next three years.

Board Committee Reports/ Comments/Action

23-24 Budget Amendment

Sherry Lynem introduced the following items;

- Summarized the Draft Budget Amendment to the board members.
- She is not looking for a vote until the March meeting.
- \$164,000 Surplus that came from the previous years.
- Some new grants were awarded this year at a total of about \$106,000. The RAGS funds that was awarded of \$145,000. There was additional 31a funds this year. Per pupil allowance was also increased.
- The projected ending fund balance of the 23-24 SY will be \$402,000.
- Educator Compensation 31n funding was received in the state aid. They have given this money for staff retention. It is not that much, but they will get an additional bonus using the grant.

Finance Committee:

*Sherry Lynem introduced the **January 2024** financials to the board.*

- State Aid Payment Received of the amount \$567,304.07
- Federal Payments \$14,068.98
- RESA Payment \$11,400.00
- Payables as of January 2024 \$65,505.97
- Payroll Liabilities \$76,718.51
- Request for transfer in the amount of \$142,224.48
- The audit and the FID were both completed in December. The state did release the November and December state aid payments. It did not arrive on time, LSSU had already gone on Christmas break by that time. When they returned in January, they did approve the transfer and the school received a 202,000-state aid payment. Cash is in the bank now. That will be reflected in the January Financial Statement at the February board meeting.

Action Items:

Approval to Accept January 2024 Financial Statements and the requested transfer:

- Motion to Approve: Laura Chavez / 2nd Danielle Bascomb

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

Announcements- Next Board Meeting will be March 19th, 2024 , at 6 pm. At the West Campus.

Call to the Public-No public present/no public comments.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Laura Chavez / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
- Roll Call Vote: Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez (Y) Patricia Moesner (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm

Minutes submitted by: Alexandra Guzman

Minutes Certification:

Approved minutes of ___February 20th, 2024_____ Regular Meeting respectfully submitted,

Sheila Flanagan
Sheila Flanagan (May 6, 2024 09:52 EDT)

Board Secretary

05/06/2024

Date






WAY Detroit-Approved Minutes Certification 02.20.24

Final Audit Report

2024-05-06

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