

Board Meeting Minutes W-A-Y Academy Detroit (Regular Board Meeting)

Date: March 18th, 2025

I. Attendance

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

- Trena Braswell
- Cameron Nichols
- Isaiah Pettway
- Alexandra Guzman
- Sherry Lynem
- Dr. Green
- James Pack

Meeting called to order by Michael Murray at 6:05 PM.

II. Approval of the Amended Agenda

- Addition of Career Day Planning
- Motion to approve the agenda by Laura Chavez / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
 - **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

III. Call to the Public

- No public comments were made.

IV. Consent Agenda

- **Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes (February 18, 2025)**
- Motion to approve the agenda by Danielle Bascomb / 2nd Laura Chavez
 - **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.

V. Correspondence

A. Audit Engagement Letter- A letter was presented confirming that **Alan C. Young** will continue as the auditing firm for the upcoming year. The board president's signature is requested to finalize this.

VI. LSSU Authorizer's Liaison's Report

- o Dr. Green thanked Board Members Laura Chavez and Danielle Bascomb for their Oat of Office submission.
 - **Reminder:** Enrollment projections for 2025–2026 are due by **Friday, April 11, 2025.**
 - **Upcoming Webinar:** Ms. Angie Irwin will lead a board professional development session titled “*Cultivating Relationships as Part of Good Governance*” on **April 1, 2025, at 6:00 PM.**

VII. Educational Service Providers Report

Superintendents Report:

- Superintendent Isaiah followed up with Ms. Angie Irwin after the recent meeting with board members.
- Spring Count: Nearing completion. The roster is being finalized, and no major enrollment reductions are anticipated.
- Enrollment Projections: Next year’s goal is between 210–215 students, reflecting a 10% increase from the current year.

Superintendent Pettway shared key federal updates:

- The Department of Education announced a projected **\$10,000 per-student funding increase** for next year.
- Recently, **1,300 federal employees were laid off.** An injunction has been filed against this decision.
- New federal guidelines state that schools with policies protecting gender identities beyond male or female, or those requiring COVID-19 vaccinations, risk losing federal funding.
- This potential funding loss could impact approximately **20% of the school’s overall budget**, including:
 - o **Title I** – School Improvement
 - o **Title II** – Professional Development
 - o **Title IV** – School Wellness
 - o **IDEA Funds** – Special Education
 - o **RAGS Grant** – Administered through Wayne RESA
- The team is proactively planning for this possibility. Despite the potential reduction, leadership believes they can manage without compromising core services.
- **Board Member Laura Chavez** expressed a desire to avoid any job cuts and recommended leveraging available funds to absorb the impact of federal reductions.

Data Report WAY Academy **West** Campus:

1. Enrollment: **69** Students
2. Enrollment by Grade Level: **9th** Grade with **30** Students
3. Total Credit: **43.2** Credits
4. Average Credit Attainment: **0.63**
5. Average Credit Attainment by Grade Level: **12th** Grade with **1.3** Credits
6. Relative Attendance: **67%**

Data Report WAY Academy **Southwest** Campus:

1. Enrollment: **116** Students
2. Enrollment by Grade Level: **9th** Grade with **30** Students
3. Total Credit: **75.9** Credits
4. Average Credit Attainment: **0.65**
5. Average Credit Attainment by Grade Level: **6th** Grade with **0.74** Credits
6. Relative Attendance: **65%**

Directors Report:

- o Students across both campuses have collectively earned over 100 credits. The team revised credit-counting procedures, which positively impacted student outcomes by helping more students obtain credits. This procedural shift is proving beneficial and reinforces the importance of continual improvement.
- o In terms of student progress, there was another graduate in February, and we anticipate another graduate next month. Currently, 26 students across both campuses are on track to graduate. While a few may need extra support through June, we are optimistic about reaching our goal of at least 20 graduates. This aligns with our program's mission, and we are committed to helping every student succeed.
- o Additionally, we received our NWEA scores from LSU. Ms. Braswell, who consistently does an outstanding job, provided a detailed overview of the PA48 report.

Academic Performance – PA48 Report (Presented by Ms. Braswell)

- **Southwest Campus:**
 - o 40% of students met their target growth in **Math** from Fall to Winter.
 - o 47% met their target growth in **Reading** for the same period.
- **West Campus:**
 - o 61% of students met their target growth in **Math** from Fall to Winter.
 - o 56% met their target growth in **Reading**.

VIII. Old Business-None

IX. New Business

1. Strategic Planning Session:

- The recent session with **Angie Irwin** was a great success. Meeting notes have been emailed to all board members. A **follow-up meeting** with her is scheduled for **April 12th**.

2. School Improvement Committee:

- o The Weekly staff meetings, held every Friday, focus on analyzing data. The next scheduled school improvement meeting will be on March 14. Board members are welcome to attend either in person or via Zoom.

3. Career Day Planning

- Career Day is scheduled for **May 15th** and will take place over **one day at the Vernor campus**. The list of participating individuals has been finalized and added to the event planning spreadsheet.

A. Discussion Items:

X. Board Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee - Sherry Lynem:

1. February 2025 Financial Statements:

- State Aid Payment Received of the amount \$224,783.60
- State of Michigan \$14,573.00
- Payables as of **February 2024** \$76,601.48
- Payroll Liabilities \$ 95,733.18
- Request for transfer in the amount of \$172,334.66

B. Action Items:

1. Motion Approval of the February 2025 Financial Statements

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

XI. Announcements

XII. Call to the Public

- No public comments were made.

XIII. Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn moved by Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din / 2nd Danielle Bascomb
- **Roll Call Vote:** Michael Murray (Y) Laura Chavez-Wazeerud-Din (Y) Danielle Bascomb (Y). Motion carries.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Alexandra Guzman