

**West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics**  
**17350 Hazel Street – Spring Lake, MI 49456 – (616) 844-9961**

**Board Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2012 – 6:00 PM-Approved**

- I. **Call to Order** – Board President Matt Butler called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM
- II. **Roll Call**  
**Present:** Matt Butler (President), Vicki Stuart (Secretary/Treasurer), Leon Stille (Trustee), Carrie Tulloch (Trustee), Chad Nader (Trustee)  
**Absent:** None
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** –M. Butler made the following changes to the agenda. Under Old Business remove Preschool Policy, Under Old Business Item “B” remove Revenue Streaming until Errol Goldman finishes reviewing the document, under New Business remove Board Retreat because the two new board candidates have not been approved yet, Under New Business replace item “C” with Renovation Update, after public comments add closed session to review legal written opinion. A motion was made by L. Stille, supported by V. Stuart to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor 5-0.
- V. **Approval of Minutes**  
- **Board Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2012** – C. Tulloch stated the correction still had not been made to switch the words “tile” and “file” from the February 28, 2012 meeting minutes. A motion was made by C. Tulloch, supported by L. Stille to approve the minutes as corrected. All in favor 5-0.
- VI. **Financial Report** – L. Johnson presented some highlights for next year.
- VII. **Correspondence** –T. Thomsen received a thank you card from a parent, Holly Carter. There was a passing of a family member and the school sent a card and flowers.  
Errol Goldman talked about the new transparency reporting for charter schools which became effective March 2012 but have until the end of the year to provide a proposal for the following year. Mr. Goldman is in the process of reviewing guidelines and will meet with other charter school attorneys to see if some areas need to be questioned.
- VIII. **Committee Reports**
  - A. **Director’s Report** – Travis Thomsen reported on the following:
    - We are finishing up open enrollment this week for the 2012-13 school year. Currently, we have 414 students including preschool re-enrolled, with open enrollment we are at 434 and our capacity is 429. There was very little advertising to recruit new students. As of right now, every seat would be taken and there is a waiting list in the lower elementary.
    - New this year some of our Middle School (6-8) students are enrolled in a class called Bound for Success. It is modeled after a class Mr. Thomsen taught in California called AVID. The class is centered around average students and to motivate them for college through study skills and awareness. We were recently awarded a grant from the OAISD to fund this program. The grant will expand over three years and will cover costs for training and curriculum. One of the curriculum areas that will be covered is writing which is an area of weakness for us. Currently, there are no other schools on the west side of the state who are offering this program.
    - When we return from spring break, our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the ACT readiness. It is a college readiness test for middle school students.
    - In reviewing MAP and MEAP test results, Mr. Thomsen will be making changes in teaching assignments for next year. He will meet with teachers to discuss the changes.
    - The new website is up and running but still needs to be tweaked.
    - Carolyn Gilmore (Arts Coordinator) will provide the board a presentation of Festival of the Arts week at the April Board Meeting.
  - B. **G.V.S.U. Report** – Dan Matthews reported on the following:
    - In comparing other G.V.S.U. charter schools, we rank near the top.
    - Presented the annual Contract Performance Review and currently, the Academy is in high standing with G.V.S.U.

- We met all of the contract standards.
- Under the organizational performance section, there are some results in red. The information is based on from last years data. To date, we are 100% in the areas marked as below acceptable. Our current compliance rating is one of the best in their portfolio.

**IX. Old Business**

- A. **Preschool Policy** – This was removed because changes have not been completed.
- B. **Approval of the Revenue Streaming Contract** – Contract approval is pending attorney review. T. Thomsen will ask the company for an outline of what is involved to be put in the next packet. T. Thomsen will also ask the sales rep if he could attend the next meeting.

**X. New Business**

- A. **Approval of the Anti-Bullying Policy** – A motion was made by V. Stuart, supported by C. Tulloch to approve the anti – bullying policy with the noted changes. All in favor 5-0.0
- B. **Approval of the Consolidation Plan** – We have to meet 4 out of the 5 best practice requirements. There is one that we automatically do not qualify for but the other four we do. One is the requirement to consolidate services. This can be accomplished with our janitorial services contract over a three year period, save money on instruction, consolidate with our local ISD. The purpose of voting tonight shows our intention to adopt a consolidation plan and have it in place by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The plan will need to be sent to the MDE. The following month, we will approve Best Practices in which we will be able to receive \$100.00 / pupil. We will be required next February and every February after that to send in a report on our progress. A motion was made by L. Stille, supported by C. Nader to approve the consolidation plan. All in favor 5-0.0
- C. **Schedule Board Retreat** – Was removed from the agenda.
- D. **Renovation Update / Financing** –A plan was presented by Bouma which included the addition of classrooms and a theater. It would be more expensive to phase in construction instead of having it done at one time. The cost of adding 6 classrooms and the shell of a theatre would cost approximately \$2.5 million. The best option would be to look at bonds but that is expensive. Pursuing banks is not a very viable option either. T. Thomsen and E. Goldman will meet with banks. The next step would be to have actual costs for the construction project. It was discussed that the rendition money would be used for this. Before any plans are finalized, the staff will be asked for feedback and suggestions.

A motion was made by L. Stille, supported by C. Nader for the Board to go into closed session at 7:35 PM to review a written legal opinion. A roll call vote was taken. M. Butler – aye, V. Stuart – aye, L. Stille – aye, C. Tulloch – aye, C. Nader – aye. There were no nay votes.

- XI. Public Comments
- XII. Topics for Next Meeting
- XIII. Next Meeting Date – April 24, 2012
- XIV. Adjournment

*Vicki Stuart*  
 5-23-12  
 Bd Sec / Treasurer