

West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics

17350 Hazel Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 6:30PM

MINUTES - Approved

- I. **Call to Order** – President Andy Alt called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM
- II. **Roll Call – Declaration of a Quorum** – Present: Andy Alt (President), Tim Tiefenbach (Vice President), Brooke Karl (Treasurer), Melisa Sass (Secretary), Sara Heacox (Trustee). Also present: Maggie Malone (Head of School), Liz Johnson (Business Manager), Matt Cawood (GVSU Rep).
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Reading of West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics Mission Statement**
Empowering students to reach their ultimate personal success through the unique integration of arts and academics.
- V. **Mission Moment** – Former student, Christian Doctor, recorded a video for the Board about his time at WMAAA and how it helped shape him into the person he is today. He currently works in education.
- VI. **Public Comments for Agenda Items Only** – There were no comments.
- VII. **Approval of the Agenda** – A. Alt added under action items, item “b”, approval of Thrun Law Firm, as an additional to our legal team. A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by S. Heacox to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- VIII. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.
- IX. **Action Items**
 - a. Review and Approve Board Meeting Minutes: August 22, 2023 – A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by T. Tiefenbach to approve the minutes as written. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
 - b. Approval of thrun law firm – A motion was made by T. Tiefenbach, supported by B. Karl to approve Thrun Law Firm. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- X. **Reports**
 - a. Head of School Report
 - i. Observations/Reflections To Date – M. Malone is getting to know the staff, is excited to be here, and feels we are making good progress.
 - ii. 2023-24 School Year Update
 1. Enrollment – The current enrollment is 431. We are expecting 6 to drop, but we have not received records request. Discussion has already started about recruitment strategies for next year. A suggestion was made to provide parents with an online, discreet, exit survey.
 2. Student Behavior Management – M. Malone reported the connections between MTSS, Tiered Systems of Support, and the code of conduct are working well together, evidencing student behavior and better tracking system.
 3. Staffing Structure/Organizational Update – M. Malone reported we have hired a new Special Ed Director, and is tweaking staffing where appropriate.
 4. Facility Cleanliness Update – M. Malone reported Reliant Cleaning is doing a good job.
 - iii. 2022-23 M-STEP Results – Rachael Hobeck presented the 2022-23 MStep results to the Board. We are ahead of the State average and Muskegon Public Schools, on par with

Fruitport schools and competitive with other local districts, despite our free and reduced lunch count is a bit higher than theirs.

- iv. 2023-24 Goal Setting Update – The data goal for this school year is for 60% of our students to meet their MAP growth goal for math and reading.

b. Finance/Facilities/Audit Committee

- i. Financial Update – L. Johnson reported the August financials. B. Karl reported we are trying to get in front of the funding cliff due to the ending of ESSER funds, with also looking at a 5 year projection. We are still in a positive financial position, even with the decline in enrollment, due to added revenue, and an increase to our foundation allowance from what we originally budgeted.
- c. GVSU Report – M. Cawood updated the Board on leadership transitions at GVSU and upcoming Board trainings. He also reported on the new financial structure of the Academic grant. They will present the performance data at the next Board meeting.

XI. Potential Topics for next Board Meeting – Tuesday, November 28, 2023

- a. Board Recruitment & Committees
- b. Progress on Establishing Professional Learning Committees
- c. Amended Budget
- d. Strategic Planning Timeline and Plan – 5 yr goals for financial too
- e. Dashboard in more broad depth

XII. Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items – There were no comments.

XIII. Adjournment – A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by M. Sass to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

Melissa Sass 11/29/2023