

# West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics

17350 Hazel Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

*Touching Hearts....Reaching Minds*

**Special Board Meeting – Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 6:30PM**

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## **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), John Hayes (Vice President), Melisa Sass (Secretary), Brooke Karl (Treasurer), Sara Heacox (Trustee), Time Tiefenbach (Trustee). Also present: Joanna Bennink (Director), 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. **Public Comments for Agenda Items Only** – Kathleen Karpin 15383 Apple St., Grand Haven, MI 49417. Ms. Karpin clarified with Ms. Bennink if their presentation to the Board would be posted publicly to satisfy section 98b.
- VI. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by T. Tiefenbach to approve the agenda as written. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.
- VII. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.
- VIII. **Approve Board Meeting Minutes: January 24, 2023** – A motion was made by S. Heacox, supported by M. Sass to approve the minutes as written. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.
- IX. **Director's Report**
  - a. Highlights of Written Report – J. Bennink reported she is working on mid year PGP's with staff, we are out of snow days so if we were to have more, we may have to amend the calendar for extending the school year.
  - b. School Improvement Team Update –
    - i. Data Presentation – Teachers Stephanie Berg, Kathleen Karpin and Georgeanne Green presented the ELA / Intervention process to the Board. The data that was presented was the percentiles from the NWEA MAP data. New this year, incorporating middle school to the intervention process.
    - ii. Progress on Improvement Strategies
    - iii. Mid-Year Progress on Section 98B Goals/ ESSR III – The Section 98b is a requirement under the ESSER III funds. We are using scores from the fall to winter and winter to spring (Bennink handout included). More data will be presented at the end of the year.
  - c. Enrollment Strategy
    - i. Scatterplot Review – J. Bennink created the scatterplot graph to show where are current students reside. Most kids are coming from Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Norton Shores. The data showed overlap in zip codes.
    - ii. Enrollment Plan and Numbers – We will begin pre-enrollment with our current families, the week of March 13-24 is open enrollment, at this time we will have a better idea for seat numbers / enrollment cap for the next school year.

- iii. Recruitment Strategy – We have been emailing families, offering school tours, active on social media, Facebook, and will have kiosks available for those who may not have computers to complete the enrollment packet.
- d. School Operations/Safety Management
  - i. Playground Safety – To provide more safety on the playground, the Assistant Director goes out to recess, the recess staff will wear neon vests, we will hire more staff, and they will carry walkie talkies.
  - ii. Student Lunch Oversight – We try to have one adult to every classroom but that isn't possible for all grades. We have changed the recess time so the teachers can be present. It was also suggested that possibly extending the school day may help with some of these issues.
- e. Building Maintenance/Cleaning Update – We have had turnover in this department, we did not send out a cleaning survey because of the staff turnover, we have two day custodians and Reliant cleaning cleans in the evenings, and we have been tracking maintenance tickets which will be provided to the FFA committee.
- f. Overnight field trip approval – The 8<sup>th</sup> grade end of year class trip is to Mackinaw Island will be June 5 -6. Students have to be in good standing academically and behaviorally to go on the trip. A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by J. Hayes to approve the overnight trip to Mackinaw Island. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.

**X. Committee Reports**

- a. Finance, Facilities, & Audit - L. Johnson reviewed the January financials with the Board. There were no questions.

**XI. GVSU Report**

- a. School Survey Results –
  - i. Full amount of academic grant – A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by M. Sass to approve the full amount of the GVSU academic grant. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.
  - ii. The criteria for meeting the academic grant, and amounts will change for next year. The changes include an increase in the per pupil amount to \$15 / student, our school will be aligned with our peer schools, and we will need to have the score of meets standards in the areas of compliance and financial status.
  - iii. School operations survey – Matt Cawood reported we had enough staff members fill out the survey, so M. Cawood shared the results with the Board.
  - iv. M. Cawood reported on upcoming Board trainings.
- b. Compliance Update – M. Cawood will bring to the Board an update on our compliance filings.

**XII. Potential Topics for March 21, 2023 Board Meeting – The next Board meeting is March 28<sup>th</sup>, not March 21.**

Seat / enrollment numbers for SY 23-24

Testing Season is coming up and J. Bennink will provide a recap of the scores

Brooke Karl reappointment


**XIII. Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items – Kendra Streng 13189 Carrier Lane Grand Haven, MI 49417. Ms. Streng wanted to clarify the results of the survey A. Alt referenced, lunch and**

cleaning, the two are separate issues. There are not enough people to cover classrooms is one, but the cleanliness is its own separate problem and has been.

Kathleen Karpin 15383 Apple St., Grand Haven, MI 49417. Ms. Karpin wanted to clarify with the Board that her presentation was not based on national norms, but on district percents only. The national norms would be a percentile range based on students nationally. This is what they use RIT scores for.

Dana Clark-Oatmen 1670 Ritter Dr., Norton Shores, MI 49441. Ms. Oatmen said she was a teacher, and told the Board about some math strategies she is familiar with that helped those students, as a suggestion for us. The strategies did not include hiring staff, instead was accomplished through teacher scheduling changes.

- XIV. Closed Session** – A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by J. Hayes to move into closed session at 8:13 PM. A roll call vote was taken – Andy Alt – aye, John Hayes – aye, Brooke Karl – aye, Melisa Sass – aye, Sara Heacox – aye, Tim Tiefenbach – aye. All in favor 6-0, motion passed. A motion was made by J. Hayes, supported by M. Sass to move out of closed session at 9:15 PM. A roll call vote was taken – A. Alt -aye, John Hayes – aye, Brooke Karl – aye, Melisa Sass – aye, Sara Heacox – aye, Tim Tiefenbach – aye. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.
- XV. Adjournment** – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by J. Hayes to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.

  
3-30-23