

# West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics

17350 Hazel Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Special Meeting – Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 6:30PM

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## MINUTES - Approved

- I. **Call to Order** – President Andy Alt called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM
- II. **Roll Call – Declaration of a Quorum** – Present: Andy Alt (President), Melisa Sass (Secretary), Brooke Karl (Treasurer), Sara Heacox (Trustee). Absent: Tim Tiefenbach (Vice President)
- 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**
- VI. **Public Comments for Agenda Items Only** – There were no comments.
- vii. **Approval of the Agenda** – A. Alt added interview of board member candidate, after section X, item “e”. A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by S. Heacox to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- VIII. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.
- IX. **Board Meeting Minutes Review/Approval:** November 28, 2023 Board Meeting – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to approve the minutes as written. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- X. **Reports**
  - a. Student Council Update – Aubrey reported their candy cane sale brought in around \$300, and the middle school dance around \$200. The council is looking into other fundraising options such as a pencil machine and popcorn sales. She thanked the Board for the new lockers.
  - b. Head of School Report
    - i. Dashboard Review – Rachael Hobeck presented the data dashboard to the Board. The dashboard shows different categories such as test scores and attendance. She reported a main area of focus is math, and reviewed the different strategies, programs, and interventions the committee will use. She and M. Malone are also reviewing current curriculum to assess whether new material is appropriate.
    - ii. Art Focused Update – M. Malone reported the arts team is working on content and how to integrate it into the academics, by looking at the core subjects through the lens of the arts to meet each standard. Teachers also participated in a PD book study, Arts with the Brain in Mind.
    - iii. Professional Learning Communities Progress Update – Teachers continue to push math, and trying to achieve a 60% growth goal.
  - c. Finance/Facilities/Audit Committee
    - i. Financials Review – B. Karl reviewed the December financials.
    - ii. Review/Approval First Amended 2023-24 Budget Resolution – B. Karl reported there was a decline in enrollment, added revenue, likely one – time, and adjustments to expenditures. Total projected revenue is \$6,253,201, expenditures \$6,473,371. The excess expenditures are all related to the planned capital projects, with operating expenditures as a positive balance.
  - d. Governance/Executive Committee

- i. Strategic Planning RFP Update – A. Alt reported T. Tiefenbach, A. Alt and M. Malone met. They would like to build a 3-5 year plan, focusing on culture, families, and refine the mission statement. They will include stakeholder input, and build a framework for clear benchmark and assessments. The committee will seek out RFP’s for a consultant.
  - ii. Board Recruitment Update – A. Alt reported he has talked to a couple of candidates, and will interview one this evening. The other candidate lives out of town and they are working through logistics of his potential involvement.
  - e. GVSU Report –Courtney Stahl reported that we will receive the full \$30 / pupil, receiving a total of \$13,500 for our academic grant. GVSU will be sending a climate survey to all teachers which will be confidential. She also mentioned that those board members whose terms are up this June, will need to be recommended for another term.
- XI. Interview Board Member Candidate** – The Board interviewed candidate Chris Jones. He is a parent, has an extensive background in visual arts as an adjunct professor and recruiter. A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to recommend Chris Jones to Grand Valley State University. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XII. Move to a 7 Member Board** – A motion was made by S. Heacox, supported by B. Karl to move from a 5 member to a 7 member board. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XIII. Recommend Board Member Candidate** – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to recommend Chris Jones to Grand Valley State University. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XIV. Closed Session** – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to move into closed session at 7:58 PM. A roll call vote was taken – Andy Alt – aye, Brooke Karl – aye, Melisa Sass – aye, Sara Heacox – aye. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by M. Sass to move out of closed session at 8:13 PM. A roll call vote was taken – Andy Alt – aye, Brooke Karl – aye, Melisa Sass – aye, Sara Heacox – aye. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XV. Potential Topics for next Board Meeting – March 26, 2024**
- a. NWEA Results
  - b. M-STEP Prep/Projections
  - c. Strategic Planning RFP Responses
- XVI. Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items** – There were no comments.
- XVII. Adjournment** – A motion was made by B. Karl, supported by M. Sass to adjourn at 8:14 PM. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.

*Melisa Sass 3/27/2024*