

W-A-Y Academy Flint
Regular Board Meeting
Date: August 21st, 2025

Members Present:

- L. Deon Williams
- Venetta Tucker
- Stephen L. Murphy

Others Present:

- Isaiah Pettway
- Trena Braswell
- Angie Irwin (via zoom)
- Sherry Lynem
- Shelly Smith

1. Meeting Called to Order:

- Time: 6:50 pm

2. Roll Call Attendance:

- Stephen L. Murphy (Genesee County) - Present
- L. Deon Williams (Genesee County) – Present
- Venetta Watt Tucker (Genesee County) - Present
- Sanford J. Edwards III (Genesee County) -Absent

3. Approval of the Agenda:

- Motion: Moved by Venetta Watt Tucker / 2nd by Stephen L. Murphy
- Roll Call Vote:
 - Stephen L. Murphy (Y)
 - Venetta Watt Tucker (Y)
 - L. Deon Williams (Y)
- Motion carries.

4. Call to the Public:

- Public Comment: None (Read by Board President Sanford J. Edwards)

5. Approval of the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of the June 19th, 2025 Rescheduled- Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - Motion: Moved by Venetta Watt Tucker / 2nd by Stephen L. Murphy
 - Roll Call Vote:
 - Stephen L. Murphy (Y)
 - Venetta Watt Tucker (Y)
 - L. Deon Williams (Y)
 - Motion carries.

6. Correspondence:

- o None.

7. Authorizer Greeting/Update (LSSU – Chris Olszewski; Governance PD – Angie Irwin)

- Contract status: Year 3 of a 3+2. Board/ESP to submit a short narrative by ~January 1 requesting the extra two years (through 2028).

Focus areas for the narrative & ongoing work:

- Governance: consistency, quorum, board training; fill one current vacancy; consider “board member in waiting.”
- Compliance: Epicenter performance improving; keep pace.
- Finance: Enrollment and deficit elimination plan are critical; October count is key.
- Academics: A relative strength; continue improvement.

Support offered: governance PD (Angie), authorizer partnership, targeted check-ins.

8. Board Officer Elections

- Secretary: Venetta Tucker elected.
- Treasurer: L. Deon Williams elected.
- Vice President: Tabled (member Sanford to be present to accept).
- President: Steven (Stephen) Murphy elected.

9. LSSU Authorizer’s Liaison’s Report

- On-time submissions: Board 85%, School 86%.
- Accuracy: Board 98%, School 100%.
- Result: Full Compliance Grant to be awarded in October (Spring enrollment × \$15).
- Two “red” items:
 - Director evaluation not received in Epicenter.
 - ESP/Management evaluation not received.
- Remedy: Complete as a board during the May meeting (one collective form); ESP may provide self-evaluation for board review.
- “Yellow” items:
 - Board PD participation (increase engagement; short on-demand modules available).
 - Strategic Plan: needs an update.
- Attendance: Avg 83%; 9 meetings held, 3 canceled.
- Other compliance notes:
 - Oaths: Academy now uploads notarized oaths to Epicenter.
 - PD Incentives: Monthly webinars at 7:00 PM starting Sept 9; Detroit-area in-person sessions in October (new members; presidents/VPs; general governance). Prize drawing for PD participation.
 - GL Student Weekend @ LSSU: Oct 23–24 (campus visit, faculty, aid, hockey game).
 - Contacts spreadsheet: confirm leadership/PD/Special Ed contacts.

- Conflict of Interest forms due by next board meeting.

10. ESP Report/Directors Report

ESP Report (Superintendent Isaiah Pettway):

- State budget: Not yet finalized; per-pupil expected to be flat or increased; statutory deadline Sept 30.
- Title I: Allocation decrease ≈ \$4,200; adjustments made with no program impact.
- Enrollment: 84 enrolled with 30+ in the pipeline; goal = 105. Strong year-round recruitment; targeted USPS mailer launched; referrals trending up.
- Staffing: 100% teacher return rate; fully staffed.
- PD focus: Launching AI integration PD district-wide.

Director highlights:

- Avg 0.67 credits earned per student (above 0.50 expectation).
- 21 of 22 graduates walked June 16.
- CSI end-of-year meeting positive; start-of-year meeting upcoming.
- Building refresh underway; strong visitor impressions; Facebook testimonials campaign ongoing.

11. Policy Updates (NCSI Spring 2025)

- Approved en bloc. Notable items:
 - Policy 0131.1: Establishes first reading/second reading process; permits clerical (non-material) updates by Superintendent.
 - Delete 2264 / Adopt 2266 (Title IX) to reflect current federal requirements.

11. New Business: None

12. Treasurer's Report (Director of Finance Sherry Lynem):

- June 2025 Financial Statements:
 - State Aid Payment Received of the amount \$97,142.38
 - Miscellaneous \$17.26
 - GISD \$11,174.52
 - State of Michigan \$11,321.23
 - Monies Transferred in June 2025 \$86,000.00
 - Accounts Payables as of June 2025 \$29,373.88
 - Payroll Liabilities \$43,440.88
 - Request for transfer in the amount of \$72,814.76

13. Action Items:

1. Approval of the July 2025 Financial Statements:

- Motion: Moved by Venetta Watt / 2nd by Stephen L. Murphy (Y)
- Roll Call Vote:
 - Stephen L. Murphy (Y)
 - Venetta Watt Tucker (Y)

- L. Deon Williams (Y)
- o Motion carries.

14. Announcements:

- None

15. Call to the Public:

- Public Comment: None

16. Adjournment:

- Time: 7:58 pm

Minutes submitted by: Alexandra Guzman

Approved