

Board Meeting Minutes

W-A-Y Academy Flint

(Regular Board Meeting)

Date: January 18th, 2023

Members present: Venetta Watt Tucker, Sanford J. Edwards III, Howard Buetow (via zoom), Kelli Glenn

Others present: Shelli Smith, Sherry Lynem (via zoom), Melissa Weisburger, Madeline Black (via zoom).

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:31 pm

Roll Call Attendance

Howard Buetow (Genesee County)- Present (via zoom)

Kelli Glenn (Washtenaw County)-Present

Venetta Watt Tucker (Genesee County)- Present

Sanford J. Edwards III (Genesee County)- Present

Changes to the Agenda

- Move Audit Presentation first on the agenda.
- Adding the Acceptance of the 23-24 Audit
- Notification of the Deficit of Elimination Plan the due date has been moved back.
- Move the Deficit of Elimination Plan to the next meeting.

Approval of the Agenda with the changes

- Motion moved by Kelli Glenn /2nd by Sanford J. Edwards III
- Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

Call to the Public:

- Read by Howard Buetow-no public present or commenting.

Audit Presentation

- The auditor reviewed and presented the report to the board members.

Election of Officers

- **Nomination for President:** Howard Buetow.

Motion moved by Kelli Glenn /2nd by Sanford J. Edwards III

Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

- **Nomination for Vice President:** Sanford J. Edwards III

Motion moved by Kelli Glenn /2nd by Venetta Watt Tucker

Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

Consent Agenda

- Approval of December 18th, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Motioned by Kelli Glenn /2nd by Venetta Watt Tucker

Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

Correspondence

- None

Old Business

- None

New Business

Discussion Items

Superintendents Report

Superintendent Isaiah Pettway announced the following:

Program Updates:

- Both Supt Pettway and Trena Braswell attended Lori Wrights funeral. Director Shelly Smith attended the night before and were able to give their condolences to the family on behalf of WAY Academy.

Recruitment & Marketing:

- Enrollment has been steady, but they did have a couple of students graduated which is the reason there was a drop in enrollment.
- They are fully funded at the 100-student enrollment.
- Count Day is coming up and they are filling in with those vacant spots.
- They are getting started on their marketing and enrollment plan for the next school year.
- Director Shelly Smith and the WAY Academy Flint Team have already started recruiting with the community by partnering up with local organization and talking to students at neighboring schools about the school.
- Board Member Kelli Glenn asked if there were any 25e students. Supt. Pettway confirmed there was not any above the 100 students.

Academic Updates:

- The school is preparing for Winter NWEA Testing. This is the mid-year check point to make any adjustments for students until the spring testing.
- This exam starts off the testing season, from the end of January up until the beginning of May.

Personnel Updates

- Director Shelly Smith was able to gather some additional funds with the Regional Assistance Grant (RAGS) with GISD. They approved a grant funded position for an Academic Success Coach. There are 3 interviews scheduled to happen tomorrow.

Legislative & Authorizer Updates

- Consolidated Application was submitted and approved in August. Those funds were not available until December the 7th. Sherry has now been able to draw down those funds so they can cover the expenses back from July 1st.
- They applied for additional Grants like the 23G, Michigan Kids on Track Grant. They were awarded the grant in the amount of \$8,748 to offset the cost of the summer school program this year which will focus on Math and Science.
- They also received the 31AA grant, School Safety and Mental Health grant. They have received preliminary approval of those funds. This will help them purchase additional security for the school safety and offset the cost of the salary of the social and emotional counselor. The grant she currently is getting paid through will end at the end of this school year.

Superintendent Highlights:

- He congratulated the amazing team of WAY Academy of Flint. Graduation was amazing. Supt Pettway spoke about a staff members nephew that graduated in December which is amazing.

Director's Report

Director Shelly Smith shared the following:

- The security guard set up an appointment to have his two kids to be interviewed and accepted to attend school at WAY Academy of Flint.
- Students start NWEA on Wednesday.
- Enrollment in December was 87. There is already one graduate in January, for the June 24th, 2024 graduation.
- This brings their enrollment down to 82 students because some families have moved away.
- There are 16 total leads. There are 3 families who completed the application and are ready to start attending.
- 9th grade is still the highest level of enrolled students.
- 3-4 students are ready to graduate the 8th grade and get promoted to the 9th grade.
- The credit attainment this month was 29 due to a glitch in Centric. Since its been fixed the credits will start coming in January.
- The Average Monthly Credit by Grade Level was the 12th graders.

Points of pride:

- There were no zero credit attainment students.
- They went through a building inspection and there were only 3 minor findings. The first was the Fire extinguishers were expired. The landlord replaced them immediately already. The second was the wash your hands sign. Shelly took it down because it had gotten damaged but never replaced it. She purchased another one and put it up. The third

one was the technology closet, they said there are too many wires in there and they would like it to be cleared and organized to have more room to move around.

- The staff had a Winter wonderland party for the students. It was well attended, and everyone enjoyed it.
- Graduation was December 17th and it was about 9 graduates. There was a full room of families. The graduates were very proud of themselves and so was the staff.
- They have 100 % of the Educational Development Plans (EDPs) from the students completed.

Treasurers Report

Director of Finance Sherry Lynem shared the following December 2023 Financial reports:

- State Aid Payment Received \$0
 - Federal Funds Received \$23,286.58
 - GISD Funds Received \$374.23
 - Monies Transferred December 2023 \$0.
 - Monies Owed to WAY Program as of December 2023, \$0.
 - Accounts Payable for November was \$33,776.23.
 - Payroll Liabilities (12/01, 12/15, 12/19 & Healthcare) \$59,829.94.
 - Request for transfer in the amount of \$93,606.17.
-
- Made some drawing down from the federal funds.
 - Please note that December was a 3-payroll month it was high.

Deficit of Elimination Plan / Budget Amendment

Director of Finance Sherry Lynem shared the following:

- Deficit of Elimination is due to the state, and it is mandated. Supt. Pettway and Sherry will be meeting on February 1st to go through and create the Deficit of Elimination Plan to eliminate the deficit as soon as possible. The timeline needs to match the contract from the authorizer.
- The official due date was a day prior to the February board meeting. It is a 21-page report that Ms. Lynem must fill out. They contacted the state and were able to get approval of an extension because of the board meeting date. It is due the Friday after the February meeting. Hopefully get the board's approval at that board meeting.

Facilities Report

Supt. Isaiah Pettway shared the following items:

- There is a lot of confusion they are working to clear up.
- The boards attorney, legal counsel, Amy Gibbs was under the impression that the issue with the current landlord was the language in the terms required by the authorizer.
- The language required dealt with hazardous materials and specific language that the authorizer wanted.
- The second was language tied to the indemnification clause in the lease that the landlord did not agree to.

- There was also building violations notice but no one knows what they are.
- They have reached out to the current landlord to be able to clear everything up and move forward with everything.
- There was a proposal received from the new facility, Works of Life, a Christian Church. They are still in negotiation of the numbers; monthly rent is \$2500 more than what they are currently paying for. The rent itself is not that much but the utilities are higher. But not on the base amount rent.
- They have offered to do a walkthrough of the building with the board prior to the meeting but it seems it hasn't worked out. Now he is offering a date outside of the board meeting date.
- This is time sensitive item. They need to have the two options in full prior to the February board meeting.
- Melissa mentioned that the board does need to be inspected and up to code by the COI, COO and Fire regular inspections.
- Supt. Pettway mentioned that the building was previously used as a school, all the documentation is up to date.
- Supt Pettway will share dates with the board to do a walkthrough.
- The new facility will be a bit different. It will allow the school to do more than what they can do at the current building because of the limited space, currently.
- The new building will have a full access to a gym and kitchen for cooking.
- The capacity of the new building is 400 and at the current building is about 150. They are looking to rent half the building which is only 200 the capacity.

Board Member Search

Board President Howard Buetow shared the following:

- They are down to 4 board members now and the minimum is 5 board members.
- The minimum is 5 and the maximum is 9 board members.
- Mentioned that he had a possible board member, Mr. T and he is currently a K-6th grade school leader for another public-school academy.
- Isaiah mentioned recommending a pastor which is also a friend of his.

Board Recognition of Students

Venetta Watt Tucker shared the following:

- Proposed to have a process in place where board members can recognize outstanding students.
- Supt. Pettway proposed coming up with categories for the board members to choose from based on the way the program runs.

-

Training

- None

Action Items

Approval to Accept Financials Report for December 2023

- Motioned by Sanford J. Edwards III/2nd by Lori Wright

- Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

Approval to Accept the 23-24 Financial Audit

- Motioned by Kelli Glenn /2nd Sanford J. Edwards III
- Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

LSSU Liaison Updates

Melissa Weisberger shared the following:

- Kelli and Venetta have earned their two hours of training for the year already.
- For the next board meeting Melissa can bring a topic of discussion prior to the meeting for training hours.
- Every board member has submitted their conflict of interest.
- Administrative retreat is going to be at Bay City on July 16th-19th, they will reimburse mileage for one car and one hotel room per site. If more want to go that is on the school. Great networking opportunity.
- Angie Irwin is doing a webinar on February 15th, 2024. The topic will be on what to do if a school is closing.
- Board President Howard and Board Member Glenn are up for re nomination this year.
- Reminder to Administration and Management Company, LSSU has sent out an email to meet about the Deficit of Elimination Plan and the Building situation and they havenot received a response back. Supt Pettway said he will reply to the email today.
- Board Member Kelli Glenn asked what she will need to do if she wants access to the books to see if 1. The books are accurate and 2. Are they asking for some type of forgiveness. Do they need to get the attorneys need to be involved. She would just like to be aware of the process.
- She is asking for a list of point of pride for the LSSU board. Great stories of the schools that they can share to publish them on their board newsletter.

Announcements

- None

Call to the Public-No public present/no public comments

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Kelli Glenn / 2nd by Sanford J. Edwards III

- Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Venetta Watt Tucker (Y) Sanford J. Edwards III (Y). Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm

Minutes submitted by: Alexandra Guzman

Minutes Certification:

Proposed minutes of _____ January 18th, 2024 _____ Regular Meeting respectfully submitted,

Venetta Tucker

Board Secretary

Jan 30, 2024

Date

Signature: 
Venetta Tucker (Jan 30, 2024 22:04 EST)

Email: venetta.tucker@wayprogram.net







WAY Flint Proposed Min Cert 01.18.24.final

Final Audit Report

2024-01-31

Created:	2024-01-31
By:	Alexandra Guzman (alexandra.guzman@wayprogram.net)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAANFtrX8rHhrUUglnOP8PQE4GKmnjJ9qB

"WAY Flint Proposed Min Cert 01.18.24.final" History

-  Document created by Alexandra Guzman (alexandra.guzman@wayprogram.net)
2024-01-31 - 2:29:42 AM GMT
-  Document emailed to venetta.tucker@wayprogram.net for signature
2024-01-31 - 2:30:27 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by venetta.tucker@wayprogram.net
2024-01-31 - 3:03:37 AM GMT
-  Signer venetta.tucker@wayprogram.net entered name at signing as Venetta Tucker
2024-01-31 - 3:04:52 AM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Venetta Tucker (venetta.tucker@wayprogram.net)
Signature Date: 2024-01-31 - 3:04:54 AM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2024-01-31 - 3:04:54 AM GMT