

Board Meeting Minutes

W-A-Y Academy Flint

(Regular Board Meeting)

Date: January 20, 2022

Members present: Howard Buetow, Lori Wright, Kelli Glenn, Devontae Powell

Others present: Kerry Sitar, Isaiah Pettway, Shelli Smith, Melissa Weisberger, Trena Braswell, Alexandra Guzman

Meeting Called to Order @ 6:40pm

Roll Call Attendance

Howard Buetow (Genesee County)

Lori Wright (Genesee County)

Kelli Glenn (Washtenaw County)

Devontae Powell (Genesee County)

Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve amended agenda: Lori Wright/2nd by Devontae Powell
- Roll Call Vote: Kelli Glenn (Y) Lori Wright (Y) Howard Buetow (Y) Devontae Powell (Y). Motion carries.

Call to the Public:

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

Consent Agenda

- Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes December 16, 2021.
- Motioned by Lori Wright/2nd by Devontae Powell
- Roll Call Vote: Howard Buetow (Y) Kelli Glenn (Y) Lori Wright (Y) Devontae Powell (Y). Motion carries.

Correspondence

- **LSSU Facility Review:** Supt. Pettway announced that every year there is a site review for the facility, a recon visit for LSSU. The report is available on the board portal and was emailed to the board members. He said there were no major issues. There was one small thing, the US flag was not identified in the parking lot at the front of the building. They suggested getting a portable base flag. Another was that there must be bottles labeled water for safety reasons. The two concerns will be rectified, and evidence of the corrections will be sent to LSSU.

Old Business

New Business

Educational Service Providers Report

- **Superintendent's Report**
 - **Program Updates (W-A-Y Programs)**

- New Position-Professional Development Coordinator Role-Holly Ploch; this individual will work to coordinate our professional development, professional learning communities, and individual capacity building throughout the district.
- District Data Manager-James Middleditch; this individual will be working with the district director and teachers to compile, analyze, and use data to drive improvement and decision making.
- Revisions of Processes

Enrollment/Recruitment/Marketing

- Projects: revamping the current website (ongoing)
- WAY Academy Enrollment-all 25E students have been reported and counted.
- Enrollment planning for 2022 is we underway.
- Focus: *Perfected online option for students looking for rigor, relevance, and relationship.*

Academic Updates

- The WAY Flint Team have been awarded \$65,000 in RAG Funds. The team has already planed how to spend that money. Shelly and Supt. Pettway met with GISD two weeks ago to review her robust plan.
- Test Preparation is underway. (WIDA; M-Step; Benchmark testing) February to May
- Students will remain virtual until January 31st. (Covid Impact)
- Focus: *Managing learning loss; Multi-Tiered Systems of Support*

Personnel Updates

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Legislative/Authorizer Updates

- Consolidated Grants Application is live-completed and turned in on by January 7th for retroactive usage of July 1st. (MEGS+ and NEXYS). The schools were turned in January 6th. The due date was extended to January 24th. WAY has been waiting for final approval but because of the extension that has been taking longer. The funds will be retroactive for July 1st.
- ESSR Funds are part of the covid relief funds distributed to the schools. WAY was able to claim the last part of ESSR II funds. They have been made available but not accessible to be drawn down yet. Flint has about \$3850 dollars remaining once accessible they will be drawn down. ESSR III is the last major portion of the COVID relief funds that were given to schools. Flint has \$300,000 and 20 % of the money must be allocated to one of the areas identified by learning loss. We have identified using research-based strategies as the schools, particularly MTSS (Multi Tiered System of Support). Now is the next phase where the team needs to get stakeholders feedbacks. The team has created a survey for them to complete and use. The feds expect you to spend everything by 2024.

- **Highlights:** Director Shelly Smith held her parent teacher conferences virtually and they were able to reach out to about 80% of the schools' parents.

Director's Report

- Ms. Smith shared the following:
 - Enrollment did go down in the month of December because there were students that graduated, which is a good thing. The students that graduated have been at WAY Flint since middle school and two of them were 19 already.
 - WAY Flint currently has 7 active leads that they have reached out to. Once all documents have been submitted, they will be enrolled.
 - Ms. Smith mentioned that credit attainment has dropped in December because of the holiday season. This made the month of December challenging, but it was no surprise, this happens every year. Attendance was also down in December because of the short month and covid.
 - Despite the short month the students almost made the average credit attainment for the month.
 - Points of Pride: The team hosted Holiday Workshop. They tie died mask and talked about the holidays. There were different cultures, and the kids were interested to know someone that celebrated the holidays differently. For the December Professional Development, the team decided to go across the street to a ministry that had two horrible coat rooms. They sorted through them and organized them by size. It was nice to spend some time with the staff and do some team building.
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Treasurers Report

- **December 2021 Financial reports**
 - Mr. Sitar reviewed the December Financials. The cash position is the same as last year its \$34,000 right now. One thing that stands out every time is the Account Payable with the \$333,000. I did the breakdown..... RAG funds were just submitted about 19,000. Additional RAG funds will also be coming in. The school has about \$7900 of IDEA money. There will be a submission for that the first part of the year and in June. We submitted ours early expecting to see them earlier, but we have not.
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- **Action Items**
 - November 2021 Financial Statement
 - Motion to approve the November Financial Statement: Lori Wright/2nd Devonte Powell.
 - Roll Call Vote: Buetow (Y) Glenn (Y) Wright (Y) Powell (Y). Motion carries.

Training

Board Member Kelli Glenn mentioned that she attended a training called the Financial Strategies Conference at the beginning of this week. Mrs. Glenn said that she would send her three takeaways to be able to fulfill training requirement for the board. One of the things I learned about was the Michigan Department of Education ESSR update. There is Michigan business association that some of you all are a part of. The presentation is being posted on their website and I recommend someone from the finance department watches it. The federal government are requesting in detail about not only there being meaningful public consultation for developing a plan and make it public as well as follow up. Once the plan is developed and then continue to update or communicate progress on the plan. It is highly recommended to WAY flint even if they are exempt because they are a small school, follow the requirements as well. They should insure that they do not reduce funding or staff in any of the high poverty of schools. The other session was a state budget update. There is 1.2 billion of extra funds in the state aid funds. Once concerning news loss 43,000 students within the last two years. The state was anticipating it was just covid and they would come back but that did not happen. The positive was that this year overall there was a loss, there was an increase in charter schools. The last takeaway was there's 719 million in a structural surplus and if the governor decided to give it to the school it would be a \$500 per pupil increase.

- **Action Items**

- December 2021 Financial Statement

- Motion to approve the November Financial Statement: Lori Wright/2nd Devontae Powell.
- Roll Call Vote: Buetow (Y) Glenn (Y) Powell (Y) Wright (Y). Motion carries.

- **Action Items**

- Motion to reelect Lori Wright for another term: Lori Wright/2nd Devontae Powell.
- Roll Call Vote: Buetow (Y) Glenn (Y) Powell (Y) Wright (Y). Motion carries.
- May Regular Board Meeting to Special Annual: Lori Wright/2nd Kelli Glenn.
- Roll Call Vote: Buetow (Y) Glenn (Y) Powell (Y) Wright (Y). Motion carries.

LSSU Liaison Updates

- Ms. Melissa Weisburger mentioned that there is a contest going on with the field representatives. She was excited to mention that she is in the lead.
- Accreditation and align the paperwork. One of the things that LSSU is asking the boards is to formally add the annual meeting date on the calendars.

- She mentioned that Lori Wright has been with the board since 2019. Her three-year service will end in 2022. The board will need to renominate Lori again. The paperwork will be sent for the renomination.
- If you are interested in professional development, there is an opportunity for February 15th is Understanding Achievement Scores and April 13th Evaluating Critical Relationships. as in the past there is an email.
- Reminder that all students that graduate from an LSSU charter school they are automatically accepted.
- Reminder, there are still four board members and keep in mind that it's not a full board.
- Recon report went to the school. The school was also one of the county's chosen randomly where the state randomly requiring information from schools the lease/janitorial/ESP/School Lunch agreements Charter and public every school in the county must do it.
- If they have not asked for it, you should hold off on sending it. All letters went out and were dated on January 5th.
- January is board appreciation month and Mrs. Weisburger brought gifts for all the board members.
- Cognia the accreditation will be at LSSU February 10th. We have reached out to come up and help with the meeting.
- Isaiah mentioned WAY Program is also going through the Cognia Accreditation review so you will also be hearing from them for us as well.
- Board Member Devontae Powell asked how he could assist the school to set up campus visits to LSSU.
- Ms. Weisburger did mention that the person that handles campus visits is now a field representative. Once they have a new person, she would let the school know and LSSU can cover the cost for transportation for the campus visit. Mrs. Smith expressed that Mr. Powell can help as a chaperone for the visits.

Board Committee Reports

- **Policy Report:** No meeting was held

Announcements

- No announcements

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

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Lori Wright /2nd by Devontae Powell
- Roll Call Vote: Buetow (Y) Glenn (Y) Wrights (Y) Powell (Y). Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm

Minutes submitted by: Alexandra Guzman

Minutes Certification:

Approved minutes of Thursday, January 20, 2022 Regular Meeting respectfully submitted,

Lori Wright

Board Secretary

03 / 02 / 2022

Date

Signature Certificate

Reference number: HL6EJ-EDFZA-QHRJY-D8SCA

Signer

Timestamp

Signature

Lori Wright

Email: lori.wright@wayprogram.net

Sent:

02 Mar 2022 18:40:36 UTC

Viewed:

02 Mar 2022 18:47:23 UTC

Signed:

02 Mar 2022 18:47:33 UTC



IP address: 172.58.61.100

Location: Denver, United States

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