

West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics

17350 Hazel Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 5:30PM

Minutes - Approved

- I. **Call to Order** – President Tim Tiefenbach called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.
- II. **Roll Call – Declaration of a Quorum** – Present: Tim Tiefenbach (President), Melisa Sass (Vice President), Kris Jones (Secretary), Sara Heacox (Trusted). Also present: Maggie Malone (Head of School/Superintendent), Liz Johnson (Business Manager). Absent: Brooke Karl. Brooke Karl arrived at 5:35 PM.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Reading of West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics Mission Statement (new)**
Creating life-long community through arts integration
- V. **Public Comments** – There were no comments.
- VI. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by K. Jones, supported by B. Karl to approve the agenda as written. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- VII. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.
- VIII. **Approve Board Meeting Minutes: January 28, 2025** – A motion was made by S. Heacox, supported by B. Karl to approve the minutes as written. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- I. **Superintendent/Head of School's Report**
 - a. Student Council – Emmerson DeBoer, Vice President, reported the council has been busy with morning announcements, they have been recycling, and planning an end of year dance. There will also be spirit week the days leading into spring break.
 - b. FOA – M. DeBoer reported on the week and all of the great artists.
 - c. Principal – Mark Frost reported on the success of the latest PTSO fundraiser, family fun night coming up, and mother and son bowling event. March is reading month minutes and books read competition is going strong, with a pizza party for the winning class. Absenteeism was heavy in January due to illness.
 - d. Intervention - Reading/Math – Rachael Hobeck reported that we have full time and part time teachers dedicated to these interventions. The math interventionists will be using Delta math screener, and existing materials.
 - e. MTSS academic support process – M. Malone reported the team created a document and graphs to show transparency for this process and presented it to the staff.
 - f. Mental health supports for our students - groups, counseling, etc – M. Malone spoke on behalf of Natalie Jacobs. Ms. Jacobs has implemented small groups with students like reading, mental health topics, and providing help beyond the classroom. Ms. Jacobs and our social worker will create mental health strategy videos this summer.
 - g. Festival of the Arts
 - h. Highlights of Written Report – M. Malone emailed the Board her report.
 - i. School calendar 25-26 completed
- II. **Board President's Report**
 - a. Action item:
Approval of GVSU Academic Grant – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to approve the GVSU 2023-24 academic grant, in the amount of \$12,570.00. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

T. Tiefenbach reported that we will be expanding our relationship with the Tri Cities YMCA by adding a second room for preschool. Some minor construction will need to be done. There are still talks about having an after school care at the Academy, run by the YMCA.

T. Tiefenbach asked the Board to think of possible board members, to fill Sara Heacox's seat, when her term is up in June.

- b. Tri-Cities Kiwanis donation to support Literacy – M. Malone reported that we received a \$700 grant from the Kiwanis, as part of the Sandy Huber literacy grant. The donation will go to purchasing literacy materials for the students.
- c. Other

III. Committee Reports

- a. Finance & Audit – B. Karl reported that the committee met, no alarms, things are on track. We discussed keeping the food service program the same, capital projects like the clock / network infrastructure, security cameras, and doors. Some of the cost will be covered by grants.
 - i. Budget updates
 - ii. Other
- b. Arts & Academics
 - i. Festival of the Arts – K. Jones reported of the two meetings they have had, they mostly discussed Festival of the Arts, and he felt it was a thriving experience.
 - ii. Data
 - iii. Other
- c. Governance

IV. GVSU Report

- a. Compliance report – M. Cawood reported that we are still 100% compliant with uploading compliance requirements. Some upcoming events include the annual board reception, which they will expand this year to include other stakeholders, not just Superintendents.

V. Potential Topics for May 20, 2025 Board Meeting

- a. Partner Solutions - Heather Sherrer
- b. Rex Thelen - Cyber Security grants, other projects
- c. Search for a board member

VI. Public Comment - There were no comments.

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 PM.



A handwritten signature, possibly "MAY 20, 2025", is written in black ink. The signature is stylized and appears to be a cursive or shorthand representation of the date.