

# West Michigan Academy of Arts and Academics

17350 Hazel Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

## Board Meeting – Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 6:30PM

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### Minutes - Approved

- I. **Call to Order** – Vice President Tim Tiefenbach called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.
- II. **Roll Call – Declaration of a Quorum** – Present: Tim Tiefenbach (Vice President), Brooke Karl (Treasurer), Melisa Sass (Secretary), Sara Heacox (Trustee). Absent: Andy Alt (President). Also present: Maggie Malone (Head of School), Liz Johnson (Business Manager), Matt Cawood (GVSU Rep).
- 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. **Public Comments for Agenda Items Only** – There were no comments.
- VI. **Approval of the Agenda** – A motion was made by S. Heacox, supported by M. Sass to approve the agenda as written. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- VII. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.
- VIII. **Approve Board Meeting Minutes: March 26, 2024** – A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to approve the minutes as written. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- IX. **Student Council Report** – Emmerson DeBoer and Izzy Michaels reported there were 3 showings of the spring musical, Mean Girls and sold about 500 tickets, talks about a possible spirit week, they will have a popcorn sale this Friday, and the last dance of the year will be this Friday as well.
- X. **Emergency Notification System** - Rex Thelen, OAITC –Mr. Thelen presented the Emergency Notification System project to the Board. The system will utilize the I love U Guys standard protocol response. This system was the idea of parents of school shooting victims as a means to utilize common language for staff, parents, students, etc., to react to emergency situations. Two proposals were submitted, awarding Moss Telecommunications the bid, total cost of the project is \$74,457.62. A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to approve the Moss Telecommunications bid. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XI. **Updated Board Policies** - A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to approve the updated Spring 2024 Board Policies. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.
- XII. **Board Member Reappointment**
  - a. Andy Alt, 2024 – 2027 – Matt Cawood will swear in Andy Alt at the next meeting.
  - b. Melisa Sass, 2024 – 2027 - Matt Cawood swore in Melisa Sass for another 3 year term.
- XIII. **Director's Report**
  - a. Celebrations:
    - i. Mr. Justin Auten - international performances – Mr. Auten, our Vocal Music teacher, is a member of the West Michigan Concert Winds. He will have an opportunity this summer to travel to Ireland and Scotland and play with groups in those countries. He will also be a featured soloist.

- ii. Summer training - Art and Math - Ms. Heather Minnebo – one of our Visual Arts teachers', art was accepted by the Bridges Art and Math Organization. She will have an opportunity to showcase her artwork this summer in Richmond, VA.
  - iii. Arts camps - student participation – Mandy DeBoer, Theatre Teacher / Arts Coordinator, reported that several of our students auditioned to attend Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp this summer. All students received a scholarship from Blue Lake.
  - iv. Arbor Day – Our second grade students, created some artwork regarding Arbor Day. They also, along with the City of Ferrysburg, planted a tree at the school.
  - v. Teacher Appreciation Week – We had a great Teacher Appreciation week! A big thank you to the PTSO and parents for their generous goodies!
- b. Highlights of Written Report – M. Malone reported a full time Social Worker has been hired to start at the beginning of the next school year. The current enrollment for next year is 400, the parent survey is being finalized and will be sent to parents soon, are in the process of creating a parent advisory board, and wrapped up 15 minute meetings with staff.
  - c. Video - school story – The video is located on our website, and social media.
  - d. Reading Intervention – Berg – K-8 reading intervention – Steph Berg provided an update to the Board about reading intervention and also spoke about the UFLI program, which is a phonics based curriculum, for grades K-3. Our 4<sup>th</sup> grade students also use UFLI, with grades 5-8, using leveled literacy programs.
  - e. iReady Pilot – Staci Brown and Rachael Hobeck presented iReady. It is made up of two parts, Diagnostic and My Path, which is personalized instruction. This will replace the NWEA for data monitoring.
  - f. School Calendar - TA – M. Malone reported there is a tentative agreement for the 2024-25 school calendar. A motion was made by S. Heacox, supported by B. Karl to approve the 2024-25 school calendar as presented. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.

**XIV. Management Company Presentations**

- a. CS Partners - Heather Sherrer – Reviewed their services with the Board.

**XV. Committee Reports**

- a. Finance, Facilities, & Audit – B. Karl reported the committee reviewed the budgets and will have a recommendation at the June meeting.
  - i. Strategic Plan Update – T. Tiefenbach reported the committee has not selected a company to assist with this project. They have made some changes to their proposal and are waiting for responses from those companies.

**XVI. GVSU Report - Matt Cawood –**M. Sass received a certificate for her years of service as a Board Member. Kris Jones is expected to be approved at GVSU's next Board Meeting, Lia Breen has been named the President of the Charter Schools Office, we are 100% compliant with required submissions.

**XVII. Potential Topics for next Board Meeting, June 25, 2024-**

Approval of the 2023-24 and 2024-25 budgets, annual organizational meeting, update on strategic planning

**XVIII. Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items –** There were no comments.

**XIX. Adjournment-** A motion was made by M. Sass, supported by B. Karl to adjourn at 7:38 PM. All in favor 4-0, motion passed.

*Melissa* 6/25/24