



“DELIVERING THE EXTRAORDINARY”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
East Shore Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Meeting Minutes
1403 7th Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
Monday, November 9, 2020 (2:30 p.m.)

Mission

“East Shore Leadership Academy, in pursuit of excellence, will develop future leaders through a strong academic foundation and the development of high moral character.”

Call to Order

2:34p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

2:34p.m.

Roll Call

Martin Doorn, President – Present
Sharla Conlan, Vice President – Present
Margaret Swegles, Treasurer – Present
Michelle Fisher, Secretary – Present
Patrick Patterson, Director – Present

Recognition of other attendees

Neil Hartman, Northern Michigan University – Present
Betty LaPointe, Northern Michigan University – Present
Nancy Gardner, Bold Education Connections - Present
Deanna Keller, East Shore Leadership Academy - Present
John Weier, The Romine Group - Present

Opening remarks by the Board Chair

“During this time of uncertainty, we are doing the best we can to meet within the spirit of the law and the Open Meetings Act”

Motion to Approve or amend the Agenda

Motion to approve the November 9, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Agenda, by Conlan supported by Fisher.
Doorn – Yes Swegles – Yes Patterson – Yes

Call to the Public

The meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy's business and is not considered a public meeting. Those that may wish to address the Board on agenda items only may do so at this time by being recognized by the Board President. There will be a second Call to the Public near the end of the agenda where interested parties may address the Board on any items of their choice. Those that request to address the Board have a maximum of three minutes in which to speak. No public comments were made.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the October 12, 2020 minutes, by Fisher, supported by Patterson.

Doorn – Yes Swegles – Yes Conlan – Yes

Financial Report: John Weier presented the October 2020 financials and reported the school is on track and better than anticipated due to higher enrollment and less state and federal cuts than were expected. The school received the first State Aid payment in October 2020. We are also working with the COVID-19 grant funds that allow the school to purchase technology, connectivity resources for instruction, and many other allowable expenditures that fall under the guidelines. Since there are several restricted funds that are in play, budget amendments will be presented at the December 2020 board meeting.

Marketing Report: Nancy Gardner discussed marketing initiatives. Due to the MAPSA grant she has been able to enroll in a marketing class with Maria Montoya in Delivering 5 Star Customer Service. She also continues to encourage students, families and teachers to “tell their story.”

Enrollment/Retention Report: Deanna Keller shared that there are 177 students enrolled in ESLA. Basically 50% students are attending in-person and 50% attending virtually.

School-wide Goals Report: Deanna Keller mentioned the academic goals that will be used as measurable indicators for this school year.

Academic/Intervention Plan: Deanna Keller communicated that she would like to begin testing in December 2020. One of the intervention teachers is teaching 5th grade in a classroom reduction role. The others are in the classroom supporting the teacher and their Title students allowing more individualized attention.

East Shore Leadership Academy Safe School Preparedness Plan update: Deanna Keller reported there has been no COVID-19 cases in the school to this date. It has been suggested by the S. Clair County Health Department, Dr. Annette Mercantante, that St. Clair County schools start seriously thinking about transitioning to virtual learning as the risk level is “Highest” in the county. The decision to close determined by each district and up to the school's administration to make that recommendation. Should the larger districts close, ESLA will most likely follow suite.

Two-Way Communication Attendance Verification: Deanna Keller reported in the weeks of September 28, 2020 through October 30, 2020 ESLA students have maintained 85% or higher virtual attendance. 75% is needed to count enrolled students.

Extended Learning Plan - How Instruction will be Delivered: Deanna Keller reported that the school will be continuing with the three educational options: 100% virtual, 100% in-person, and the hybrid model at this time. In November 2020 and March 2021, students will have the opportunity to phase back into the classroom if they wish.

Building and Grounds Report: Nancy Gardner reported that some of the tasks on the “wish list” could be completed once we know what the budget will allow toward the end of the school year. Things are going well with the new custodial staff.

Bold Education Connections Workplace Safety Plan update: Nancy Gardner reported that the staff are following the plan as expected.

NMU Representative Report: Neil Hartman reported “Conflict of Interest” forms are due for all board members by December 2020. Sharla Conlan suggested an alternative format so forms can be signed electronically.

OLD BUSINESS

Heating System: Marty Doorn reported that the HVAC work is on schedule. By Friday November 13, 2020, the first-floor gym and cafeteria will be completed. The electrical work will follow. Older boilers are working fine and will heat the building if needed. We are looking into protective covers for the 4 units on the parking lot side.

Fall Policies and Procedures: No Questions about the proposed policies and procedures.

NEW BUSINESS

NMU Board Webinar Series: Sharla Conlan reported that the webinar primarily focused on higher level of leadership and management accountability as well as mission statements and goals. Eighteen schools were represented during the webinar.

Mentor Bonus: Administration would like to incorporate a \$1,000 bonus each for two of the teacher mentors for a total of \$2,000.

MiConnect Grant: Nancy Gardner reported that St. Clair County RESA is offering a grant through the State of Michigan in the amount of \$9710.89 for ESLA. The portion of the grant that ESLA will access is the “Connectivity” part. Funds will be reimbursed for purchase of computers/iPads that are on site by December 30, 2020.

Michigan Department of Treasury Teacher/Support Staff Grant: Deanna Keller reported that teachers and support staff who qualify can apply for the COVID-19 grant funds. Money is available for support staff at \$250 and teachers at \$500.00 for working through the shutdown period.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Corona Virus Updates – Web link presented for updates

Michigan Association of Public-School Academies – Web link presented for updates

Announcements and Recognition

Recognition:

None at this time.

Announcements:

The next Board of Director’s Regular Board Meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Monday December 14, 2020 in a virtual format.

Final call to the public

Interested parties may address the Board on any items of their choice. Those that wish to address the Board have a maximum of three minutes in which to speak.

