



“DELIVERING THE EXTRAORDINARY”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
East Shore Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Virtual
1403 7th Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
Monday, April 12, 2021 (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

2:33 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

2:33 p.m.

Roll Call

Martin Doorn, President attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan
Sharla Conlan, Vice President attending electronically from St. Clair County, Marysville, Michigan
Michelle Fisher, Secretary attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan
Margaret Swegles, Treasurer attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan
Patrick Patterson, Director attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan

Recognition of other attendees

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

Each board member attending the meeting must announce publicly at the outset of the meeting that they are in fact attending the meeting electronically, and state the county, city, township or village and state where the member is located for inclusion in the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve or amend the Agenda

Motion to approve the April 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Agenda, by Conlan, supported by Patterson
Doorn – Yes Fisher – Yes Swegles – 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 March 8, 2021 minutes with corrected "COVID-19" spelling, by Fisher supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes

Patterson – Yes

Swegles – Yes

Financial Report: John Weier reported that there is not much out of the ordinary and we are right where we are expected to be. The budget looks good. Most likely there will be budget amendments needed in the next couple of months.

Marty Doorn shared that administration is looking at making recommendations in May concerning healthcare and possible staff bonuses.

The school will continue to monitor the DTE bill in relation to the new HVAC system.

Marketing Report: Nancy Gardner reported that the marketing plan is being implemented consistently. Nancy Gardner reported they are continuing to work towards increasing enrollment. She is looking into using ESSR funds for recruitment and retention efforts.

Enrollment/Retention Report: Deanna Keller reported enrollment at 176 students. A few students were dropped after many efforts to reach out to them because they were not participating in school were ignored. Staff has done an excellent job reaching out to families.

School-wide Goals Report: Deanna Keller addressed the two Wildly Important Goals (WIG's) for ESLA. She reaffirmed that these are goals that were set forth by Northern Michigan University. She also reported the request to waive the federal requirement to administer state summative assessments was denied by the US Department of Education. As ESLA is 100% virtual through April 23, this will be very difficult to get testing done in the time frame they are due. One question discussed was how NMU, federal and state, will weigh the testing after this year's many challenges that both students and teachers have faced.

Academic/Intervention: Deanna Keller reported the intervention teachers continue to work with the at-risk students in the regular virtual K-4 classroom. Staff will be reporting at the May board meeting some of the challenges they have faced and will be facing in the upcoming school year.

East Shore Leadership Academy Safe School Preparedness Plan: Deanna Keller reported that there are a few updates from the MDHSS COVID-19 Return to School Toolkit that went into effect April 5, 2021:

- COVID-19 Vaccines section – Recommended age 16 and up
- Classroom Distancing to align with CDC's recommendation of three feet social distance in schools versus six feet
- Sports testing requirement
- Travel restrictions

- Quarantine recommendations for fully vaccinated individuals
- Information on variants
- The length of quarantine is back to 14 days without option to end at day 10

Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Reconfirmation and February 2021 Mid-year Goal Report: Nancy Gardner presented updates in the following areas.

1. Reconfirm Mode/Delivery of Instruction – The school continues to offer all three modes of instruction to students:
 - In Person – 100%
 - Hybrid – in person on Mondays for support and the rest of the week virtual
 - Virtual – 100%

In response to the St. Clair County Health Department’s recommendation, ESLA extended the pause of in-person instruction through April 23, 2021 due to the county rise in COVID-19 cases.
2. Weekly Two-Way Interaction Rates – March 2, 2021 through March 8, 2021 was 96.87% for an all-school average. March 9-15 was 95.83%, March 16-26 was 95.75 % and March 27-through April 2, 2021 was spring break.
3. County Update on COVID-19 Cases – The St. Clair County Health Department reported as of April 6, 2021 was 13,559 total cases, 8,802 recovered and 284 deaths for a total of 4473 active cases.
All BEC staff have been offered the opportunity to get the COVID-19 injection.
4. There were no confirmed COVID-19 cases at ESLA for the month of March 2021.
5. Public Comments – No public comments at this time.

Building and Grounds Report: Nancy Gardner reported the projects have been organized into 3 categories to help prioritize them. “Interior,” “Exterior Building and Grounds Enhancements,” and “Routine Maintenance.” Proposals of where to begin with these projects will be presented at the May board meeting. John Romine reported he will be meeting with the company that installed the new heating and cooling system to determine why the cost of DTE and SEMCO are higher than the old system.

Bold Education Connections Workplace Safety Plan update: Nancy Gardner reported that all BEC staff are following the plan as approved. She also reported the additions that Deanna Keller mentioned under the “Safe School Preparedness Report” will be communicated to staff in keeping with the current plan.

NMU Representative Report: Neil Hartman reported the following.

- NMU’s virtual Board/Administrator workshop is planned for Friday, April 16 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. If a quorum attends, the board will receive \$500, if the full board attends, \$1000.
- NMU recommends following the local health department guidelines in regard to programming.
- ESLA board member Sharla Conlan’s paperwork has been submitted to be re-appointed at the June 2021 board meeting.
- Board meetings will continue as virtual given the rise in active cases in St. Clair County.

OLD BUSINESS

NMU Board Webinar Report and Suggestions: Owing Board Culture During Change- April 21, 2021 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Marty Doorn, Patrick Patterson and possibly Peggy Swegles will attend to represent the board. Marty Doorn asked Neil Hartman if NMU is able to determine how effective the webinars are for board members.

ESLA Board Evaluation Summary: Marty Doorn discussed the results of the evaluation.

ESSR II: Initially estimated at \$319,376.00. Actual \$139,376.00. The administrative team is determining the school's needs.

NEW BUSINESS

ESSR III: The initial estimated amount is \$717,929.00; however, nothing has been approved yet.

Enrollment Goal: Administration discussed 170 as the projected enrollment number for the 2021-22 school year. John Weier stated funding will be based on 90% of the 2020-2021 student count and 10% on student count for 2021-2022.

Open Meetings Act Resolution: The board approved to extend electronic meeting participation through December 31, 2021. Resolution was approved. (See action items below).

Croskey-Lanni Engagement Letter: John Weier confirmed the engagement letter stating it is the typical statements and cost for a yearly audit. Letter was approved by board. (See action items below).

Bold Education Connections Evaluation: The board members looked over the new evaluation format and voted to approve it. (See action items below). A meeting will be scheduled to complete the evaluation virtually sometime in May 2021.

NMU Board Workshop: Board members Marty Doorn, Patrick Patterson, and possibly Peggy Swegles will be attending April 16, 2021 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

NMU Board Survey Preparation for April 16, 2021 Board/Administration workshop: The board discussed the survey results from NMU which will be addressed at the Board/Administrator workshop.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Corona Virus Updates – <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>

Michigan Association of Public-School Academies – <https://charterschools.org/ed/covid-19-charter-school-faqs>

Announcements and Recognition

Announcements:

The next Board of Director's Regular Board Meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Monday May 10, 2021 in a virtual format.

Recognition:

None at this time.

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.

No comments at this time.

Action Items

Motion to receive the March 2021 Financial Reports for review as presented, by Swegles supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes

Patterson – Yes

Fisher – Yes

Motion to receive the ESLA Safe School Preparedness Plan update as presented, by Conlan, supported by Fisher.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to receive and reaffirm the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan that includes the Mode of Delivery and Instruction, Two-Way Interaction Rates, County Update on COVID-19, ESLA COVID-19 Cases, including additions, and Public Comments as presented, by Conlan, supported by Patterson.

Doorn – Yes Fisher – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to receive the Bold Education Connections Workplace Safety Plan as presented, by Swegles, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Fisher – Yes Patterson – Yes

Motion to approve the Open Meetings Act Resolution as presented, by Fisher, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to approve the Croskey-Lanni Engagement Letter as presented by Swegles, supported by Patterson.

Doorn – Yes Conlan – Yes Fisher – Yes

Motion to approve the Bold Education Connections evaluation as presented by Fisher, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle Fisher, ESLA Board Secretary

These meetings of the Board of Directors are in public for the purpose of conducting the school's business and are not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during each meeting as indicated in the agenda.

Upon request to the academy office, the academy shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with a disability to be able to participate in this meeting.

Certification:

East Shore Leadership Academy Board of Directors duly adopted the above minutes at a properly noticed open meeting held on May 10, 2021 at which a quorum was present.

Board Secretary/Board Designee: _____ Approved, May 10, 2021