



CORNERSTONE JEFFERSON-DOUGLASS ACADEMY

Meeting of the Board of Directors Public School Academy Corporation

Meeting Location: 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 170, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2024

7:45 a.m.

1) BUSINESS ROUTINE

a) Call to Order (President)

The meeting called to order at 7:46 a.m.

b) Board of Directors Roll Call

Present: Patrick Nelson, Yvette Bing, Marla Thrower, David Felton

Absent: Robert Zawideh

Attendees: Maggie Durant, Chief Strategy Officer; Clint McDaniel, GVSU Representative (arrived at 7:59 a.m.); John Kava, Legal Counsel (arrived at 7:59 a.m.); Dustin Quarrella, Director of Enrollment (arrived at 8:22 a.m.); Mary Ann Johnson, Finance Director (attended virtually); Grant Heugel, Director of Operations; Elizabeth Noa Carrion, Compliance Director; Jerusha Usry, Executive Assistant to Leadership; Joe Valentic

McDaniel administered the oath to Yvette Bing.

c) Adoption of Agenda

Nelson motioned to add an Action Item to the agenda to approve the 3 line items in the financial statement that are over the 25% threshold. Bing seconded. All approved.

Nelson moved to adopt the agenda. Bing seconded. All approved.

d) Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Nelson moved. Thrower seconded. All approved.

e) Pledge of Allegiance

Board and attendees said the pledge of allegiance.

f) Sharing Gratitude

Board and attendees expressed their gratitude's.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to agenda items)

There was no public comment.

3) PRESENTATIONS

a) Organizational Update – Maggie Durant

We launched our major initiative Dawn to Dusk at Jefferson-Douglass Academy this fall. This program is based on the program piloted at Madison-Carver Academy. This program offers extra enrichment for the students, but it also assists parents as well. We have some positive updates in the Enrollment and Finance departments.

b) Academic Update – Maggie Durant

We are actively looking for an Academic Leader to head this department. We are focusing on getting back to basics. In Reading and Math things have gotten hard for our teachers. We haven't made enough gains, we have some pockets of growth, but not enough.

c) Enrollment Update – Dustin Quarrella

3,082 students have shown up since Count Day. We are +422 students across the network, we have exceeded our goal. This discontinues a 6-year decline. We are working on capturing full FTE for all students that were either absent or partially attended Count Day. We have gained 26 new students at JDA. We had 516 students in the Fall of 2023, as compared to currently having 542 students at JDA. We have gained enough students to offset the students we have lost. We need to focus on sustainability. We are planning on doing an earlier parent survey in December in addition to the one in the Spring to address any family concerns.

d) Finance – MaryAnn Johnson

Audit season has started, we are currently auditing all four districts. JDA and MCA are the furthest down the road to being complete. We are hoping to see some draft financials by the end of this week for JDA. Any amendments to the budget would happen in the December time frame. Beginning next year, we will be focusing on developing some processes that will build in seasonality. We are in the first quarter, when looking at the 9/30 income statement we are at about 20% of what we budgeted for the year. Our revenue stream will go up once the new enrollment numbers come in. On the business side, we are paying the audit fees which are reflected in the first two quarters of the school year. We will be getting outside financing to assist with our gap funding from Alliance Catholic Credit Union. We have brought in extra assistance in the finance department.

BOARD POLICY WORK

d) Board Meeting Dates for 2024-2025: Meetings are on Mondays at 8:00 a.m.

1. January 27, 2025
2. March 24, 2025
3. May 19, 2025
4. June 23, 2025

4) ACTION ITEMS

a) Approval of Instruction, Business, and Central line items which surpass the 25% threshold on the Financial Statement.

Nelson moved. Felton seconded. All approved.

5) AUTHORIZER COMMENTS - McDaniel

This year there was a record number of charter school alumni enrolled at GVSU, currently there are 326 charter school alumni students enrolled at GVSU. That is a 51% increase from last year.

We will review the results of the Annual School Performance Report beginning in January 2025.

We have an Early Teacher Career Cohort which started October 17, 2024. Any teachers in their first 5 years of teaching, receive support and guidance. Anyone interested can contact Jayme Lesperance.

2025 Core Values Award opens November 1st. This year’s initiative will celebrate the value of international perspective.

Transparency Icons need to be displayed on the school website and need to be up to date.

Charter school bills of note: MAPSA anticipates discussion around the following bills this Fall: Senate bills 943 – 947.

The next virtual Board training will take on December 16th.

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Next Meeting: January 27, 2025, at 8:00 a.m.

7) PUBLIC COMMENT (related to non-agenda items)

There was no public comment.

8) MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:38 a.m. by Nelson. Thrower seconded. The above minutes were duly adopted on _____ by the Cornerstone Jefferson-Douglass Academy Board of Directors at a properly noticed meeting held at which a quorum was present.

Submitted by Marla Thrower, Secretary