

Uplift Michigan Online School  
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, November 19, 2020  
6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

601 Fifth St NW Suite 500  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

1. Meeting called to order by President Jeff Bell at 6:02 pm

Roll Call

- a. Board Members Present: Jeff Bell, Mary Harwood, Denise Kish, Brian Wood
  - b. Call-in: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Victoria Malone, Doug McNeil, Max Shafik
  - c. In person: none
2. Pledge of Allegiance
  3. Statement of Purpose
  4. Regular Business
    - a. Adoption of Agenda
      - i. Motion to approve by Denise Kish, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
    - b. Public Comment
      - i. No public comment
    - c. Correspondence
      - i. No correspondence
    - d. Approval of Minutes from the regular Board meeting from October 22, 2020
      - i. Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried
    - e. Approval of Finance Reports
      - i. Motion to approve as presented by Denise Kish, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
  5. Leadership Update
    - a. Enrollment
      - i. Enrollment has been hovering around 460. Some increase in interest due to in person education pause. Anticipate staying below 500 students.
    - b. K-12 Update
      - i. Communications from ISD and Michigan Department of Education
        - Graduation audit was completed with zero errors and was approved.
        - Uplift has two students who currently have FTE conflicts. One conflict is resolved and the other is in process. Superintendent Lowry anticipates that Uplift will receive those funds as well as there is sufficient documentation to support the student's attendance.
        - The Special Education Corrective Action Plan progress report was received and approved by the ISD and MDE. Second progress report is due March 1, 2021.
        - Parent/Teacher conferences are in progress. The deadline for completion is the end of the month. Goal is to have 80% attendance. Currently have 72% signed up and 59% completed.

- c. Staffing
  - i. There are three middle school/high school positions available. Two have been filled. One will start in December and one in January.
  - ii. One Special Education position is still open.
  
- 6. Board Strategy and Planning
  - a. Budget Amendment
    - i. Motion to approve the general appropriation resolution for adoption by the Board as presented.
      - Jeff Bell – aye
      - Brian Wood – aye
      - Denise Kish – aye
      - Mary Harwood – aye
  - b. Board Member Attendance
    - i. Wayne Coleman has not been to a Board meeting in several months and has officially asked to be removed from the Board. A plaque will be sent to Mr. Coleman in recognition of his service to the Board.
    - ii. The Board is setting a fifth member.
      - There is currently one interested party. Paul Marineau who teaches at the Broad School of Business at Michigan State. Tim Wood will arrange a meeting for Board members to meet with Paul.
      - Mary Harwood: Is there any concern about not having a member from Stephenson Area Public Schools
      - Doug McNeil: It's a preference by the MDE, but not a requirement. It would be a good conversation to have with Stephenson's new superintendent.
    - iii. Motion to accept Wayne Coleman's resignation with regrets by Brian Wood, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried.
  - c. The Board will send a letter to the staff in appreciation for all their hard work.
  
- 7. Adjournment
  - a. Motion to adjourn at 6:37 pm by Denise Kish seconded by Jeff Bell, all members - aye, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary