

Uplift Michigan Online School
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 22, 2021
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 6:03 pm

Roll Call

- a. Board Members Present: Jeff Bell, Mary Harwood, Denise Kish, Paul Marineau, Brian Wood
 - b. Call-in: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Stephanie Hodnett, Mary Kennedy, Tonya Lowry, Victoria Malone, Max Shafik, Tim Wood
 - c. In person: none
2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Statement of Purpose
 4. Regular Business
 - a. Adoption of Agenda
 - i. Motion to approve by Mary Harwood, seconded by Paul Marineau, all members – aye, motion carried
 - b. Public Comment
 - i. No public comment
 - c. Correspondence
 - i. None
 - d. Approval of Minutes from the regular Board meeting from March 25, 2021
 - 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 Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
 5. Leadership Update
 - a. Management
 - i. Introduction of Stephanie Hodnett who oversees enrollment and social media.
 - b. Enrollment Update
 - i. Averaging about 20 leads per week with five per weekend.
 - ii. Currently we have 106 leads with 65 being actively followed up
 - iii. 15 approved enrollments and 5 pending
 - iv. It is difficult to compare with last year due to both COVID-19 and the change in marketing companies. Data is being collected so that statistics can be tracked for future years.
 - v. External efforts are taking place across social media platforms including outreach to third party family organizations and advocacy groups for teens and LGBTQ communities.
 - vi. Jeff Bell: With the increase in RV travel over the last year, we should pursue RV dealers and groups to give families the option to send their student to school while traveling.

- c. MAPSA has continued to send updates out regarding the discussions and proposals around per pupil funding for the 2021-22 school year. Nothing has been settled yet. NextLvl will budget based on a flat allowance coming into next year.
- d. K-12 Overview
 - i. Final round of NWEA testing will start in May and end in June.
 - ii. Graduation is June 5 at 1:00 PM EST, virtually. We have a total of 27 potential graduates at this time and one certificate of completion. Four students already graduated at the end of first semester and will be walking with the rest of their class in June.
 - iii. State Testing
 - Less than 20% of students are currently signed up to be tested. The majority of families are opting out. So far, only 29 students in grades 9-12 have tested. Testing for grades 3-7 is in May.
 - The changes in COVID rules and orders have also complicated matters since test sites needed to be booked in advance for specific dates and locations.
 - iv. Summer School
 - Submitted materials for a 23b grant for summer school for up to 80 students. 85 of Uplift's students in grades 9-12 qualify to attend summer school. If all students choose to enroll in summer school, there will be additional costs beyond what the grant will cover.
- e. Board Strategy and Planning
 - i. Tim wood will bring recommendations for Board terms to the next meeting for the Board to discuss and vote on
- f. Adjournment
 - i. Motion to adjourn at 6:49 pm by Brian Wood, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary