

Uplift Michigan Academy
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019
5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

601 Fifth St NW Suite 500
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

1. Meeting called to order by President Jeff Bell at 5:02 p.m.

Roll Call

- a. Board Members Present: Jeff Bell, Wayne Coleman (call), Mary Harwood (call), Denise Kish, Brian Wood
 - b. In person: Ron Kraft, Tim Wood
 - c. Call-in: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Tonya Lowry Victoria Malone, Brian McFerrin, Doug McNeil, Max Shafik
2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Statement of Purpose
 4. Adoption of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve with the amendment for the Fair and Equal Funding Resolution by Jeff Bell, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried

Public Comment

- a. No public comment

Correspondence

- a. No correspondence

Approval of the minutes from the Board Meeting on October 24, 2019

- a. Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried

Financial Report

- a. Three separate checks have been requested to cover planned expenses through January since there is no board meeting until January 22. Checks will be held in the safety deposit box until needed. If not needed, they will be voided and returned.
 - b. Motion to approve financial report as presented by Denise Kish, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
5. Leadership Update
 - a. Marketing
 - i. All marketing is being refined to improve our enrollment posture.
 - ii. Updated website should be ready for presentation at January board meeting.
 - iii. NxtLvl is working with Doug McNeil to implement name change approved at October board meeting.

- b. NCSI – Board Policy Process
 - i. Tim Wood met with Dick Halik on October 29 to review policies. Legally required and best practice policies were included. Recommends the board take a full month to review. Once approved, NCSI will notify the board of any legal changes that are made.
 - c. K-12 Overview
 - i. Superintendent Lowry presented academic data and progress toward school goals.
 - ii. Staff has started a Student Success Initiative that has focused on 55 students since the beginning of November.
 - iii. Building Positive Parent and Student Relationships: Families have been sent a survey. New families participate in a robust orientation process to prepare students for the virtual environment.
 - iv. Creating a Caring Environment: Creating metrics and gathering data to help measure this goal. Currently teachers hold 1:1 meetings, study halls, Friday Fun Days. There are also phone calls and emails as well as post cards from administration.
6. Board Strategy and Planning
- a. Audit Update
 - i. Brickley DeLong completed the audit process. Brian McFerrin reviewed with the board. Due to lack of documentation from previous management (A3), funds were carried over from the previous school year and reported as revenue as of June 2019.
 - ii. NxtLvl made a reasonable effort to provide accurate estimates.
 - b. Budget Update
 - i. No change from budget that was present in August. Management is diligently working to grow enrollment and evaluate expenses.
 - ii. Motion to approve the revised budget by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried.
 - c. Fair and Equal Funding Resolution
 - i. Motion to approve support for the Resolution for Fair and Equal Funding with amendment that says “to reinstate equal funding for all public schools in the state retroactive to the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year.”
 - ii. Roll call vote:
 - 1. Jeff Bell – aye; Wayne Coleman – aye; Mary Harwood – aye; Denise Kish – aye; Brian Wood – aye
7. Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m. (Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried)

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary