

Uplift Michigan Online School
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 25, 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 6:12 pm

Roll Call

- a. Board Members Present: Jeff Bell, Mary Harwood, Denise Kish, Brian Wood (joined meeting during Superintendent Lowry's presentation on the State Report Card)
 - b. Call-in: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Max Shafik, Tonya Lowry, Tim Wood, Ron Kraft, Doug McNeil,
 - c. In person: none
2. Adoption of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
 3. Public Comment
 - a. No public comment
 4. Correspondence
 - a. No correspondence
 5. Approval of Minutes from the regular Board meeting from May 28, 2020
 - a. Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried
 6. Financial Reports
 - a. Motion to approve as presented by Denise Kish, seconded by Jeff Bell, all members – aye, motion carried
 7. Leadership Update
 - a. Management
 - i. Uplift has exceeded 85% retention goal
 - ii. Marketing money budgeted for 4th quarter is going to be spent over the next three months.
 - b. K-12 Overview - Strategic Goals Update
 - i. PowerPoint presentation by Superintendent Lowry that will be provided to the board after the meeting.
 - ii. Engaging Student Academically
 - Last Advisory session attendance goal was again exceeded.
 - Passing rate goals have also been exceeded by over 10% from first semester.

- c. State Report Card
 - i. UMOS is at or above the general trend compared to other cyber schools.
- d. Building Positive Relationships
 - i. Overall Retention = 86.23%
 - ii. 2020-21 Enrollment
 - Re-enrolled: 144
 - Newly enrolled: 42
 - Applications submitted: 34
 - Applications requested, not returned: 88
 - iii. Many families are waiting on their current schools to make an announcement on the fall plan.
 - iv. Denise Kish: What type of enrollment increase do we normally see in August and September? Robert Giordano: A spike of enrollment is seen in August. Families who do enroll last minute are generally more at risk. Travis Gostinger: After October count day, an inflow is also seen allowing for Section 25e funding. Tonya Lowry: Bulk of enrollment typically is in March through June, but due to COVID-19, families are waiting to see what is going to happen with brick and mortar schools.
 - v. Jeff Bell: Is the marketing company testing different messaging what messaging is resonating? Robert Giordano: Marketing has been testing with key words and the ones they are using are working across the board. They need another 30 days to really see a good response on how those are working.
 - vi. Jeff Bell: Is retargeting being used by the Marketing department based on what the families click on to get initial information? Robert Giordano: Will get a clear answer on that.
- e. District Provided Professional Development - June 24 - 25
 - i. Day 1:
 - Reading supports will be a large focus for all staff starting in the fall. Teachers are working to build out a plan to support ELA
 - NextLvl joined the teachers to discuss Academic Measures and goals for 20/21 School year
 - Clubs and enrichment activities are being planned out for the new school year
 - Employability system was presented and we are looking at how we may be able to use this system.
 - IT joined the teachers to discuss computer care
 - Orientation process was highly discussed to create a plan to help families transition into online learning.
 - ii. Day 2:
 - Travis Gostinger spoke to staff about the state educational landscape.
 - Jacquelyn Leib spoke to staff about the poverty cycle and how that can affect our students.
 - Staff working with 31A gave everyone an overview of how we utilize the funds and what supports we want to have in place for students who qualify.
 - Teachers took time to look at their own advisory students' data and whether academic performance was affected by advisory.

- f. Corrective Action Plan - 2018/19 Special Education - Timeliness of IEPs
 - i. Superintendent Lowry has completed this CAP and will have it submitted before July 1st. Main issues are records not being sent to us regardless of the records request being sent and parents not informing us on the enrollment form that their student had an IEP.
 - ii. UMOS had 17% of students with an IEP in the 19/20 school year.
 - g. Graduation
 - i. Unique and amazing. The students who attended had a great time. Each student had an opportunity to speak. Lindsey Wesley was able to take photographs of the ceremony.
 - h. Compliance Items
 - i. Everything is completed and submitted except the End of Year TSDL collection which is due July 31st.
8. Board Strategy and Planning
- a. Policies for Adoption
 - i. Dr. Tim Wood: The National Charter School Institute has recommended revising five existing legal policies that were presented to the board last month for review.
 - ii. Motion to approve revision of the five presented legal policies to the board policies by Denise Kish, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
9. 2019/2020 Budget Amendment
- a. Due to the pandemic and its impact on the state and economy, there have been discussions about what the school aid fund will look like. Current school year cuts have been discussed, but no final decision has not yet been made. NextLvl is recommending to budget for a \$200 per-student cut to plan for the remainder of the year.
 - b. Superintendent Lowry: Auditor determined 3 additional students were able to be counted after finalizing the spring audit. No other errors were made in the audit resulting in 180 instead of 177 students counted.
 - c. Motion to approve the General Appropriation resolution of the 2019/20 budget as presented by Jeff Bell, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
 - d. Motion to approve the General Appropriation resolution for the 2020/21 school year budget as presented by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all member – aye, motion carried
10. July Board Meeting
- a. Nothing is currently scheduled, but a reorganizational meeting is needed for July.
 - b. Board will on the 4th Thursday in July, July 23, at 6:00 pm.
11. Adjournment
- a. Motion to adjourn at 7:11 pm by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary