

Marshall Academy Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
October 12, 2016 6:00P.M.
Proposed Minutes

I. Meeting Call to Order
Called to order at 6:04P.M.

II. The oath of office was administered to Carrie Knobloch.

III. Roll Call
Present: Mary Kempinski, Heather Weberling, Laura Koziarski, Carrie Knobloch
Absent: Patti Cornwell

Also Present: Frank Patterson, Stephanie Kimball, Don Haist, Sara Burtis, Raph Cunningham
Public: Will Smith, Cyd Deane, Morgan Hull, Kameron Sibert, Miranda Hall, Linda LaNue,
Tom Lowe, Todd Cook, Stacy Cooper, Deb Palmer, Kirsty Husted, John Miller, Luke Husted,
Deb Palmer, Jeff McConnell, Cara McConnell, Josh DeJong, Molly Swank, Hailay Barclay,
Ann Teshirhart and Brian Teshirhart.

III. Public Comment
None

IV. Approval of Consent Calendar
A. There was a change made in new business.
B. Student enrollment evaluation was changed to Disciplinary Hearing. It was moved to right after the audit presentation.

Motion made by Koziarski supported by Weberling that the Consent Calendar including the September 14, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes, be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Correspondence
None

VI. Treasurer's Report

- September no state aid
- September is a floating month
- Checks and fees are mostly payroll
- Nothing is over budget

The Board reviewed the September Financial Statement. It was moved by Knobloch and supported by Koziarski that the treasurer's report was approved including the September Financial Statement. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business

A. Audit presentation by Randy Darnell

- The school is in "Good opinion" The school did nothing to lead the auditor to believe the Academy did use proper accounting principles.
- The Academy's governmental activities ended with a deficit of \$949,566 this year compared to the \$1,034,016 deficit of 2015
- Changes in the net position were \$84,450

- The Academy's final budget for the general fund anticipated revenues would exceed expenditures by \$411,295, the actual results for the year showed revenues over expenditure of \$353,565
- Financial statement based on a non profit. Shows everything within the school
- The Academy's net position at the end of the year was a deficit of \$949,566
- The total revenues were \$2,157,617. State aid foundation allowance included in revenue from state sources accounts for most of the Academy's revenue-87%
- 19 years before debts will be paid off
- Supplementary info- Comparing the final budget to the actual amounts. Revenue was close to what the Academy and management anticipated.
- Unfavorable- expenses 85,668 higher than anticipated.
- Material weakness was found. The Academy is non-compliant with the requirements of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act for the year ended June 30, 2016.
- The auditor recommended that management and the Board implement procedures to better monitor actual revenues and expenditures in comparison to the approved budget so that the appropriate budgetary amendments can be made before year end.
- Title one advanced payments -the school can't draw down money until it is it spent.
- The auditor recommended that a grant person should monitor federal grants.
- It is recommended that the Academy needs to label all of the equipment for insurance reasons.
- Documentation of revue- last year there was 5 out of 40 with no approval by the headmaster.
- Information technology- It is recommended that a backup be put in place and be tested and monitored to make sure info is not lost or stolen in an emergency situation.

It was moved by Knobloch and supported by Koziarski to approve the audit report. The motion passed unanimously

VIII. Disciplinary Hearing

At 6:15 p.m., it was moved by Koziarski and supported by Knobloch that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of considering unacceptable student behavior and student suspension. On a roll call vote of 4-0, the motion carried. ("Yes:" Knobloch, Koziarski, Kempenski, Weberling.)

At 7:30 p.m., the Board returned to public session.

Katz stated:

I, Leslie Katz, Headmaster of Marshall Academy recommend to the board that elementary student be suspended for the remainder of the school year and must apply for reinstatement.

It was moved by Knobloch and supported by Koziarski to suspend a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Katz stated:

I, Leslie Katz, based on the Michigan Statues regarding physical assault- Student

to employee or volunteer. "The term physical assault means intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence," have suspended middle school student for 180 days. I request that the board approve my measure.

It was moved by Koziarski and supported by Weberling to support this decision. The motion passed unanimously.

B. AmriCorps VISTA

- Morgan Hall, Kameron Sibert, Miranda Hall and Linda Lanue were present from AmeriCorps VISTA.
- Morgan Hall is the leader for this term
- VISTA is a federally funded national service program and partnered with Albion College.
- AmeriCorps Vista serves public schools who service Albion students.
- It is 3-5 year commitment.
- Partner with public schools k-12 to provide additional programs to help students thrive.
- AmeriCorps Vista develops after school programs, helps with transportation needs, and prepares students for college or the next steps after high school.
- Vista would like to do a survey to see what is actually happening in classes and what year two students need to be ready for.
- Linda LaNue is contact for Marshall Academy.

C. Diversity Dance Team

- The Diversity Dance Team received a \$689 grant from The Marshall Community Foundation.
- The team has had an amazing start to the year. It went from 30 kids last year to 50 kids this year.
- One of the main goals of the dance team is to unite the communities of Albion, Marshall and Battle Creek within Marshall Academy.
- Another goal is to give the kids a safe place to express themselves artistically.
- The dance team has made many connections throughout the community and is collaborating with the New Vibe Drum line to do a show during Marshall Academy's homecoming game.
- This summer the dance team held a dance camp and gave 4 students scholarships to attend Dance Dynamics summer camps.

D. Bus for after school on Thursdays

- Because of the increase in numbers of the dance team, a bus is needed to transport kids home on Thursdays.

Motion to allocate busing as needed was motioned by Knobloch and seconded by Weberling. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Watch Dog Dads

- Mr. Miller was approached by board members to start the Watch Dog Dad program at Marshall Academy. The program is a volunteer program for dads. The program serves as an extra set of eyes and hands in the school. Mr. Cook comes in and helps out where ever he is needed. Mr. Cook is brand new to Marshall Academy. Avery Cook is his daughter.
- Carrie Knobloch stated her husband was part of this group in Grand Rapids. Her kids were proud that their dad was in school. She stated it is good for the school culture to see dads and male figures in our school.

- DOGS stands for Dads of great students. There are 126 dads in the program across the state. Test scores are up and bullying is down in other schools the dads work with.
 - Cook stated he helps with security, watches for strangers in the school and makes sure the doors are locked. Cook is CPI trained.
 - There is a \$400 startup kit available but Cook thinks we can do it without the \$400 cost. He just needs money for a pizza party to recruit other dads.
 - Mr. Miller stated he wants the dads to be in uniform and wearing their DOG shirts
 - Koziarski asked who is in charge of scheduling dads. Cook stated he is.
- A motion was made to formally adopt the program and designate any necessary funding by Knobloch and was seconded by Weberling. The motion passed unanimously.**

F. Policy approval- Mid-year enrollment

- As recommended by a school attorney Marshall Academy will not enroll a student that is currently serving a suspension from another school. Parents/guardians wishing to enroll a student currently serving a suspension from school district may take their case to the Board of Directors at their regularly scheduled meeting.
- Students wish to enroll mid-year are often looking for an alternative to being suspended or removed from another school in the area. This would give us a safeguard from enrolling potentially dangerous students, while still allowing a process for families to request enrollment under extenuating circumstances.

Motion to accept the new policy was made by Koziarski and seconded Weberling. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Approval of the student/parent hand book.

- Amendments to the handbook
 - Pg 6 Suspension Policy- The Marshall Academy Board of Directors is the only body able to expel a student from the Academy. An Expelled student may request reinstatement to the Marshall Academy Board of Directors.
 - Pg 6 Behavior Log- Remove from handbook. This section seems suited to the Faculty Handbook allowing teacher to modify the system based on grade level and experience.
 - Pg 8 Tier 3 Infractions
 - Fighting- Include physical aggression with fighting.
 - 1st offence:
Student white slip, rest of the day in Reset Room, 1 day of suspension.
 - 2nd offence:
Student white slip, parent meeting, rest of the day in Reset Room, up to 3 days suspension
 - 3rd offence:
Student white slip, parent meeting, rest of the day in reset room, indefinite expulsion/referral to civil authorities.
- Conduct detrimental to the normal and/or safe operation of school business. Adjust punishments as a Tier 3.
- 2nd offense:
Up to 5 days of suspension. Remove restorative service.
 - 3rd offense:

Indefinite suspension and referral to school board for suspension or expulsion/referral to civil authorities.

Pg 9 Tier 3 Infractions

Disrespect

Add in insubordination with disrespect.

1st Offense:

"Necessary meeting with guardian" – amend to "Necessary conversation with guardian."

"Guardian, administrator, teacher and student will determine the hours of Restorative Service. And/or ISS/OSS as determined by Administration.

2nd offense:

Add consequences with ISS/OSS as determined by Administration.

3rd offense:

Indefinite suspension and referral to school board for suspension or expulsion/referral to civil authorities.

Pg 10 Tier 4 Infractions

Gross Insubordination

1st offense

"Necessary meeting with guardian" –amend to "Necessary conversation with guardian."

2nd offense

Remove Restorative service as 2nd offense consequence.

It was moved by Knobloch and supported by Weberling to accept the handbook with amendments.. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Other Business

X. Business/Management Report

A. Headmaster

- Ferris has a designation of green, red, yellow for all of their schools. Marshall Academy has been designated a yellow school. The Academy needs to come up with a plan to increase test scores.
- Katz stated she has planned several trainings and PD days to train staff and remain consistent.
- Staff can get extra training from GVSU professional development. Those fees are waived
- The high school and the elementary meetings have been separated so that Katz can attend both.
- The Academy reinstated reading A-z reading intervention program.
- Katz has been working closely with CISD
- Haist stated Ferris has 22 schools. Yellow schools have some things to improve on. Red schools have significant difficulty. 5 of the Ferris schools are currently on Red.
- Enrollment is 303 students
- The Academy needs to think about capped class size before open enrollment
- The Academy is capped at 26 now.
- Katz would like this before Christmas

- Koziarski asked about the reading buddy program and if the school needs someone to help calling. Katz stated Mrs. Knobloch is helping with that.

B. Midwest School Services

- Ralph Cunningham wanted to congratulate the school on the wonderful start and making our goal of 300 students.

C. Ferris State University

- Glad to have Carrie on the board.
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XI. Extended Public Comment

- Cyd Deane commented she was really glad Vista is here. She thinks it would be great for our school and the reading A-Z program. She stated she is worried about phone use and a non-consistent teacher in Science
- Tom Lowe stated he was worried about the change in the MA culture. Parent involvement used to be very important in the Academy. Lowe stated that this year a student laid hands on his daughter and made her consider criminal charges. Lowe wants his daughter to feel safe in her school. Lowe feels that his daughter has a right to be safe in school.
- Cara McConnell stated she has heard a lot of concerns about a student in her daughter's class. She thinks something needs to be done about this student. McConnell stated she thinks a psychological evaluation of the student should be done to make sure it is safe for this student to be in school. McConnell stated that she doesn't feel like things are being handled properly. Her daughter has been at Marshall Academy since kindergarten and now she doesn't want to go there anymore.
- Jeff McConnell stated he knows things are being addressed but it seems to be taking too long. He also stated that his family likes it at Marshall Academy and doesn't want to go anywhere else.
- Ann Tshierhart asked why the police were dispatched to the school. Tshierhart feels parents should be notified with a blanket text of what happened or what could be happening.
- Marissa Voke stated she is a parent and employee. She gave high kudos to Katz and Burtis for doing a great job. Voke stated that Katz and Burtis have been carrying this school. Voke stated she has an interesting perspective being a parent and employee. Voke stated she works in the reset room and somedays it's really hard. Voke stated she feels the teachers are doing an amazing job and Marshall Academy is a safe school and a safe place to work.
- Jeff Mconnell stated the Watch Dog Dad program and reading program can help with these problems.

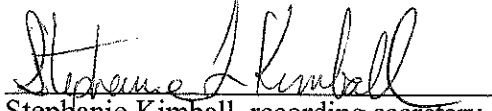
XII. Extended Board Comment

- Kempenski stated the new administration is just amazing. She stated that there are things that go on behind of the scenes that cannot be made public. She stated this has been one of the most positive years she has been a part of and she has total confidence in the administration. She also stated Marshall Academy has always been prudent, ethical and lawful and that's what the school expects and what the school will do.
- Knobloch commented that her kids have attended other school systems and Marshall Academy is far above any of the other schools. Marshall Academy has grown leaps and bounds with its school leadership.
- Kempenski stated this is the biggest board meeting we have ever had.
- Knoboch stated parents should get involved and volunteer.

XIII. Reconfirmation of Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 9th 2016 at 6:00 P.M.
Budget meet at 5:30

XIV. Kempinsky motioned to adjourn, Knobloch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:46pm.

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,


Stephanie Kimball, recording secretary

Date: October 12, 2016

Approved by the Board of Directors at its November 9, 2016 meeting.

Board Secretary 

Date: 11-10-16