

**Hope Academy of West Michigan Board of Directors**  
**Approved Regular Meeting Minutes**

*Mission: Hope Academy of West Michigan is a safe place for students to grow and achieve academic success.*

**Date:** March 28, 2022

**Time:** 7:00 AM

**Place:** Hope Academy of West Michigan  
240 Brown St SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Barth Roberts called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.*
  - A. **Board Members Present.** Barth Roberts, Dennis Cuson, Todd Medendorp, Peter Kladder and Dr. Bernard Ayoola.
  - B. **Board Members Absent (with prior notice).** Barbara Foster.
  - C. **Others Present.** Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, Executive Director Business Office; Dr. Michele Sideman, FSU Representative; Teriena Schwartz, Principal; Deborah Schuitema, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Debra Salguero, Family Engagement Coordinator; Erek Kooyman, Amplify GR Representative and Kristine Stewart, Interim Assistant Principal
- II. **Public Comment\* (limited to agenda items only).** *None.*
- III. **Approval of Agenda.** *A motion to add the approval of the March 23, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes to the agenda and approve the agenda was made by Denny Cuson and supported by Peter Kladder. The motion passed unanimously.*
- IV. **Consent Calendar**
  - A. Approval of February 28, 2022 Proposed Regular Minutes and March 23, 2022 Proposed Special Meeting Minutes. *A motion to approve the February 28, 2022 Proposed Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 23, 2022 Proposed Special Meeting Minutes was made by Todd Medendorp and supported by Dr. Bernard Ayoola. The motion passed unanimously.*
- V. **Old Business**
  - A. New Member Needed. *Hope Academy of West Michigan's Board of Directors currently has an opening for one additional member.*
- VI. **New Business**
  - A. Student Achievement. *Debbie Schuitema presented the Winter student achievement data. The Board requested that leadership provide benchmarking against WIDA scores to show the impact of English proficiency on MAP results.*

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- B. School Monthly Summary. *Teriena Schwartz presented the School Monthly Summary, which included recent projects and lessons students have completed.*
- C. Leadership Update. *Dr. Heidi Cate shared the final decision is waiting on the decision on whether to move the high school.*
- D. DAN Updates. *Tabled until next meeting.*
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- E. Recon Report Summary. *Dr. Heidi Cate and Teriena Schwartz provided an overview of the report and the steps being taken to address some of the more significant items. The school has applied for the Michigan State Police grant to help cover some of the costs.*
- F. Emergency Operations Plan Review. *The Board suggested removing the names of the individuals in the Plan and identifying the roles. A motion to approve the Plan was made by Peter Kladder and supported by Denny Cuson. The motion passed unanimously.*
- G. Integrity Educational Services Reports
1. Financial Reports
    - a. Monthly Financial Reports. *Leslie Cummings reviewed the February financial reports with the Board. A motion to approve the check register was made by Todd Medendorp and supported by Dr. Bernard Ayoola. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - b. IES Services Agreement. *A motion to approve sending the proposed agreement to FSU for review was made by Peter Kladder and supported by Todd Medendorp. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - c. First Draft of FY23 Budget. *Leslie presented and summarized the first draft of the budget for the 2022-23 school year. The Board will review and bring any comments to the April 25, 2022 meeting.*
    - d. Berrien Springs Agreement—*A motion was made by Todd Medendorp and supported by Peter Kladder to allow Dr. Heidi Cate to issue an intention to renew the agreement for another school year. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - e. Auditor RFP Update. *Leslie presented the summary of the bids for the three firms that responded to the request for proposal. Based on reference checks, proposed fees and the West Michigan client list, she recommended Vredeveld Haefner. A motion to approve Vredeveld Haefner as the audit firm for fiscal years 2022, 2023 and 2024 was made by Todd Medendorp and supported by Barth Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.*
  2. Human Resources Reports. *Leslie Cummings reported that there are two candidates for the Assistant Principal role and a decision will be made once the Board decides on the location for the high school. The HR Generalist role has been filled and the candidate will start on April 11<sup>th</sup>.*
- H. Plan to Win – Chapter 5. *Tabled until next meeting.*

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I. Board Visitation Schedule. *Barth Roberts requested that a schedule be developed to allow each of the Board members to periodically visit the school when it is in session. Amanda Shyne will work with the Board members to develop the schedule.*

J. Strategic Planning.

1. Visionary Planning Committee Report. *The Board reviewed the discussions from the two town hall meetings and the Board Special Meeting held on March 23, 2022. Teriena Schwartz shared the current enrollment numbers by grade level for the 2022-23 school year. Following the discussion, Peter Kladder made a motion to continue to explore options to address the space issue and not to move the high school at this time. The motion was supported by Dr. Bernard Ayoola. The motion passed unanimously.*

2. Building Space Committee Report. *This Committee will be combined with the Academic Planning Committee. Barbara Foster, Peter Kladder and Dr. Bernard Ayoola will chair this committee. This committee will work with leadership and other stakeholders to evaluate the current space and develop a plan to best utilize the available space.*

3. Academic Planning Committee Report. *Combined with the Building Space Committee.*

K. FSU-CSO Updates &/or Report—Dr. Michele Siderman. *Dr. Siderman briefly reviewed the FSU April Summary. She reminded the Board that they still need to earn one additional credit before June 30, 2022.*

**VII. Correspondence.** *The Board received the letter sent by Dr. White to all FSU schools regarding the proper uses and accounting for the Federal ARP ESSER III funds.*

**VIII. Extended Public Comment\* (limited to non-agenda items only).** *None.*

**IX. Reconfirmation of Next Regular Meeting Date**

April 25, 2022 at 7:00 a.m.

Hope Academy of West Michigan

240 Brown Street SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49507

**X. Adjournment.** *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Bernard Ayoola and supported by Peter Kladder. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m.*

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*Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors under Items II and IX above are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and a total time allowance not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.*

*Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the Academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) days prior to the Board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner. (Source: Board Policy 0167.3)*

*Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Hope Academy of West Michigan/Integrity Educational Services Central office at 3300 36th Street, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.)*

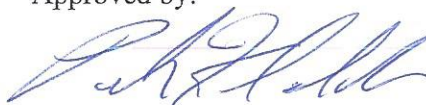
Submitted by:



Amanda Shyne  
Recording Secretary

Date: 3/28/2022

Approved by:



Peter Kladder  
Board Secretary

Date: 4/26/2022