

Uplift Michigan Academy  
Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, August 22, 2019  
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 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

- Board Members present: Jeff Bell, Mary Harwood, Denise Kish, Brian Wood
- Board Members absent: Wayne Coleman
- Others present: Ron Kraft, Doug McNeil
- Call-In: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Tonya Lowry, Victoria Malone, Lily Saunders, Max Shafix, Tim Wood

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Statement of Purpose

4. Regular Business

- Adoption of Agenda. **Motion to approve** by Jeff Bell, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
- Visitor Comments: None
- Correspondence:
  - Charter Contract Amendment provided by Doug McNeil
    1. **Motion to recognize** the Charter Contract Amendment as written by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
  - Letter from MDE re pupil accounting audit
    1. August 5th letter was received from the MDE. A meeting was requested with Ron Kraft and board members on Wednesday, September 4, 2019. Representatives from both boards and NextLvl will attend. Dickinson Wright will also be present as joint legal counsel for Authorizer and UMA. This is MDE's response to oversight in investigations.
    2. Superintendent Tonya Lowry will continue to communicate regularly with families and stakeholders.
- Approval of Minutes. Motion to approve minutes from May 23, June 5, June 5 closed session, July 25 and August 1 as amended to correct Summit Management to NextLvl by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried.
  - Note: Minutes from the closed session will be kept for one year and one day from the date of approval (August 22, 2019) in the safe located in the Registrar's office in Stephenson, MI.
- Financial Reports: Max Shafik reviewed the current financial report. This report was created based on projections and will be updated as real student count numbers are available.

5. Leadership Update

- Management:
    - Last year's computers do not meet the minimum requirements to run the curriculum platform. Currently have a bid from Quality Computer Solutions for \$127,556.64 for staff and student computers. Will be soliciting bid from Sehi to comply with state bidding requirements. If Sehi cannot beat QCS, will solicit bid from third company.
      1. **Motion to approve** an amount not exceeding \$127,556.64 for the purchase of 18 staff and 150 student computers and relevant software by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried.
    - An organizational chart delegating roles and responsibilities has been drafted and will be presented at board training on October 24, 2019.
    - Enrollment update: 81 fully re-enrolled, 2 new enrollments, 50 pending paperwork. Marketing is working to gather enrollment documents from 30 interested students bringing the total to 163.
  - K-12 Overview:
    - The Board was sent the updated handbook for review. Similar to last year, but with updates and adjustments to reflect the new school year and new curriculum. One additional change needs to be made to reflect that computers will be provided to students.
      1. **Motion to approve** the handbook with the change regarding computers by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried.
    - Curriculum mapping has been completed for first semester. Second semester is in progress, but the majority has been completed. Staff will continue to work through the year. At least one MESSA unit per course will be added. Each course will use the same curriculum map. Documentation is kept in the UMA Hub on Google Drive and is available to all teachers.
6. Board Strategy and Planning
- Board training will take place October 24, 2019 from 5-9 p.m.
  - NextLvl recommends UMA use National Charter Institute policies which are frequently updated, provide cover for school and board of directors and is recognized national. Tim Wood will invite a representative to present at the September 26 board meeting.
  - Motion to authorize funds to NextLvl for school operations by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried.
7. Motion to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried)

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary