

Uplift Michigan Academy
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 24, 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 5:11 p.m.

Roll Call

- a. Board Members Present: Jeff Bell, Wayne Coleman (call), Mary Harwood, Denise Kish, Brian Wood
 - b. In person: Ron Kraft, Tonya Lowry, Tim Wood
 - c. Call-in: Robert Giordano, Travis Gostinger, Victoria Malone, Doug McNeil, Max Shafik
2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Statement of Purpose
 4. Adoption of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve with correction of start time to 5 p.m. 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 September 26, 2019

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

Financial Report

- a. PresenceLearning sent an invoice for student support services in the amount of \$5,780 for the 18/19 school year. The payment will be made from the 19/20 budget. May be able to defer as a liability from last year.
 - b. Motion to approve the payment of \$143,917.79 to NextLvl for expenses through November by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
 - c. Motion to approve financial report as presented by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried
5. Leadership Update
 - a. Management
 - i. Continuing to see positive growth, with 167 students enrolled and 12-13 in process. Marketing is working to focus on target groups. Fantastic teacher engagement on social media. Positive emails and reviews from families.

- ii. Count Day: 151 of 154 students counted with one additional pending fulfillment of 10/30 rule.
 - b. Marketing
 - i. Marketing team would like to add “virtual” or “online” to the school name so that families can more easily find Uplift when searching for online programs. NextLvl would like the staff to make the decision.
 - ii. Motion to allow NextLvl to include “Online” or “Virtual” in the school name based on staff input by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members – aye, motion carried
 - iii. Website is in the process of being updated for ADA compliance and search engine optimization (SEO)
 - c. Student Engagement
 - i. Starting in November, raw data will be available and broken down to student, teacher and school level to identify current engagement and growth areas.
 - d. K-12 Overview
 - i. Superintendent Lowry reviewed results of Family Check-In Surveys. Received 43 responses representing 48 families.
 - ii. Orientation has been changed so that students and families have a smoother onboarding process. New students will take NWEA tests as part of their orientation, prior to beginning classes.
 - e. Motion to adopt the required Board Policy prohibiting referring or assisting a student in obtaining an abortion by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried.
- 6. Board Strategy and Planning
 - a. Audit Update
 - i. NextLvl continues to work with Brickley DeLong to finalize audit and create a solid process moving forward. Audit will be filed by the end of October so that future state aid payments are no impacted.
 - b. Board Meeting Calendar Update
 - i. Motion to conduct November board meeting on November 21, 2019 at 5 p.m. by Jeff Bell, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried
 - c. Legal Update
 - i. No feedback has been received from meeting with MDE.
 - ii. Doug McNeil provided updated language regarding attendance for the handbook. Additional information was also added about communication stating that families will utilize the email they have been provided.
 - iii. Motion to update the handbook based on the previous conversation and pending legal approval by Jeff Bell, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried
 - d. Board workshop to follow directly after regular meeting.

7. Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m. (Motion to approve by Jeff Bell, seconded by Denise Kish, all members –aye, motion carried)

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Harwood, Board Secretary