

Uplift Michigan Online School
Board of Education Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, May 25, 2023
6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

4451 Hunsberger Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

1. Board meeting called to order at by Paul Marineau at 6:17pm

Roll Call

- Board Members present: Arturo Armijo, Mary Harwood, Paul Marineau, Brian Wood
- Board Members Absent: Soraida Cunningham
- Call-in: Travis Gostinger, Lori LaMontagne, Tonya Lowry, Ashley Shehow
- In person: Tim Wood

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Statement of Purpose

4. Regular Business

- a. Introduction of potential board members

- i. Resumes will be sent to board members

- b. Adoption of Agenda

- i. Motion to adopt the agenda by Arturo Armijo seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried

- c. Public Comment

- i. None

- d. Correspondence

- i. Menominee ISD superintendent Steve Martin informed us that MDE is doing a quality review of our auditor Jessica Arkens. Uplift is one of two schools chosen to be reviewed. This is the second year in a row Uplift was selected for a quality review. We spent an entire year appealing 2 FTE.

- e. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from the September board meeting by Arturo Armijo seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried

5. Financial Reports

- a. Motion to approve financial report as presented by Brian Wood, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members – aye, motion carried

6. Leadership Update

- a. Management update

1. 2023-24 Budget Overview Discussion

- a. Scenario: What does the budget look like if state aid is decreased by 20%?

- ii. K-12 overview

1. Grade Level Project for 2023-24 School Year

- a. Staffing based on goal of 850 students

2. Attendance Policy Adjustment

- a. Previous wording: “Completion of 1,098 instructional learning hours, equivalent to 180 school days (may be a combination of transfer equivalency and time spent in Uplift Michigan Academy programs at the rate of 6.5 hours per day)”
 - b. New wording: “Completion of 1,098 instructional learning hours, equivalent to 180 school days (may be a combination of transfer equivalency and time spent in Uplift Michigan Academy programs.)”
 - c. The attendance policy determines if the school is complying with the pupil accounting manual when counting students.
 - d. Motion to approve the updated attendance policy as written by Brian Wood, seconded by Paul Marineau, all members – aye, motion carried
3. CSI Designation Progress Update
- a. We continue to work with MDE and Menominee ISD.
 - b. Currently, our graduation rate is 58.59%/67% 4-year graduation rate. Last year we were at 56.95%/61% 4-year graduation rate. To be removed from the CSI list at the end of the three year period, we must achieve a 67% graduation rate and are on track to meet that goal this year.
4. Graduation
- a. 59 graduates, 35 attending commencement
 - b. Commencement: Lansing Community College West Campus, June 24, 2023 at 12:30 pm, 348 confirmed attendees
5. State Testing
- a. Michigan sets a 95% participation target. Uplift had 81.2% participation. Many parents refused to allow students to test. Parents have a right to do this, but MDE does not have a measure for opt out families and schools are penalized.
6. State Capitol Field Trip
- a. 120 representing Uplift attended including students, parents, teachers and staff members.
7. Educator of the Year
- a. Awarded to third grade teacher Brandi Cramer
 - i. Motion to support Brandi Cramer as Uplift’s 2023 Educator of the Year by Brian Wood, second by Paul Marineu, all members – aye, motion carried
7. Board Strategy and Planning
- a. ESP Addendum
 - i. John Kava: Addendum to the management contract to clean up language in the contract regarding:
 - 1. Bank account and check signing procedures
 - 2. Fee structures
 - 3. Responsibilities of the management company
 - 4. Memorializing agreements that date back to July 1, 2019 between Nextlvl and the board.
 - ii. Motion to approve the ESP addendum as written by Brian Wood, seconded by Paul Marineau, all members – aye, motion carried
 - b. Overview of Charter Contract Terms and Conditions
 - c. Presentation of award of recognition to Paul Marineau

8. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm by Arturo Armijo, seconded by Brian Wood, all members – aye, motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Harwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Harwood, Board Secretary