

Uplift Michigan Online School
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 29th, 2023
6:10 p.m. Eastern Time

Location:

Northview High School
4451 Hunsberger Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

1. Board meeting called to order at 6:12 pm by Arturo Armijo
 1. Roll Call
 1. Board Members Present in-person: Mary Harwood, Sorida Cunningham, Arturo Armijo
 2. Board Members Call-in:
 3. Call-in: Ashley Shehow, Tonya Lowry, Lori LaMontagne, Travis Gostinger, Kelli Marcus, Jon DeCou
 4. In-person: Tim Wood
 5. Board Members Absent: Brian Wood
 2. Pledge of Allegiance
 3. Statement of Purpose
 4. Regular Business
 1. Introduction of Potential Board Members
 1. Betsy Webbert
 1. She is a Mom (3) & Grandma (5)
 2. Started career in business, then HR for about 10 years, then went into education teaching kindergarten (25 years), and was the union president for 23 years for Saugatuck schools (every teacher contract was negotiated through Betsy), being union president was an exciting experience for her. Worked collaboratively and cooperatively with the union and board.
 3. Q. Arturo Armijo- Do you currently reside in Saugatuck? Yes
 4. Q. Arturo Armijo- Are you retired? Yes, love being retired allows me to be flexible and still be a resource to the school while keeping me engaged
 2. Danielle Sirianni
 1. Received High school diploma from an online school- was an exchange student during Senior year of high school and told if she left she would need to get a GED so attended online school instead of night school to obtain High School diploma, then went to MSU for political science, had 10-year career in the legislature- working way up to chief of staff for senator Wayne Schmidt (chair of school-aged approach), worked on the school-age budget for the last few years, and now a lobbyist with the Frederick Group. Most recent project was helping Cyber schools (including Uplift) fight the 20% reduction in state funding proposed by the Governor.

2. Adoption of Agenda
 1. Motion to adopt the agenda by Sorida Cunningham seconded by Mary Harwood, all members - aye, motion carried
3. Public Comment
 1. None
4. Correspondence
 1. None
5. Approval of Minutes
 1. Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from the board meeting by Sorida Cunningham seconded by Arturo Armijo, all members - aye, motion carried
6. [Financial Reports](#)
 1. Presented by Lori LaMontagne
 2. Motion to approve the financial report as presented by Mary Harwood, seconded by Arturo Armijo, all members - aye, motion carried
5. Leadership Update
 1. Management update
 1. Policy Update
 1. 3 updates from the National Charter School Institute (will be sent electronically to board members)
 1. 1. student assessment-stay away from assessments that are psychiatric or political in nature
 2. 2. Elliot Larson civil rights act- cyberbullying and sexual relations of protected classes policy to not harass these students
 3. 3. Provide students with instructions on the appropriate use of technology emphasizing AI and what is appropriate for students and staff.
 2. [K-12 overview- Superintendent](#)
 1. Academic update
 1. NWEA Test Scores
 1. Kelli Marcus presented an Achievement/ Growth chart of all student scores for both Math and Reading
 2. Graduation/CSI Update
 1. Now tracking Graduation Rate details of all High School students
 2. Slow and steady improvement has been shown- believe we will increase to above the target 67% and exceed it before the goal of 2026
 3. [School Improvement Plan](#)
 1. Had to make an adjustment to the School improvement plan due to being on the state CSI list- adding a specific target to grow our graduation rate.
 4. Summer School
 1. Going well, established a drop-in schedule for students so they are able to access staff and different times of the day

and different days of the week. Also transitioned advisory used during the school year to summer school where students need to check in and attend a live class on Wednesdays. Students that are working are excused.

2. Grades k-8 54 students, 5 teachers, focus- ELA and Math proficiency growth
3. High school- 79 students, 209-course enrollments, focus- credit recovery
5. Staff and Student Retention
 1. Student retention
 1. Year to Year- 62%
 2. End of Year- 92.26%
 2. Staff Retention
 1. Year to Year- 96%
 2. During the year- 80% (with new hires 86%)
6. End-of-year Professional Development, Graduation, and Prom
 1. Staff came together in Lansing for a full day of professional development, followed by prom for students, and finally graduation
3. Marketing Strategies
 1. None
6. Board Strategy and Planning
 1. 2022-2023 Budget Amendment
 1. Motion to approve Budget Amendment by Sorida Cunningham, seconded by Mary Harwood, all members - aye, motion carried
 2. 2023-2024 Budget Approval
 1. Motion to approve Budget 23/24 SY by Sorida Cunningham, Seconded by Arturo Armijo, all members- aye, motion carried
 3. Mary Harwood congratulated and acknowledged as time concluded with the board. Thank you, Mary!
 4. Open board officer positions need to be filled- President, Secretary, Treasurer
 1. Would like to gauge interest with new board members to fill open positions.
 5. Betsy Webbert and Danielle Sirianni were nominated to join the board by Arturo Armijo
 6. Motion to approve the nomination of Betsy Webbert and Danielle Sirianni to be members of the Uplift Board by Mary Harwood, seconded by Sorida Cunningham, all members- aye, motion carried
7. Adjournment
 1. Motion to adjourn at 7:36 pm by Mary Harwood, seconded by Sorida Cunningham, all members - aye, motion carried

Acknowledged:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Arturo Armijo", written over a horizontal line.

Arturo Armijo, Acting UMOS Board President:

8-27-23

Date: