Uplift Michigan Online School
Board of Education Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 28th, 2023
6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

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

1. Board meeting called to order by Betsy Webbert at 6:10 pm
   a. Roll Call
      i. Board Members Present in-person: Betsy Webbert, Soraida Cunningham, Arturo Armijo, Brian Wood, Danielle Sirianni
      ii. Board Members Call-in:
      iii. Call-in: Tonya Lowry, Ashley Shehow, Lori LaMontagne, Susanne Carpenter, Jacqlyn Burde
      iv. In-person: Tim Wood
      v. Board Members Absent:
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Statement of Purpose
4. Regular Business
   a. Adoption of Agenda
      i. Motion to adopt the agenda by Arturo Armijo seconded by Brian Wood, all members - aye, motion carried
   b. Public Comment
      i. None
   c. Correspondence
      i. Audit on timely Special Education IEPs annually found 100% of Special Education IEPs completed on time with zero errors.
   d. 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
   e. Financial Reports
      i. Presented by Lori LaMontagne
      ii. Motion to approve the financial report as presented by Arturo Armijo, seconded by Betsy Webbert, all members - aye, motion carried
5. Leadership Update
   a. Management update
      i. Enrollment
         1. Current enrollment of 654, the target enrollment goal was 800, but the new goal is 700 or above. We are going to keep marketing active through October to gain enrollment. Budget deficits could result in impacts on staffing, supports, and resources due to enrollment deficit.
      ii. Accreditation
         1. Submitted evidence for accreditation
   b. K-12 overview- Superintendent

     i.   Academic update
        1. Attendance is up and disengagement is down
           a. Launch of the new advisory program now includes support personnel making caseload numbers 10:1 so advisors are giving more intentional support and determining disengagement early on. Last year advisory caseloads were 60:1
        2. The leadership group met for a summit to review state assessment data and look at trends and how to improve scores.
     ii. The fall NWEA window is still open, data is not available at this time. The window will close after count day and we will have data in November to review.
     iii. Alternative Education Update
        1. No update at this time
        2. Susanne Carpenter (authorizing school superintendent) has met with the MDE and is working on a solution to get the code.
     iv. Course Offerings for approval
        1. Middle school literacy class has been added- targeting students with learning deficiencies in reading
        2. Elementary literacy class added to 2nd grade
        3. Removed literacy class from Kindergarten
        4. Removed computer basics course from high school as it is no longer high school credit-eligible
        5. Motion to approve attendance policies by Brian Wood seconded by Arturo Armijo, all members- aye, motion carried
     v. Attendance Policies for approval
        1. Certificate of completion pathway verbiage added
        2. Motion to approve attendance policies by Danielle Sirianni seconded by Arturo Armijo, all members- aye, motion carried
  c. Marketing Strategies
     i. Enrollment
        1. Jacqlyn Burde from Galapagos Marketing presented a marketing update from July and August

6. Board Strategy and Planning
  a. Audit and Budget Amendment Update
     i. Nothing to report on the audit will be presented at the November Board meeting
     ii. November will be amended budget after count day
  b. Stipend discussion- would like an option for actual mileage reimbursement at the federal rate or $50 flat rate
     i. Motion to approve the choice of stipend ($50 flat rate or mileage reimbursement at the federal rate for actual mileage) by Brian Wood, 2nd by Arturo Armijo
7. Adjournment
  a. Motion to adjourn at 7:15 pm by Arturo Armijo, seconded by Soralda Cunningham, all members - aye, motion carried