

**Lighthouse Academy Board of Directors**  
**Approved Special Meeting Minutes**

***Mission:** A safe harbor that provides innovative whole-child education and ensures success despite life's storms.*

**Date:** September 28, 2021

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Place:** Lighthouse Academy – North Campus  
1260 Ekhart St NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Robert VanWieren called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.*

**Board Members Present.** Robert VanWieren, Aaron Toffoli, Todd Penning, and Dr. Brenda King.

**Board Members Absent (with prior notice).** Angela Bunn, Peter VanGelderren and Gregory Lambert.

**Others Present.** Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, IES Executive Director; Dr. Michele Siderman, FSU Representative; Stacey Martinez, Assistant Superintendent of Community Youth School Programs; Lucas Yax, Assistant Superintendent of Juvenile Justice and Youth Residential Programs; Matthew Milanowski, School Principal (joined at 9:42 a.m.); Amanda Shyne, Recording Secretary.

**II. Public Comment\* (limited to agenda items only).** *None.*

**III. Approval of Agenda.** *A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dr. Brenda King and supported by Aaron Toffoli. The motion passed unanimously.*

**IV. Consent Calendar** *None.*

**V. Old Business.** *None.*

**VI. New Business**

A. Strategic Planning. ESSER Funding – Discuss timeline and working committee(s) with a focus on items which build capacity and/or are sustainable beyond the grant years.

1. Curriculum Materials and Teacher/Leader Training. *Dr. Cate reported on the status of current curriculum and materials, as well as tools used to evaluate potential new curriculum and necessary teacher/leader training.*
2. Building Renovation and/or Rent-to-Own/Purchase. *The Board discussed enrollment and potential future expansion opportunities.*
3. Increase Certified Teacher Pool. *The Board considered the potential of offering scholarships to individuals who have an associate's or uncompleted bachelor's degree in exchange for completing a traditional Educator's program while serving as an employee for a specified length of time.*

**Lighthouse Academy Board of Directors**  
**Approved Special Meeting Minutes**

4. Increase School Social Worker Pool. *The Board discussed the current BSW to SSW pathway and the possibility of providing scholarships to individuals to complete the program in return for serving as an employee for a specified length of time.*
5. Refresh Student/Staff IT Resources in 2024. *Dr. Cate reported the future need of IT resource replenishment by 2024 to the Board.*
6. Succession Planning and Funds for Job Shadowing. *Dr. Cate notified the Board of the current Succession Planning progress and will bring another update to the Board in December.*
7. After-School Activities, Intercession and Added Time Opportunities. *The Board discussed added time opportunities.*
8. Student Transportation for Community Sites. *The Board reviewed current transportation constraints.*
9. Post-Secondary Pathways. *Dr. Cate reviewed current opportunities available to students.*
10. Materials for ICEV and Job Skills (i.e. outfitting a kitchen). *The Board discussed possible opportunities for students and the costs associated with them.*

*The Board prioritized the following initiatives: Curriculum and Teacher/Leader Training, Increased Teacher and SSW Pool, Succession Planning, Post-Secondary Pathways and Job Skills for Students, and Refreshing Student and Staff IT Resources.*

**VII. Correspondence.** *None.*

**VIII. Extended Public Comment\* (limited to non-agenda items only).** *None.*

**IX. Reconfirmation of Next Regular Meeting Date**

October 26, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.  
Lighthouse Academy - North  
1260 Ekhart St. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**X. Adjournment.** *A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Todd Penning and supported by Aaron Toffoli. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.*

**Lighthouse Academy Board of Directors**  
**Approved Special Meeting Minutes**

*Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors under Items II and IX above are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and a total time allowance not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.*

*Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the Academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) days prior to the Board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner. (Source: Board Policy 0167.3)*

*Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Hope Academy of West Michigan/Integrity Educational Services Central office at 3300 36th Street, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.)*

Submitted by:



Amanda Shyne  
Recording Secretary

Date: 9/29/2021

Approved by:

Aaron Toffoli  
Board Secretary

Date: 

