



“DELIVERING THE EXTRAORDINARY”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
East Shore Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Virtual
1403 7th Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
Monday, March 8, 2021 (2:30 p.m.)

Mission

“East Shore Leadership Academy, in pursuit of excellence, will develop future leaders through a strong academic foundation and the development of high moral character.”

Call to Order

2:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

2:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Martin Doorn, President attending electronically from Lee County, Fort Myers, Florida
Sharla Conlan, Vice President attending electronically from St. Clair County, Marysville,
Michigan

Michelle Fisher, Secretary attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan
Patrick Patterson, Director attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron, Michigan
Margaret Swegles, Treasurer attending electronically from St. Clair County, Port Huron,
Michigan

Recognition of other attendees

Neil Hartman, Northern Michigan University – Present
Nancy Gardner, Bold Education Connections - Present
Deanna Keller, East Shore Leadership Academy - Absent
John Weier, The Romine Group – Present
John Romine, The Romine Group – Absent

Opening remarks by the Board Chair

“During this time of uncertainty, we are doing the best we can to meet within the spirit of the law and the Open Meetings Act”

Each board member attending the meeting must announce publicly at the outset of the meeting that they are in fact attending the meeting electronically, and state the county, city, township or village and state where the member is located for inclusion in the meeting minutes.

Motion to Approve or amend the Agenda

Motion to approve the March 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Agenda, by Conlan, supported by Fisher.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Call to the Public

The meeting is a meeting of the Board of Directors in public for the purpose of conducting the Academy’s business and is not considered a public meeting. Those that may wish to address the Board on agenda items only may do so at this time by being recognized by the Board President.

There will be a second Call to the Public near the end of the agenda where interested parties may address the Board on any items of their choice. Those that request to address the Board have a maximum of three minutes in which to speak.

No public comments were made.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the February 8, 2021 minutes, Fisher supported by Patterson.

Doorn – Yes Conlan– Yes Swegles – Yes

Financial Report: John Weier reported that the school is in a solid position. Cash is good, AP is good, and all are in line. There is approximately \$328,000 less year to date but \$330,000 is actually federal funds.

The DTE bill was high so we need to stay on top of that going forward. Will look at monthly bills closely and compare with last years as the HVAC system has changed from boilers to electric.

The anticipated upcoming ESSR II funds were also discussed which would be in the amount of \$319,668.00. The guidelines may be less restrictive and offer more opportunities to meet student needs, staff needs, and possible building needs. The board is looking forward to Nancy Gardner and Deanna Keller developing a plan that will be presented to the board that includes robust intervention using these ESSR funds. The plan will need to be submitted to the board in advance of it being submitted to the state for approval.

Marketing Report: Nancy Gardner reported that FB posts are primarily focused on Kindergarten Round-up and Open Enrollment which is March 1-15, 2021. In addition, Nancy has updated information on the school’s website and with WGRT to reflect enrollment opportunities. Additional information on student celebrations and parent testimonies have been added to social media. Flyers were handed out to area programs.

Enrollment/Retention Report: Nancy Gardner reported enrollment as of today, at 181 students. Count day was Wednesday, February 10, 2021 and count was 181.

School-wide Goals Report: Nancy Gardner addressed the two Wildly Important Goals (WIG's) for ESLA. Nancy Gardner indicated that these are goals that have been set forth by Northern Michigan University.

Academic/Intervention: Nancy Gardner reported ESLA offered a virtual reading night, titled "There's a Reader Among Us." There were tasks to complete, and families tried to identify who the mystery reader was. Prizes were given to top three participants.

The interventionists and all staff continue to look for creative ways to engage at-risk students.

Staff are very concerned about the children and families during this time of staying home. In addition, Nancy Gardner presented some alarming statistics from a CMH report, one of which states 72% of parents say they have witnessed a decline in their child's emotional well-being.

The Michigan Department of Education continues to address the US Department of Education in regard to their expectations that Michigan students take the M-STEP assessment this school year.

East Shore Leadership Academy Safe School Preparedness Plan: Nancy Gardner reported that there are no changes in the plan at this time.

Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan Reconfirmation and February 2021 Mid-year Goal Report: Nancy Gardner presented updates in the following areas.

1. Reconfirm Mode/Delivery of Instruction – The school continues to offer all three modes of instruction to students:
 - In Person – 100%
 - Hybrid – in person on Mondays for support and the rest of the week virtual
 - Virtual – 100%March 8, 2021 is the new start date for students who transitioned from one mode of instruction to another.
2. Weekly Two-Way Interaction Rates – February 2, 2021 through February 8, 2021 was 97.89% for an all-school average. February 9-15 was 97.23%, February 16-22 was 95.35% and February 23 through March 1, 2021 was 98.87%.
3. County Update on COVID-19 Cases – The St. Clair County Health Department reported as of March 4, 2021 was 8805 total cases, 7169 recovered and 249 deaths for a total of 1387 active cases.
All BEC staff have been offered the opportunity to get the COVID-19 injection.
4. There were no confirmed COVID-19 cases at ESLA for the month of February 2021.
5. Public Comments – No public comments at this time.

Building and Grounds Report: Nancy Gardner reported the building/facilities team will be meeting the first part of April 2021 to discuss what building projects from the wish list will be addressed. It was mentioned it might be helpful to organize the wish list in order of priority.

Bold Education Connections Workplace Safety Plan update: Nancy Gardner reported that all BEC staff are following the plan as approved.

NMU Representative Report: Neil Hartman reported the following.

1. NMU's virtual workshop is planned for Friday, April 16, 2021 from 1-4 p.m. If a quorum attends, the board will receive \$500, if the full board attends, \$1000.
2. Board member evaluations are due to Nancy Gardner by the end of this week. She will then compile the results and submit to NMU by the end of March 2021.
3. ESLA board member Sharla Conlan up for re-appointment in June of 2021.
4. KC sent an NMU online survey and will be discussing the information during the workshop.

OLD BUSINESS

Lease Amendment Draft: John Weier assured us, in anticipation of the possible change in the lease agreement, that he included the increase in rent in the current budget. The board approved the lease agreement.

ESLA Board Evaluation: Board members need to complete the board evaluation and turn in to Nancy Gardner by the end of the week. The results will then be submitted to NMU by the end of March 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

NMU Board Webinar Series: The next webinar is April 21, 2021 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Bold Education Connections Evaluation: The board members were asked to look over the new format and vote on at the next board meeting.

ESSR II Funds: See notes under Financial Report.

MAISA Connectivity Grant: ESLA applied for a grant to reimburse technology costs of \$9701.91 and received notification that it has been approved.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Corona Virus Updates – <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>

Michigan Association of Public-School Academies – <https://charterschools.org/ed/covid-19-charter-school-faqs>

Announcements and Recognition

Announcements:

The next Board of Director's Regular Board Meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Monday April 12, 2021 in a virtual format.

Recognition:

None at this time.

Final call to the public

Interested parties may address the Board on any items of their choice. Those that wish to address the Board have a maximum of three minutes in which to speak.

No comments at this time.

Action Items

Motion to receive the February 2021 Financial Reports for review as presented, by Swegles supported by Patterson.

Doorn – Yes Conlan – Yes Fisher – Yes

Motion to receive the ESLA Safe School Preparedness Plan update as presented, by Fisher, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to receive and reaffirm the Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan that includes the Mode of Delivery and Instruction, Two-Way Interaction Rates, County Update on COVID-19, ESLA Covid-19 Cases, and Public Comments as presented, by Fisher, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to receive the Bold Education Connections Workplace Safety Plan as presented, by Conlan, supported by Swegles.

Doorn – Yes Fisher – Yes Patterson – Yes

Motion to approve the building lease amendment between Academic Facilities P.H. and East Shore Leadership Academy, by Swegles, supported by Conlan.

Doorn – Yes Fisher – Yes Patterson – Yes

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle Fisher, ESLA Board Secretary

These meetings of the Board of Directors are in public for the purpose of conducting the school’s business and are not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during each meeting as indicated in the agenda.

Upon request to the academy office, the academy shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with a disability to be able to participate in this meeting.

Certification:

East Shore Leadership Academy Board of Directors duly adopted the above minutes at a properly noticed open meeting held on April 12, 2021 at which a quorum was present.

Board Secretary/Board Designee: _____ Approved, April 12, 2021