



“DELIVERING THE EXTRAORDINARY”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
East Shore Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – In Person
1403 7th Street
Port Huron, MI 48060
Monday, March 21, 2022 (11:30 a.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

11:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

11:30 a.m.

Roll Call of Board Members

Martin Doorn – President
Michelle Fisher – Secretary
Margaret Swegles – Treasurer
Patrick Patterson – Director

Recognition of other attendees

Neil Hartman, Northern Michigan University
Nancy Gardner, Bold Education Connections
Deanna Keller, East Shore Leadership Academy

Opening remarks by the Board Chair

None currently

Motion to Approve or Amend the Agenda

Motion to approve the March 21, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Agenda, by Fisher supported by Swegles.
Doorn – Yes Patterson – 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 21, 2022, Regular Board Meeting minutes, by Fisher supported by Swegles.

Doorn – Yes Patterson – Yes

Monthly Reports

Financial Report: Peggy Swegles reported everything is running smoothly. Nothing unusual. Next month we will have an updated budget number to use for facility and building improvements over the summer.

Marketing Report: Nancy Gardner reported that the marketing plan is consistently adhered to. In addition, ESLA's Reading Coach read stories to the students this month for March Reading Month, and read at the YMCA as well as virtual reading for the local Head Start program.

Enrollment/Retention Report: Deanna Keller reported enrollment of 153 students. Retention is 67%.

School-wide Goals Report: Deanna Keller reported that the goal would be the same as the NMU goal developed for 2020-21.

Academic/Intervention: Deanna Keller reported on the most recent NWEA data from NMU regarding comparison data and individual student growth data. According to NMU's performance framework comparison percentages are stagnant. Therefore, the school will focus on raising the percentile into the 40th percentile range as opposed to the current 30th percentile. The school goal is to make sure once NWEA testing is complete, each individual child's growth goals are met.

This is our first year using iReady and implementing some positive changes in the curriculum, so staff are excited to see improvement around student growth.

We are also looking into adding an additional math and reading intervention person for the next school year. Peggy Swegles pointed out the funds for these positions are in the 2022-2023 budget, if enrollment increases. In addition, the paraprofessionals continue to have a positive impact on student academics and behavior.

East Shore Leadership Academy COVID-19 Probable/Confirmed Cases: Deanna Keller communicated that there were 0 cases of COVID-19 in February.

Building and Grounds Report: Nancy Gardner communicated the order of items she would like to see get done on the building and grounds; 1) windows 2) paint remainder of building on outside 3) window blinds once old windows are replaced. Peggy Swegles reported the amount for building enhancements needs to stay in the \$70,000 - \$80,000 range. This would maintain the fund balance well above the 8% that NMU requires.

NMU Representative Report:

1) Neil Hartman reminded the board of the NMU workshop Sunday, April 24, 25, 2022 at Soaring Eagle Resort. Activities begin at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, April 24, 2022, and end at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25, 2022.

2) Peggy Swegles is up for reappointment to the ESLA board by June 2022.

3) When school's complete amendments ensure that Sandy Denau at NMU receives a copy.

OLD BUSINESS

ESSER II and III – Nancy Gardner reported ESSER III requires board approval for items both already approved by MDE and not approved yet. Once both action from the board and MDE have taken place the school would be able to initiate orders. This action would expend approximately \$257,467.00 of the total grant of \$718,439.00. This was approved. (See action items.)

SchoolWorks Consulting – Marty Doorn communicated the team have identified two primary areas of focus over the next couple/few years:

- 1) Enrollment retention and growth
- 2) Student academic improvement

To accomplish progress in those areas, the focus will be on four items:

- 1) Increased financial investment in teacher and classroom resources
- 2) Revitalization of parent engagement efforts and activities (Strategic Plan)
- 3) Hiring of an Enrollment Specialist
- 4) Implementation of a robust after school activities program

Nancy Gardner asked for the approval from the board of the Strategic Enrollment Plan presented by SchoolWorks. This was approved, with the expectation there would be two modifications to the plan (See action items).

- 1) The **Success Measure** would be changed to enrollment growth measured by a percentage each year, (10% increase each year for the next 3 years, measured against June end-of-year enrollment number) instead of number of students.
- 2) The **Interim Benchmark** would read; Increase ESLA student enrollment to 165 students by winter break 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

ESLA Board Member Resignation – Marty Doorn reported ESLA Board Vice President, Sharla Conlan, has resigned. A replacement will be needed.

ESLA Board Meeting Schedule – Nancy Gardner asked to move the June meeting date from June 20, 2022, to June 13, 2022. Vote was taken and approved (See action items).

Student Presentation – Students presented a program they have been participating in, that is supplied by the National Dairy Association. They provide the opportunity to “adopt a cow” and learn about the daily life on a dairy farm. Their cow’s name is Clarabell. Other students were asked to say what they like about their school. Some responses were, “Gym”, “Math”, and “learning.”

Distance Learning – The school is exploring the option for distance learning in the upper grades for next year while at the same time recognizing that the best option for children to learn is fac-to-face.

Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) – Deanna Keller reported that the original meeting was cancelled and moved to April. 13, 2022.

School Survey – Nancy Gardner reported out of 66 parent surveys completed, 57 parents described their overall experience at ESLA as “Great” 7 out of 66 “Good” 1 said “Average” and only 1 said “Dissatisfied.” Overall, they are “pleasantly surprised” by the very positive input and comments received through the survey.

NMU Annual Monitoring Report – Nancy Gardner reported overall NMU had positive things to say about ELSA. It was noted the children missed the things they couldn't do last year, for example, Winter Wonderland, Fun Fest and their Thanksgiving Dinner."

Michigan State Police Safety Grant – Nancy Gardner announced the grant offers up to \$50,000.00 that can be used to make the building safer. Replacement classroom door locks that lock from inside and outside, and glazing added to windows in classroom doors were a couple of projects discussed.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Announcements and Recognition

Recognition:

March Reading Night Escape Room- A big THANK YOU to Danielle Spradlin and Diana Turner who organized and orchestrated this very successful event.

China Art Program- Thank you to 4H and Michigan Extension for this program where ESLA students will be exchanging artwork with students in China.

Duck Project- Thanks to 4H and Michigan Extension, ESLA students will be able to watch the incubation of duck eggs through the hatching process.

Announcements:

The next Board of Director's Regular Board meeting will be held at 11:30 p.m. on Monday April 18, 2022, at the school.

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 currently

Action Items

Motion to approve the March 21, 2022, board agenda with the following amendment: add MSP Safety Grant and Annual Organizational Meeting date change, by Fisher, supported by Swegles.

Doom – Yes Patterson – Yes

Motion to receive the February 2022 Financial Reports for review by Swegles, supported by Patterson.

Doom – Yes Fisher – Yes

Motion to approve the distribution of ESSER III Funds, both approved by MDE and not approved by MDE with the understanding that both approvals are required before any orders are placed, as presented by Fisher, supported by Patterson.

Doom – Yes Swegles – Yes

Motion to approve the Strategic Plan done in collaboration with Schoolworks with two modifications made, by Swegles, supported by Patterson

Doom – Yes Fisher – Yes

Motion to approve the Annual Board Meeting date to June 13, 2022, as presented, by Patterson, supported by Swegles.

Doom – Yes Fisher – Yes

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Michelle Fisher, 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 18, 2022, at which a quorum was present.

Board Secretary/Board Designee: Michelle Fisher Approved, April 18, 2022.