



Minutes
East Shore Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting
February 23, 2026

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of East Shore Leadership Academy was called to order at 11:30 a.m., by Peggy Swegles. Copies of the agenda were emailed to the Board members and posted at East Shore Leadership Academy for other interested parties in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Directors Present	Directors Absent
Peggy Swegles – President	
Patrick Patterson - VP/Treasurer	
Patricia Moore - Secretary	
Martin Doorn - Director	
Jediah Baker - Director	arrived at 11:49 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Regular Business

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion Patrick Patterson Second Patricia Moore
 Ayes: 4 Opposed: 0

Public Comment: None

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Visitors: NMU Representative, Neil Hartman, CBIZ Representative Melissa May, and Summit Management Representatives Debby Wilton, Brandy Pavlik and Travis Gostinger.

Correspondence: None

Approval of the January 19, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Patrick Patterson Second: Martin Doorn
Ayes: 4 Opposed: 0

Financial Audit Presentation

Melissa May with CBIZ presented the school’s financial audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. She began by reviewing the transition of audit services from Croskey Lanni to Marcum, and from Marcum to CBIZ, noting that the CBIZ team has been actively working since July to complete all school audits. She explained that during company transitions, it takes time to determine which processes best suit client needs, and that this was the approach taken during the transition to CBIZ. Peggy Swegles asked what assurances CBIZ has that we will not run into a delay next year. Melissa said that her and her team have processes and procedures worked out. Marty Doorn asked what went wrong this year? Melissa said there was a learning process with Michigan processes and procedures. Further discussion commenced.

Melissa reported that the audit resulted in an unmodified (“clean”) opinion, indicating that the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

She also shared the Independent Auditor’s Report and confirmed that no material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal controls were identified during the audit. There was a finding related to non-compliance, and it was only an accounting presentation issue in relation to the budget. She explained that with GASB 87 that anytime a new lease agreement exceeding one year is entered into the first year of that agreement should show the full cost and then an offsetting revenue. The net effect of the transaction is \$0 but is an amount that is required to be budgeted for.

Board members acknowledged the report, asked clarifying questions, and expressed appreciation for the thorough work of the audit team.

Acceptance of the Financial Audit

Motion: Martin Doorn Second: Jediah Baker
Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

Financial Reports

Brandy Pavlik, CFO, presented the financial report for January 2026. She

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reviewed the school’s cash position and how it is lower right now than normally would be expected. The revenues are lower than anticipated because of the start-up expenses for GSRP and the state federal funding disbursements have not flowed through yet. She walked through any expenses that stood out on the check register.

Board members acknowledged the report and had the opportunity to ask questions.

Motion by Patrick to approve the January Financial Reports as presented.

Motion: Patrick Patterson Second: Patricia Moore
Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

4. Executive Leadership Update

Principal Report

Deanna Hall presented her report. She shared the \$25,000 grant received from Northern Michigan University in the fall for the Athletic Factory. Last week we submitted another grant and NMU gave an additional \$25,000. The total \$50,000 will go to support the Athletic Factory.

Our Black History Program is on February 27. March is Reading Month is coming up. Additionally, we have the Scholastic Book Fair, St. Clair County Bookmobile, guest readers and Reading Day planned.

Open Enrollment is from March 2-16 with Kindergarten Round Up on March 3. Our current enrollment is 170. We also have our final Parent Teacher Conferences March 11-12.

Deanna presented the 2024-2025 Annual Education Report. The report is posted on our website as well. Additionally, she presented the 2026-2027 school calendar for approval.

Approval of the 2026-2027 School Calendar

Motion: Jediah Baker Second: Patricia Moore
Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

Authorizer Report

Neil Hartman presented the Authorizer Report. NMU is very pleased to award East Shore with the grant. The additional \$25,000 is on a first come first serve basis. Kudos to Deanna for applying. On May 13-16, 6th grade students are invited to NMU for the Young Wildcat Program for 3 days of education and enrichment. The board members should have received communication from our office for the Spring Workshop registration on April 26-27. NMU will reimburse for mileage for the conference. The next webinar is on March 10. Our state legislators have passed a new bill regarding cell phone use. Next fall we will need a policy adopted for this. Lastly, regarding board term renewals, we have board members Marty ^{initial} Doorn, Patricia Moore, Patrick Patterson terms expiring in June.

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Management Report

Travis Gostinger presented the management report. Debby and I have a meeting on Friday with a potential board candidate and will keep you updated. The governor has put her proposal out on the budget. Some highlights include proposing a \$250 increase of foundational allowance and some additional at-risk funding. We will continue to bring updates to the board as we have more information. At our next board meeting, Cliff Thomason has been invited to present and give an update on the Athletic Factory. Travis asked the board if they would like to have a Strategic Planning Meeting on Sunday at 10 am before the conference. The board agreed on that time.

5. Board Strategy & Planning

Peggy discussed the board self-evaluation that is required by NMU by March 31. If the board members are interested, they can complete it after adjournment.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Patrick to adjourn at 12:41 p.m.

Motion: Patrick Patterson Second: Jediah Baker
Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

Signed by:
Patricia Moore
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Next meeting: Monday, March 16, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

Board Secretary Signature _____
3/21/2026
Date _____

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