

**Detroit Leadership Academy
Board of Directors**

Approved Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Held Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 6pm

EQUITY Education Offices

13600 Virgil

Detroit, MI 48223

Call to Order (Agenda Item 1)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Mark Lezotte, President.

Roll Call (Agenda item 1.1)

Board Members	Present	Absent
LaKeisha Florence	x	
Alvína Gipson		x
Diane Jackson	x	
Mark Lezotte	x	
Dan Piepszowski	X (6:28)	

Organization		Members of the Public
Betsy Kyprianos	Shifman & Carlson	
Gary Meier	EQUITY Education	
Renee Burgess	EQUITY Education	
Trisha Meier	EQUITY Education	
Sarah Campbell	EQUITY Education	
Jerry Giordano	EQUITY Education	
Glenn Maurer	Chemical Bank	
Whitney Swanson	Chemical Bank	

Approval of Agenda (Agenda Item 2)

Mark Lezotte confirmed the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes (Agenda Item 3.1 and 3.2)

It was MOVED by Jackson and SUPPORTED by Florence to approve the minutes from the Organization Meeting and Regular Meeting on August 16, 2017.

No discussion after the motion.

Vote: Ayes: (3) Nays: None

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item 5)

5.2 CMU Request for Budget Documentation

Lakeisha Florence provided an overview of a letter requested by CMU and provided by EQUITY. Florence explained that the letter is intended to ensure that the Board is aware of costs that are passed through to the academy versus costs that are part of the management fee. Florence further explained that the cost of Ed-Ops is not being passed through to the academy, and is part of the management fee, which is what the Board understood prior to approving the budget. In terms of the HR fee, Florence reported that the budget was set based on projected enrollment numbers and to be sure the academy had a well-structured budget and were funding initiatives that were needed, the Equity 1.5% payroll fee was not included. Florence further explained that since enrollment has increased from the original budget, the fee will be reinstated and reflected in the next budget amendment.

It was **MOVED** by **Florence** and **SUPPORTED Jackson** to acknowledge receipt of the budget explanation letter from EQUITY Education and authorize a copy be transmitted to CMU.

No discussion after the motion.

Vote: Ayes: (3) Nays: None

Report from Authorizer (Agenda Item 6)

Discussion was held regarding the absence of a CMU representative. Further discussion was held regarding the importance of hearing timely from CMU as the academy is up for reauthorization.

Public Comment (limited to agenda items) (Agenda Item 4)

4.1 Chemical Bank Representatives

Glenn Maurer and Whitney Swanson were available to discuss the academy's new relationship with the bank. Discussion was held regarding the logistics of bill pay and EQUITY's responsibility and the Board Treasurer's responsibility. Various depository documents were signed by the Board to finalize the depository relationship with the Bank.

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item 5)

5.1 Review and Receive July 2017 Financial Reports

LaKeisha Florence provided an overview of the July Financial report indicating activity was minimal in July since it is very early in the school year and the State Aide Note had not yet been closed. She also noted that no grants have been drawn yet.

Discussion was also held regarding the fiscal year audit, indicating that it went very

smoothly and was on time. It is planned to have Plante Moran present at the October meeting.

It was **MOVED** by **Florence** and **SUPPORTED** by **Jackson** to acknowledge receipt of the July 2017 financial reports as presented.

No discussion after the motion.

Vote: Ayes: (4) Nays: None

Education Service Provider Report (Agenda Item 7)

7.1 Academic Update

Discussion was held regarding M-Step and MAP testing cycles and the revised CMU contract requirements. Sarah Campbell provided an overview of M-Step score comparison from 2015/2016 – 2016/2017 reporting that reading in the state of Michigan declined, however increased at across the district. Campbell also reported that math increased at the state level, however only increased at the elementary and not the middle school. Discussion was held regarding the reason the score did not increase at the middle school level.

Jerry Giordano further explained that in grades 3-8 ELA cohort students had a median growth percentile of 48 and 58th percentile in math. Giordano explained that proficiency is low, but growth is high.

Sarah Campbell also reported on SAT data indicating the following from spring 2016 to spring 2017 cohort groups:

- Class of 2018
 - Grew 58 points
- Class of 2019
 - Grew 50 points
- Class of 2020
 - Grew 68 points.

The desire to have CMU come to the schools to observe the classrooms was discussed. Dr. Jackson also discussed the desire to have the school leaders come to Board meetings at points throughout the year to discuss what is happening at the campuses.

Jerry Giordano discussed the play based learning initiative at the elementary school as well as the mindfulness program which is an alternative to suspension.

7.2 Approval of the Michigan High School Athletic Association Resolution

It was **MOVED** by Piepszowski and **SUPPORTED** by **Florence** to approve the 2017-2018 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership Resolution.

No discussion after the motion.

Vote: Ayes: (4) Nays: None

7.3 Update/Approve Transportation Contract

It was reported that the AJ Transportation is currently reviewing the contract and that it is anticipated that it will be approved at the October meeting.

7.4 Consider Approval of Tabled Fall 2016 Policies

It was MOVED by **Jackson** and SUPPORTED by **Piepszowski** to approve policies 5830, 6605, 9700 and reject policy 7540.

No discussion after the motion.

Vote: Ayes: (4) Nays: None

7.5 Miscellaneous Updates, Enrollment, Staffing, Transportation

Renee Burgess provided an overview of the updates included in the Board packet. It was discussed that there are currently no vacancies across the district, with enrollment above budget targets at this time.

Old Business (Agenda Item 8)

None

New Business (Agenda Item 9)

None

Extended Public Comment (Agenda Item 11)

None

Comments from the Board (Agenda Item 12)

The Board commended EQUITY on a great start to the school year.

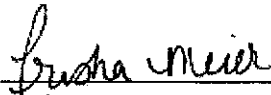
Next Meeting Date (Agenda Item 13.1)

Regular Meeting – October 18, 2017

Meeting Adjourn (Agenda Item 14)

President Lezotte adjourned the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2017 at 7:35 pm.

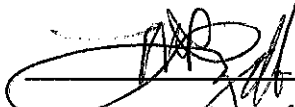
Submitted on October 2, 2017 by




Trisha Meier

Recording Secretary

Approved on October 18, 2017 by



Dan Piepszowski
Board Secretary


Mark R. Lezotte
PRESIDENT