

GENESEE STEM ACADEMY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Date: February 18, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: VIA Zoom –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88135078586?pwd=YVoyNGdGc2JNWHPcmVaOVQzaGJ3Zz09>

5240 Calkins Rd

Flint, MI 48532

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Morgan at 6:03 pm.

Roll Call

A roll call of attendance was taken.

Board Members

- President, Dr. Morgan–Present (remotely from Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor MI)
- Vice President/Secretary, Cheek–Present (remotely from Saginaw County, Saginaw MI)
- Treasurer, Shriver – Present (remotely from Eaton County, Grand Ledge MI)
- Member, Taylor – Present (remotely from Genesee County, Flint MI)
- Member, Jones – Present (remotely from Genesee County, Grand Blanc MI)

A quorum was present at all times to conduct business.

Also attending the meeting were the following individuals:

Attendees

Dr. Lorilyn Coggins, EMAN, Zoom Host (electronically)

Mr. Vincent Price, Principal (electronically)

Mr. Doug Newcombe, Saginaw Valley State University (electronically)

Ms. Gwendolyn Harvey, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Ms. Purches-Waller, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Ms. Smiley, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Mr. Harris, , Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Mr. Bradford,, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Ms. Sims, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Ms. Breed, Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Ms. Gilley , Genesee STEM Academy (electronically)

Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Dr. Morgan and seconded by Mr. Shriver that the agenda be approved as amended with the removal of the Title IX Presentation. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Agenda approved.

Conflict of Interest Inquiry

No board member indicated having a conflict of interest with any agenda item.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Ms. Cheek to approve the January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Minutes approved.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Correspondence

Items of correspondence were received and reviewed by the Board to include:

- Saginaw Valley State University letter to the Board of Directors of Genesee STEM Academy for board terms expiring June 30, 2022
- Saginaw Valley State University Annual Authorizer Report
- MDE Fiscal Desk Audit Letter
- EMAN Contract Renewal

Reports

Mr. Price highlighted his monthly report to discuss the possible return to face-to-face instruction, hot spot text messaging, additional devices ordered. Mr. Price also provided a presentation and SWOT Analysis on the Baker College Campus availability as a potential facility site.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Ms. Cheek that the Board authorize an Exploratory Committee. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Exploratory Committee approved. Jones and Shriver volunteered to serve on this committee. Mr. Newcombe suggested that the school reach out to Dr. Lewis to keep him advised.

Dr. Coggins presented the financial reports to include the January cash on hand, fund balance, state revenues and expenditures as compared to the board approved budget.

Dr. Coggins provided a compliance report noting the on-time and accurate submissions to Epicenter along with upcoming submission requirements.

The January Field Rep report from SVSU was received.

Extended Covid Learning Plan

Mr. Price reported that instruction remains 100% virtual for all students. No changes are needed to the Extended Covid Learning Plan at this time.

Attendance rates were presented to the Board on a daily basis from January 1, 2020 through February 12, 2021. The average attendance rate for this period is 84%. Mr. Price reported that the goal is 90%

and regular communication is made on a daily basis with families to ensure that students are in attendance.

There was considerable discussion about the timing for a return to face-to-face instruction. It was recommended that surveys be conducted with families to gauge their interest in a return to in-school instruction before any decision is made by the Board of Directors. Concerns were raised about the second strain of the virus and the slow roll out of vaccines. Additional concerns were raised around community trust, health concerns, ventilation systems and the ongoing water crisis. The return to school has become politicized and the Board needs to act in the best interest of its staff and students. Currently only about 40% of families support a return to face to face learning. Considerable strides have been made to engage students and a transition back to face to face learning could create additional teaching and learning loss.

An opportunity was provided for public comment on the ECLP. No public comment was received.

It was moved by Ms. Cheek and seconded by Mr. Taylor to reaffirm the Extended Covid Learning Plan with the continuation of remote instruction. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Extended Covid Learning Plan reaffirmed.

Unfinished Business

No action was taken on the Lease or property tax issue due. Dr. Coggins updated the Board on the recent communication with AEP.

Mr. Price reported that the re-enrollment of students would be from March 1 to March 31, 2021; new enrollment would be from April 1 to April 30, 2021 with a lottery date set for May 4, 2021 if needed. The maximum enrollment for the 2021/2022 school year is set at 455 students. It was moved by Ms. Cheek and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the Lottery and Enrollment for the 2021/2022 school year. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed –Lottery and Enrollment approved.

A second reading of two vaccination policies was made.

New Business

It was moved by Dr. Morgan and seconded by Ms. Cheek to approve the January financial reports. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Financial reports approved.

It was moved by Ms. Cheek and seconded by Mr. Jones to approve paying the Partnership Agreement Coordinator stipend from the general fund. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed –Partnership Agreement Coordinator Stipend approved.

It was moved by Ms. Cheek and seconded by Dr. Morgan to approve the recent board policy updates as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed –Revised policies approved.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Morgan to approve the Letter of Engagement with Wilkerson & Associate for the upcoming 2021 audit. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Audit Letter of Engagement approved.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Morgan to postpone action on the 2021/2022 Lunch Renewal. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – 2021/2022 Lunch Renewal postponed.

Dr. Coggins and Mr. Price provided an update on the recent pipe that burst in one of the classrooms and the claim made with EMC.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Taylor to adopt the Board membership resolution nominating Ms. Cheek and Mr. Shriver to fill their own expiring terms. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – Board Membership Resolution adopted.

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Ms. Cheek to postpone action on the EMAN Contract Renewal letter. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion (AYE – Morgan, Taylor, Shriver, Cheek, and Jones). Motion passed – EMAN Contract Renewal postponed.

Extended Public Comment

No extended public comment was received.

Announcement of Next Meeting

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 6:00 pm. This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mr. Jones and seconded by Dr. Morgan to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm. The vote was unanimous (5/0) in favor of the motion. Motion passed – Meeting adjourned.



Dr. Lorilyn Coggins
Acting Recording Secretary

I certify that these minutes were approved as read by the Academy Board at a duly noticed open meeting held on March 18, 2021 at which a quorum was present.

By: **Harriett Cheek (covid 19)**
Its: Secretary