

OLD REDFORD ACADEMY

22122 W. Mc Nichols Street

Detroit, MI 48219

Telephone: (313) 653-3888

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SPECIAL MEETING**OLD REDFORD ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

DATE: 10/31/2023

TIME: 4:00 ☒ p.m. / ☐ a.m.

LOCATION: OLD REDFORD ACADEMY

22122 W. McNICHOLS STREET

DETROIT, MI 48219

Approved**MINUTES**MEETING TYPE: ☐ REGULAR ☒ SPECIAL ☐ PROPOSED ☒ APPROVED

- I. The Oath of Office was administered to newly appointed Board Members, Mr. Ahmed and Mr. Smith prior to the Call to Order.

II. CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT CECELIA MULLENS called the meeting to order at 4:48 ☒ P.M. / ☐ A.M. on Tuesday, October 31, 2023.

III. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Cecelia Mullens, President, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Jason Jefferson, Vice-President, Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Dr. Regina Banks-Hall, Secretary, Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Andrew Tyus, Treasurer, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Brian Stephens, Member, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Mirza Ahmed, Member, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. William Smith, Member, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

ADMINISTRATION (all or a portion of the meeting)

Mrs. LaRonda Moore, Superintendent, ORA

OTHERS PRESENT (all or a portion of the meeting)

Mr. Adam Holcomb, MAST Financial Services (Virtual)

Dr. Ticheal Jones, CS Partners

Dr. Lisa Weir, CS Partners

Mrs. Andrea Pecuch, CS Partners

Ms. Alma Hollins, Board Liaison, Provision

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Mr. Jonathan Trout, CMU

The Proposed Agenda was Distributed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (*on agenda items only*)
None.

V. APPROVAL OF October 31, 2023 AGENDA

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 31, 2023 AGENDA.

[] AS PRESENTED

[X] WITH CHANGES/ADDITIONS, The Oath of Office was administered prior to the Call to Order.

SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. APPROVAL OF September 26, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 MEETING MINUTES.

[x] AS PRESENTED

[] WITH CHANGES/ADDITIONS

SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee– Treasurer Tyus
- b. Governance/Policy – Vice President Jefferson
- c. Strategic Planning – President Mullens
 - i. Community Committee

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Academic – Mr. Hancock

Finance Committee

Treasurer Tyus shared that during the Finance Committee meeting, which met earlier this month, the following was discussed:

- Enrollment
- Audit Update
- Greenbelt Leases
- Reduction in Athletic Field Lease
- HVAC Repairs
- Grant opportunities and being creative with fundraising.

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Mr. Holcomb shared that the Foundation continues to discuss the Greenbelt Leases with their Board.

Governance/Policy Committee

In Vice President Jefferson's absence, no Governance Committee report was available.

Strategic Planning Committee

President Mullens shared that the Strategic Planning Committee meeting was not held this month; however, a meeting took place with CS Partners about the Academy's direction and KPIs. President Mullens added that from a priority standpoint, the Board would like to know where we are with the community initiative.

Academic Committee

Mr. Hancock shared that during the Academic Committee meeting each principal shared their Count Day Plan to include initiatives for students and the results of Count Day.

Mr. Hancock added that going forward the Committee will meet each month to work on MICIP. ORA currently has 4 active goals:

- Instructional Best Practices – Grades K-12
- Improve EBRW Proficiency on SAT – Grades 9-12
- Improve Mathematical Outcomes on SAT – Grades 9-12
- Improve Chronic Absenteeism – Grades 9-12

Mr. Blake informed the Board that the Academic Committee meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

President Mullens requested that an invite be forwarded to **Member Ahmed**.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Presentation of 2022-2023 Audit** – Patrick Sweeney, Croski & Lanni

Mr. Sweeney presented the audit prior to the start of the Board meeting.

b. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL**

- i. **Approval of 2022-2023 ORA Audit**

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MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2022-2023 ORA AUDIT.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

ii. Approval of Jelks Invitational Contract

MOTION: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JELKS INVITATIONAL CONTRACT.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

iii. Nomination of Board Member Brian Stephens

MOTION: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS MADE A MOTION TO NOMINATE BOARD MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS FOR ANOTHER TERM ON THE ORA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

iv. Approval of 401k Match

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 401K MATCH.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Holcomb informed the Board that they worked on a match that would fit into the budget. It will be retroactive to the beginning of the school year. Mr. Holcomb added that as ORA moves into future years, ORA has the ability to increase the matching percentage as this is a benefit that can be revisited every year.

v. Approval of 2023 Spring Board Policies

MOTION: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2023 SPRING BOARD POLICIES.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

vi. Approval of Changing Lives and Staying Sober (CLASS) MOU

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MOTION: MEMBER MIRZA AHMED MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGING LIVES AND STAYING SOBER (CLASS) MOU.

**SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mrs. Moore shared that ORA has worked with CLASS in the past and the students really enjoyed the program. Additionally, there is no cost to the Academy. Mrs. Moore informed the Board that on the weekends CLASS conducts a workshop for parents.

vii. Approval of Amil Youth Group STEAM Robotic Program MOU

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMIL YOUTH GROUP STEAM ROBOTIC PROGRAM MOU.

**SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mrs. Moore shared that the cost of this program which focuses on ORA's 5th grade students is \$1500.

viii. Approval of Chess At Its Best MOU

MOTION: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHESS AT ITS BEST MOU.

**SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Principal Drummond shared that this program is open to students in the 5th through 8th grades.

ix. Approval of Math 4 Success MOU

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MATH 4 SUCCESS MOU.

**SUPPORT: MEMBER BRIAN STEPHENS SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mrs. Moore shared that the fee for this program is \$14,000 and is geared for the Middle School students. This is ORA's second year working with this

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program. Mrs. Moore informed the Board that this program might be covered by a grant.

x. **Approval of Alternative for Girls MOU**

**MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ALTERNATIVE FOR GIRLS MOU.
SUPPORT: MEMBER MIRZA AHMED SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mrs. Moore shared that Alternative for Girls will come in during the day and added that there is no cost to the Academy for this program.

X. C S PARTNERS REPORT

Dr. Jones shared the CS Partners report and touched on the following:

- State Assessment Comparisons
- Lack of Certified Math Teacher for the High School
 - **President Mullens** remarked that the Board needs to see set numbers (i.e., how many certified teachers do we have? What is the goal?)
- CS Partners Annual Conference
- KPI Areas
 - **Member Ahmed** inquired if there was data available that provided KPIs of other schools that ORA is competing against?
- Knowledge that only 10% of ORA's 8th graders matriculate to ORA's High School.
 - Mrs. Moore shared that this was never checked as to why students were not matriculating to ORA's High School because they did not have that knowledge until recently.
- Current state of ORA Academics

Mrs. Moore shared that the Graduation ^{Alliance}Alignment program has six students enrolled; however, the virtual program, which requires a contract amendment, was not approved by CMU.

President Mullens responded that the Board approved the Virtual Program, and if it was not implemented, the Board should have been informed.

Dr. Jones inquired if Mr. Trout could speak to why the program was not approved by CMU.

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Mr. Trout shared that due to ORA's academic challenges and the transition to a Management Company, CMU wanted to see some academic improvement before approval would be considered. Mr. Trout added that CMU actually wants to meet with the Board and CS Partners to make sure that everyone is on the same page.

Member Ahmed inquired about what happened to the students that wanted to participate in the virtual program.

Mrs. Moore responded that if the student was/is expelled, the student is provided with a document that outlines opportunities and what their options and next steps are.

Member Stephens asked if ORA has a process to get those students back into school.

Mrs. Moore responded that ORA utilizes the Graduation Alignment program Alliance

President Mullens stated that she will follow up with CMU to find out what is needed to obtain approval for the virtual program.

a. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Moore shared the highlights of her report as follows:

- Quarter 1 ORA Roadmap Objectives
 - Scholar Matriculation
 - Average Daily Attendance Rate
 - Staff Retention Rate
 - Fidelity of PLC Process
 - Identification of Reasons for Suspensions
 - Academic Achievement
 - Communication Plan
- Mrs. Moore informed the Board that funding was received for a Family Engagement Specialist. One of the specialist's focus will be attendance.

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- Marquees – They are up; however, the Elementary School's marquee is not turned on because ORA is dealing with the City about where to put the electrical box for the marquee.
- Mrs. Moore shared that she will be meeting with Member Stephens to discuss the community initiative.

XI. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Holcomb shared:

- ORA received a clean audit.
- Concerning the financials, nothing is in the red at this point.
- Work for the amended budget will be starting soon with potential approval at the January Board meeting.
- In January/February, we will need to start looking at the budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

XII. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Hollins shared that the MAPSA Symposium is taking place on December 6-7, 2023 and asked the Board members to let her know if they wished her to assist with registering them.

XIII. AUTHORIZER COMMENTS

Mr. Trout shared the following:

- Reminded Member Stephens that a Board application needed to be completed in addition to the Board nomination.
- Thanked President Mullens for registering for the President's Roundtable.
- New Board Member Orientation is taking place on December 14, 2023 at the Brentwood Grille in Novi.
- CMU has sent out an email reminder about contract requests. It needs to be submitted by February. The virtual request should be included.
- CS Partners needs to be added to the Board Correspondence list.
- Upcoming Events:
 - 11/01 – Literary Bootcamp
 - 11/13 – Assessment Leadership
 - 11/15 – Coffee with Special Education
 - 11/17 – Assessment Leadership
 - 11/29 – How to keep your Students Motivated and Engaged
 - 11/30 – Enhancing Elementary Math Instruction

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Mr. Trout shared that the feedback from the ORA students attending CMU has been positive.

XIV. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: MEMBER WILLIAM SMITH MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 6:34 ☒ P.M. / ☐ A.M.

SUPPORT: TREASURER ANDREW TYUS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,

Alma O. Collins

Recording Secretary

11/9/2023

Date

Approved by the Old Redford Academy Board of Directors:

Regina Banks Hall

Board Secretary

11-28-2023

Date

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