
The regular meeting of the Virtual Learning Academy of St. Clair County Board of Trustees was held on October 30, 2023 at VLA. The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dan DeGrow; Kathleen Kish; Fran McBride; Cynthia Raymo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary Gilbert

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Paul Bailey, UHY LLP; Josh Everitt, VI A Principal; Linda Sikora, Academy Business Manager; Jean Sturtridge, RESA Director of Legal Services, Brenda Tenniswood, RESA Superintendent, Liz Yanik, Recording Secretary/VLA Program Coordinator

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

None

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approval of Minutes (Enclosure #1)

It was moved by Cynthia Raymo and supported by Fran McBride to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023 meeting as presented.

PUT TO A VOTE: All: Yes **Motion: Carried**

B. Approval of Bills (Enclosure #2)

It was moved by Cynthia Raymo and supported by Fran McBride to approve the September 2023 bills (check numbers 3798 – 3804) for a total of \$82,347.44 as presented.

PUT TO A VOTE: All: Yes **Motion: Carried**

C. Approval of Audit Report

Paul Bailey, UHY LLP, presented VLA's annual financial report for the year ended June 30, 2023.

It was moved by Fran McBride and supported by Cynthia Raymo to approve the VLA Audit Report as presented.

PUT TO A VOTE: All: Yes **Motion: Carried**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. **September 2023 Financial Report** (*Enclosure #3*)

Linda Sikora shared the financial report for September 2023. VLA continues to remain fiscally sound.

B. **Administrative Update** (*Enclosure #4*)

Josh Everitt shared his administrative update highlighting a successful start to the 2023-2024 school year. We have started up 3 orientation groups with almost 40 new students who all had opportunities to meet VLA staff during orientation (math activity with VLA's math teacher, art activity with VLA's art teacher, etc.). We felt this was important to create a positive school culture, to begin building positive relationships and to make students feel comfortable attending and asking for help when needed. VLA's fall enrollment was 150 students totaling 143.26 FTE's – up about 8% from last year. Tuesday, October 31, 2023 ends VLA's four weeks of count which has gone smoothly. We have 16 students in TEC this year, 3 students in CTMC, and around 70% eligible for free and reduced lunch. The hands-on Exploratory Art and Applied Science courses have been going great with positive feedback and learning from students. We have anywhere from 40-65 students attending the building daily, which has been great. 8 students have graduated already this year and we have 18 other students who have 5 or less classes left to complete before graduating. Josh also highlighted students district of residence, age and gender enrollment breakdowns.

C. **Building Relocation Update**

Jean Sturtridge shared an update on the VLA building relocation. RESA staff have met several times with the VLA administrative team to discuss program and facility needs and wants in a new location (classrooms, offices, greenspace, hands-on learning opportunities, community connections, transportation access, etc.). These were considered, along with timeline, lease and renovation expenses, and more while exploring potential new sites. It was RESA staff's recommendation to look at the previous Baker College building now owned by Blue Water Community Action, which has multiple spaces available in two separate buildings and meets the most of VLA's program and facility needs and wants. Jean will be scheduling a visit for VLA's administrative team to go visit the facility. If that goes well, a second visit will be scheduled next week where board members will be invited to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS:

Special board meeting was scheduled for November 9, 2023 @ 3:45 p.m. at VLA.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m. at VLA.

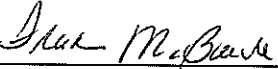
ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Fran McBride and supported by Cynthia Raymo to adjourn the October 30, 2023 meeting at 4:51 p.m.

PUT TO A VOTE: All: Yes **Motion: Carried**



Liz Yanik, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: 

Fran McBride, Secretary/Treasurer