

OLD REDFORD ACADEMY

22122 W. Mc Nichols Street
Detroit, MI 48219

Telephone: (313) 653-3888 Fax: (313) 412-2162

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

DATE: 9/23/2025
TIME: 6:00 p.m. / a.m.
LOCATION: OLD REDFORD ACADEMY
CAFÉ BRONZE
8001 W. OUTER DRIVE
DETROIT, MI 48235

Approved

MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: REGULAR SPECIAL PROPOSED APPROVED

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT CECELIA MULLENS called the meeting to order at 6:13 P.M. / A.M. on Tuesday, September 23, 2025.

II. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Dr. Regina Banks-Hall, Secretary, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Andrew Tyus, Treasurer, Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Brian Stephens, Member, Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mr. Mirza Ahmed, Member, Board of Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

ADMINISTRATION *(all or a portion of the meeting)*

Mrs. Laura Frey-Greathouse, Superintendent ORA

OTHERS PRESENT *(all or a portion of the meeting)*

Dr. Lisa Weir, CS Partners
Mr. Adam Holcomb, MAST Financial Services (Virtual)
Ms. Alma Hollins, Board Liaison, Provision

Mr. Jonathan Trout, School Lead, CMU

The Proposed Agenda was Distributed.

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

IV. APPROVAL OF September 23, 2025 AGENDA

MOTION: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 AGENDA.

AS PRESENTED

WITH CHANGES/ADDITIONS,

SUPPORT: MEMBER FURQUAN AHMED SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. APPROVAL OF August 26, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: VICE PRESIDENT JASON JEFFERSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 26, 2025 MEETING MINUTES.

AS PRESENTED

WITH CHANGES/ADDITIONS,

SUPPORT: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VI. 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

Dr. Weir reported that the following was discussed at the Committee meeting:

- HVAC Maintenance Agreements - After discussion, the Finance Committee discussed the pros and cons of the HVAC maintenance agreements and decided not to forward to the Board for approval.
- Foundation Requests - A spreadsheet was provided which will track all requests made to the Foundation, when/if they responded, and what they provided.
- Current Enrollment and Marketing.

Governance Committee

Vice President Jefferson informed the Board that there were no updates concerning policy.

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Strategic Planning Committee

President Mullens shared that she and Secretary Banks-Hall attended the CUBE Conference in California. President Mullens informed the Board that she provided resource information for the Committee's consideration:

- **School Yard Rap** - This group shares the history of various cultures in the form of rap. President Mullens added that they will be in Detroit on February 18, 2026.
- President Mullens also shared meeting Colin Kaepernick, who recently founded Lumi, an AI-driven storytelling software. Lumi's aim is to give all people storytelling abilities and turning ideas into finished products through an AI-enhanced creative process.
- **Secretary Banks-Hall** shared that she visited a trade school where the students go through an apprenticeship program that will provide them with employable skills upon graduation.

Community Committee

- **President Mullens** reported that the Committee discussed community and what ORA is doing to raise the bar. President Mullens challenged ORA to pursue partners and to get out more in the community.

Academic Committee

Mr. Hancock shared that the Academic Committee did not meet this month.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. ORA Strategic Planning KPI
Superintendent Frey-Greathouse shared the updated snapshot of where the Academy is trending.
- b. Board Member Candidate Nomination

MOTION: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL MADE A MOTION TO NOMINATE MR. SEAN WATERS TO THE ORA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SUPPORT: VICE PRESIDENT JASON JEFFERSON SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL**

i. Amplify CKLA 4-Year Proposal

MOTION: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMPLIFY CURRICULUM.

SUPPORT: VICE PRESIDENT JASON JEFFERSON SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: None.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ii. Beauchamp Purchase – Filter First Grant (ES/MS/HS)

MOTION: VICE PRESIDENT JASON JEFFERSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BEAUCHAMP PURCHASE.

SUPPORT: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: NONE.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Holcomb reported:

- The Standard & Poors review will wrap up within the next week.
- The audit report will be presented at the October Board meeting.
- While we are still awaiting word on the State's budget, the Academy's cash flow remains strong.

X. CS PARTNERS REPORT

Dr. Weir shared the highlights of the CS Partners report as follows:

- School Performance
 - MICIP
 - Dr. Orlowski provided verbal intervention training to the teaching staff on best practices in responding to students that exhibit anxiety or defensiveness with a focus on de-escalation techniques.
- Academics/Curriculum
 - The CIA Team will start the year's Professional learning with a year-long book study, *Driven By Data*.

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- The Instructional Leadership Team, Instructional Coaches, School Leaders, and/or Academic Deans will participate in the second year of Instructional Coaching Support and Development sessions.
 - Marketing and Enrollment
 - Ms. Dewey, the Marketing and Enrollment Manager, joined the weekly marketing meetings with the ORA team.
 - School Operations Support
 - Ms. Cook and Ms. Pecuch provided guidance and support focusing on school discipline and the investigation processes.
- a. Superintendent Frey-Greathouse's Report

Superintendent Frey-Greathouse shared highlights from her report as follows:

- Current enrollment: 929 students. Dr. Weir shared that there is a contingency plan in place if ORA does not reach the 975 student enrollment goal.
- Staff of the Month –
 - Mrs. Dana Mizell, Lead Office Manager and Pupil Accounting
 - Ms. Brandee Pruitt, Office Manager for ORAMS
 - Mr. Richard Olson, Grades 9-10 Counselor
- Graduation Alliance – Dropout Prevention
- Dual Enrollment
 - **President Mullens** requested that dual enrollment be a priority.
 - **Member Ahmed** requested that Dr. Weir and Superintendent Frey-Greathouse let him know what is needed from the College.
 - **President Mullens** requested that the Academy track the students that are attending on Saturdays and to share what other options are being offered and tracked.
- Testing Results M-Step 23-24/24-25 Comparison
- Enrollment & Marketing
- Operations
- Elementary, Middle, and High School Updates

Discussion ensued about the availability of at-home chrome books for the students. Dr. Weir and Superintendent Frey-Greathouse shared that students do not have chrome books to take home.

Member Ahmed inquired about the cost to purchase chrome books for students to work on at home as not all students have technology available at home.

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Superintendent Frey-Greathouse discussed a grant that she could apply for that would help defray the cost of the chrome books; however, ORA is not in a position yet to proceed.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Hollins shared that the correspondence from CMU, although not included in the binder, was emailed directly to each Board member.

XII. AUTHORIZER COMMENTS

Mr. Trout shared the following:

- Mr. Trout shared the Academic Performance Reports with the Board and ORA and added that although there is work to be done, the Academy is trending in the right direction.
- Mr. Trout reminded ORA that the dates for 8th graders to visit CMU for “Fire Up for Your Future” are available.
- The dates for “Experience Central” for Seniors to visit CMU are also available.
- EduPrep Program – 50% tuition assistance for teacher certification for college graduates and individuals wishing to obtain their Master degree.
- Graduating high school seniors attending a charter school with a 2.8 GPA will be accepted for admittance at CMU and the application fee is also waived.

XIII. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XIV. EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Macarla Ford, ORA parent, addressed the Board to discuss:

- Disappointment with how the school year started. Upset with the new Administration.
- Phone calls not returned
- Per the athletes, the teachers are not reaching them.
- Students were left outside on the first day of school because they were not properly dressed in their uniforms.
- Senior activities for the 2026 class.
- Fundraisers
- Certified teachers

XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

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XVI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: SECRETARY REGINA BANKS-HALL MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:14 P.M. / A.M.
SUPPORT: VICE PRESIDENT JASON JEFFERSON SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,

Alma S. Collins
Recording Secretary

10/1/2025
Date

Approved by the Old Redford Academy Board of Directors:

Regina Banks-Hall
Board Secretary

10/28/2025
Date

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