



YOUTH ADVANCEMENT ACADEMY

RESCHEDULED REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Held at Oakwood Elementary
3410 Laird Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49008
December 17, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order at **5:30 p.m.**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - A. Members present: Mora, Brennan, Brown, Mixis, Fielder, Raines at 5:50p.m.
 - B. Others present: Dr. Magnuson (EPI), Smith (School Director)
 - C. Absent: Saunders (Board Member)
- IV. Approval of Agenda
 - A. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Fielder and seconded by Brown
 1. Voice vote passed unanimously
- V. Public Comment — (five-minute maximum)
 - A. No public comment
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - A. A motion to approve November 11, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes was moved by Mixis and seconded by Brown
 1. Voice vote passed unanimously
- VII. Communications
 - A. Director's Report
 1. Current student counts of 31 current and 46 total. Student registrations are coming from 6 different districts, with KPS remaining the district with the most students. Two students from the first year have returned to finish, and one student was referred by a previous student. On January 23, there will be 8 local administrators attending lunch, tour, and introduction event.
 2. Students are all currently passing with grades above 70%
 3. NWEA scores range from 191 to 301 for math. Reading assessments will be completed after Winter Break in January.
 4. There are two confirmed graduates for this year, one who is very grateful for the efforts of the team in pushing her to complete her degree.
 - B. Management Update
 1. Much of this report is typically contained in the financial report; however, KPS has agreed to extend the due date for monthly rent until May, when they receive the YAA invoice for students.

2.MDE agreed to extend the payback term for the 21f overpayment to 4 years, reducing the monthly payback amount by one-half.

VIII. Regular Agenda

A. November 2025 Financial Report

1. Net income of -\$465.25
2. Cash flow presented but will be adapted for KPS and MDE changes mentioned in Management Update

A B. Deficit Elimination Plan required by MDE was presented.

1. Motion to approve the Deficit Elimination Plan was moved by Brown and seconded by Brennan

i. Roll call vote passed unanimously, with votes of support from:
Mora, Brown, Brennan, Mixis, Fielder, and Raines

A C. Amended Budget to match DEP presented above

1. Motion to approve the Amended Budget was moved by Mixis and seconded by Brennan

i. Roll call vote passed unanimously, with votes of support from:
Mora, Brown, Brennan, Mixis, Fielder, and Raines

D. Executive Administration Fee Discussion, presented by Mora

1. Presented information on FTEs and expenses percentages of the other Strict Discipline Academies. Not asking for any action, just sharing information that the Board needs to be aware of as it faces the challenge of remaining a viable entity.
2. Discussed Lighthouse's situation, but this information was presented as it may be helpful as the Board decides on what it can do.

E. Loans through MDE, presented by Magnuson

1. Options are few and communication is lagging. Brennan shared potential contacts

F. Board Policy Changes will be voted on in January 2026. Mora pointed out that most of the changes are legally required or are revisions by MDE of policies. Smith met with National Charter Schools Institute, much related to Civil Rights & will be presented at January's meeting.

IX. Public Comment: (non-agenda items)

A. No public comment

X. Board Comments

A. Raines asked about 503 status. Schools have non-taxable status automatically, Mixis stated that YAA can still apply for most grants and she'll ask for direction in applying, Brennan adds that YAA Foundation can be created later if needed

XI. Adjournment

A. Motion to adjourn was moved by Brennan and seconded by Raines.

1. Voice vote passed unanimously, adjourning at 6:27p.m.

Next Meeting: **January 13, 2026 at 5:30pm** (Oakwood Elementary)

Approved at January 13, 2026 meeting, passed unanimously.