

# Hope Academy of West Michigan Board of Directors

## Approved Meeting Minutes

**Mission:** *Hope Academy of West Michigan is a safe environment for students and families, where students can reach their full potential academically and as individuals.*

**Date:** August 25, 2025

**Time:** 7:00 AM

**Place:** Hope Academy of West Michigan  
240 Brown St SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

- I. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** *Barth Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:59 a.m.*
  - A. **Board Members Present:** *Barth Roberts, Dr. Bernard Ayoola, Mark Brouwer, and Todd Medendorp.*
  - B. **Board Members Absent (with prior notice):** *Michelle Eddie*
  - C. **Others Present:** *Dr. Heidi Cate, Superintendent; Leslie Cummings, Executive Director of Business Office; Dr. Arthur Garner, School Principal; Joshua Barnhart, Assistant Principal, Dr. Michele Sideman, FSU Field Representative; Tracy Clawson, Recording Secretary; and Elisa DeMaar, Director of Multilingual Programming.*
- II. **Public Comment\* (limited to agenda items only).** *None.*
- III. **Approval of Agenda.** *Todd Medendorp made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted changes that the original agenda item "E" listed under the New Business section would be changed from the ESP evaluation survey results and would instead be used for discussion regarding a new board member nomination. The motion was supported by Mark Brouwer. The motion passed unanimously.*
- IV. **Consent Calendar**

**Approval of the July 28, 2025 Proposed Regular Meeting Minutes and Organizational Board Meeting Minutes.** *A motion was made by Todd Medendorp to approve the proposed July 28, 2025 Regular Meeting and Organizational meeting minutes as presented and was supported by Dr. Bernard Ayoola. The motion passed unanimously.*
- V. **Old Business.** *None.*
- VI. **New Business**
  - A. **AMP plan update.** *Dr. Heidi Cate discussed the meeting with Beth Taylor to set the AMP plan growth and achievement targets for 2025-2026. It was recommended that the Board maintain the current 70% target rate for this school year and focus on achieving growth in the areas of math and reading.*

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B. FSU-CSO Updates. *Dr. Michele Siderman discussed key points of the monthly FSU Board update report. Dr. Siderman informed the Board that the competitive grant opportunity of up to \$20,000 was available for application again this year. She also discussed the importance of the Board annually reviewing the IES policy for protecting student records.*

C. Reports *Handouts provided prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the Board.*

1. School Monthly Summary
2. Parent/community partners' update
3. DAN updates

D. Enrollment update. *Josh Barnhart informed the Board that there were currently 297 students attending HAWM.*

E. Board Membership. *Barth Roberts led a discussion regarding Board membership changes coming this fall. Todd Medendorp made a motion to forward the Board application for Dr. Nigyl Likely to FSU for approval during their October meeting, and the motion was supported by Mark Brouwer. The motion passed unanimously.*

F. Student Achievement. *Elisa DeMaar provided a presentation to the Board of the 2025 spring WIDA testing results. Overall, the testing results showed growth in each assessment area district wide.*

G. Board development credits/reports (as applicable) - *None*

H. 2025/26 MICIP. *Dr. Arthur Garner discussed with the Board a summary of the 2025-2026 MICIP plan.*

I. Integrity Educational Services Reports

### 1. Finance reports

- a. Monthly Financial Reports. *Leslie Cummings reviewed the July 2025 financial statements. Todd Medendorp made a motion to approve the July 2025 check register and the motion was supported by Barth Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.*
- b. Boys' and Girls' Club contract and HMH proposal approval. *Dr. Garner discussed the Boys & Girls contract for the 2025-26 year. Dr Heidi Cate shared the HMH proposal for the purchase of reading curriculum under the Section 35m grant. A motion was made by Todd Medendorp to approve the purchases for these services and materials and was supported by Barth Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.*
- c. Reminder of annual audit. *Leslie Cummings reminded the Board of the upcoming annual financial audit. Additionally, the Board reviewed the audit board questionnaire and completed it for the audit firm.*

2. Human Resources: *Leslie Cummings shared that all positions are filled at this time.*

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VII. Correspondence. *None.*

VIII. Extended Public Comment\* (limited to non-agenda items only). *None.*

IX. Reconfirmation of Next Regular and Organizational Board Meeting Date  
September 22, 2025 at 7:00 a.m.  
Hope Academy of West Michigan  
240 Brown Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

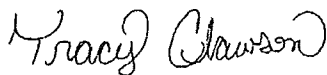
VII. Adjournment. *A motion was made by Todd Medendorp to adjourn the meeting and was supported by Mark Brouwer. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:26 a.m.*

*Individuals wishing to address the Board of Directors under Items II and IX above are requested to sign in with the Board Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Individual comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes each and a total time allowance not to exceed thirty (30) minutes, unless extended by a vote of the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner.*

*Complaints or concerns regarding Board members or school employees associated with the Academy shall first be addressed in writing and delivered to the Board President at least five (5) days prior to the Board meeting or such complaints or concerns shall not be heard by the Board. The Board will not verbally respond to public comments but may follow up in the most appropriate and time-effective manner. (Source: Board Policy 0167.3)*

*Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Hope Academy of West Michigan/Integrity Educational Services Central office at 3300 36th Street, SE Grand Rapids, MI 49512, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.)*

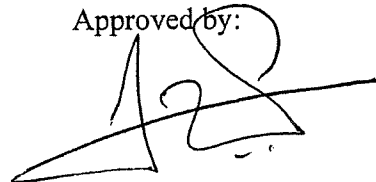
Submitted by:



Tracy Clawson  
Recording Secretary

Date: 8/27/2025

Approved by:



Bernard Ayoola  
Board Secretary

Date: 9/22/25

