

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SYSTEM

Board of Directors Special Meeting

August 22, 2023

6:00 p.m.

2441 Sanford Street

Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Board Meeting, Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System, 2441 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, Michigan, was called to order by Leslie Slater at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL*

BOARD MEMBERS:

Leslie Slater, President; David Fox, Vice President & Treasurer; Hillery Ross-Furse, Secretary; J.J Lewis, Trustee; Debra Bradford, Trustee (arrived at 6:19 pm)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: Superintendent Reedell Holmes

Attorney Delaporte and Attorney Birdsall (virtual) present

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Request by Superintendent Holmes to add an action item to the agenda for the approval of a SFA purchase.

Discussion on the need for the item to be added with Meta 24 that provides curriculum.

Moved by Slater Seconded by Lewis to add the action item.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-No Ross-Furse-Abstain Lewis-Yes Bradford-Absent

Motion did not carry and item was not added to the agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors make a motion to approve the agenda as originally presented.

Lewis MOVED and Ross-Furse SECONDED the adoption of the resolution

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Yes Lewis-Yes Bradford-Absent

IV. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Back to school bash planned for Thursday, August 24, 12:00-4:00

Professional development this week with staff, requested Meta 24 presentation for Friday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Still have some open positions that need to be filled

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Request to have 2nd grade moved to Edgewood

- More appropriate to have 2nd graders closer to students of a similar age level
- Team is ready to make the necessary moves if approved
- Classrooms are available
- Mr. Fox asked to make sure 7th and 8th graders were separated in MHA as much as possible

B. Muskegon Heights Logo

- Want the Logo used in the MHA building to be what is used consistently for the district when promoting and communicating

C. Global Psychological Special Education Contract

- The contract presented to the Board for special education services was discussed
- Anthony Pendleton from Global Psychological was present and answered questions from the Board
- Clarifying questions were asked about the special education contract vs the response received from Global Psychological for the service provider RFP - that response only had contract pricing terms for special education

D. Choice One Bank

- Due to Board changes the account at Choice One needs to be updated
- Kathy Morris at MAISD needs access to upload positive pay files for the district
- The phone number on the account should be updated to the school number

E. Positions to be filled

- Reviewed positions to be filled
- Discussion on Board role of approving positions and not people to fill them - the Board only hires the superintendent and service provider hires other positions in collaboration with the superintendent. Our action items should only be for new positions and not people.

- Agenda should be changed to reflect approval of new positions only, and not people to fill those positions
- F. Budget (META 24)
 - Budgeted numbers for Meta 24 were shared with the Board - these are ESSER dollars designated for this program
 - Discussion on moving forward with Meta24 and why things have not been done yet
- G. Board Policies
 - Need to make sure our policies are up to date and we utilize them to help our direction
 - National Charter Institute did last update in 2021
- H. Business Manager
 - The Board needs to decide if it wants to contract with MAISD for a business manager or hire separately through a service provider
 - Need to see if service providers have this service for the future

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Motion to Approve the 2nd grade to be moved over to Edgewood Elementary

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors make a motion to approve the 2nd grade to be moved over to Edgewood Elementary.

Fox MOVED and Ross SECONDED to adopt this resolution.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Yes Lewis-Yes Bradford-Yes

B. Motion to Approve the original tiger logo that is on the floor of the MHA hallways to be used for marketing materials and rebranding.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors make a motion to approve the original tiger logo that is on the floor of the MHA hallways to be used for marketing materials and rebranding.

Fox MOVED and Ross SECONDED the adoption of the resolution.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Yes Lewis-Yes Bradford-Yes

C. Motion to Approve the Global Psychological Special Education contract.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System

Board of Directors make a motion to approve the Global Psychological Special Education contract:

Lewis MOVED and Ross SECONDED to table the adoption of the resolution for further attorney review.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Yes Lewis-Yes Bradford-Yes

D. Motion to Approve the following changes to the MHPSAS Choice One Account

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors make a motion to approve the following changes to the MHPSAS Choice One Account:

- Remove Antonette Robinson as a signer
- Remove Daphne Williams, Paris Hodge, and Jennifer Yeoman from the account
- Grant Kathy Morris access to upload positive pay files for the account
- Update the phone number associated to the account

Fox MOVED and Lewis SECONDED the adoption of the resolution.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Yes Lewis-Yes Bradford-Yes

E. Motion to Approve the following new positions:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors make a motion to approve the following new positions:

1. Registrar
2. Business Management Instructor

Fox MOVED and Ross-Furse SECONDED the adoption of the resolution.

ROLL CALL: Slater-Yes Fox-Yes Ross-Furse-Abstain Lewis-Yes
Bradford-Yes

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Brenda Rybacki
 - Sounds like Meta24 is 7-12
 - Stay with K-6 curriculum we already have and know

- Kenya Crockett
 - We need to keep our K-6 curriculum consistent
 - Pilot Meta24 at the secondary
- Michelle Tyson
 - If you were new to Muskegon Heights these meeting would sound like little kids fighting
 - People should know what Meta24 is all about
 - Curriculum used last year didn't work, we need to educate our kids
- Cassandra Kitchen
 - Our kids are not where they should be, education starts in the home
 - Volunteered at MLK and felt sorry for what teachers were going through
 - Kids need to know how to behave so they can learn
- Shamika Jackson
 - Feel passion like everyone else in the room, but we have to present ourselves professionally
 - We have to model what we want to see from our kids
- Antonette Robinson
 - Other curriculum options have been on the table for a long time
 - People can go see it in action in other schools
- Ruben Crosby
 - Schools of choice took me away from Muskegon Heights
 - Adults need to be better at communicating with each other
 - We need a sense of urgency in what we do

VIII. COMMENTS FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Bradford - new to the Board and appreciate people speaking
- Fox - What proof do we have that previous curriculum works? Saw Meta24 program in person and know what it can do to help, but also know it is not the answer to everything. The fight is about our kids. Muskegon county needs Muskegon Heights to succeed.
- Slater - We are family and we all need to help our kids. We need to be more collaborative

IX. NEXT MEETING

Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 12, 2023

MEETING ADJOURNED

Fox MOVED and Lewis SECONDED to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hillery Ross-Furse, Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Hillery Ross-Furse", with a stylized initial "H" and a long horizontal flourish.