

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SYSTEM

Regular Board of Directors Meeting

April 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Muskegon Heights Public School Academy
2441 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

I. Call To Order

The Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System Board of Directors, **conducted** at the Muskegon Heights Academy, 2441 Sanford Street, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444, was called to order.

II. Roll Call

President Warren call the roll of the Board of Directors @ 6:00 pm

Board of Directors

Joseph Warren, President - Present
Katie Kapteyn, Vice President-Present
Chauncey Bryant, Treasurer-Present
Kesha Sanders, Secretary-Present
Manasseh Bankhead, Trustee-Present
Legal Counsel-Attorney Joseph Urban-(Present Virtually)

Administrative Staff

Mr. Reedell Holmes, Superintendent-Present
Dr. Hicks-Square 1 Strategy Group-Present

III. Approval of April 21, 2025, Agenda *(If items are added, include under Other Business)*

President Warren moved for the approval of the April 21, 2025, Meeting Agenda, with the exception of New Business items C and D.

Vice President Kapteyn motioned to approve the April 21, 2025 Meeting Agenda with the exception of New Business items C and D.

Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

April 21, 2025

IV. Approval of March 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes

President Warren moved for the Approval of the March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

Vice President Kapteyn seconded the motion for the Approval of the March 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Checks for March Payments

President Warren moved for the approval of Checks for March Payment.

Treasurer Bryant motioned for the approval of Checks for March Payment.

Trustee Bankhead seconded the motion. There was no Discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Roll Call Taken: President Warren-Yay, Vice President Kapteyn-Yay, Treasurer Bryant-Yay, Secretary Sanders-Yay, Trustee Bankhead-Yay.

VI. Financial Update

Peter Mitchell: Finance Manager provided the monthly financial update, including the bank reconciliation, YTD budget, and monthly check report.

VII. Old Business

a. Approval of Middle School Students Sports Program

President Warren moved for Board discussion to approve the middle school sports program to help maintain students' interest in school and stop losing 100+ students every year. School of choice is near and MHPSA needs to get all schools sports back on track.

Secretary Sanders questioned if there has been a survey sent out to see if it is what the students want.

President Warren stated that he has spoken with coaches, students and it would just be feasible to have those sports activities. Discussions were had as **Dr. Hicks** stated a survey was conducted and they did entertain an Athletic Conference but had draw backs and 1st step is to get back into the Athletic Conference.

President Warren moved for the Approval of Middle School Sports Program to be implemented back into the school district.

Treasurer Bryant motioned for the Approval of Middle School Sports Program.

Secretary Sanders seconded the motion. No further Discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

April 21, 2025

b. Approval of RFP for Edgewood Boiler Replacement

President Warren moved for the approval of RFP for Edgewood Boiler Replacement.

Vice President Kapteyn motioned for the approval of RFP for Edgewood Boiler Replacement.

Trustee Bankhead seconded the motion. No further discussion was had and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business

a. Review the RFP Applications Received

President Warren stated that the RFP Review will be to determine the new upcoming Management Company. This will take place 4-24-25 @ 5pm at MHA. Public is welcomed to come as multiple applications were received and the Board is narrowing them down.

b. Approval of 2025-2026 District School Calendar

President Warren moved for the 2025-2026 District School Calendar to be tabled until the Special BOD meeting on 4-24-25 @ 5 pm. The Board will need to go over the calendar and make sure it is correct before approving.

c. Contract Review for MHA School Resource Officer-Omitted

d. Reimbursement Request for MHPSAS State Aid (Non-Certified Teachers Permit Deduction Fund)-Omitted.

e. Presentation by Ms. Tara Carson-HBCU Club

Ms. Tara Carson, President and founder of HBCU Club of Muskegon gave her presentation on being an enrichment career preparation club in which second generation students reach their potential career goals after finishing high school. This program works as a village that encourages students to become successful once they graduate from high school. Information was left about the program and Ms. Carson would like to partner with MHPSA District as all services are free.

f. Presentation by Mr. Andy Buelow & Mr. Larry Fife-West Michigan Symphony

Mr. Andy Buelow, CEO of West Michigan Symphony gave a presentation to the BOD on why MHA needs to bring the Music Arts programs into the early elementary schools to capture kids before middle & high school as the interest leaves students if not introduced early on. Mr. Buelow also spoke on the other music programs they offer through West Michigan Symphony and the partnership requirements.

Secretary Sander asked Mr. Buelow is there a cost for this program? Mr. Buelow stated that it depends on what it is. There's no cost to participate in the tuneup afterschool program, but the school is responsible for bussing their students. There is a small tuition enrollment fee for the children's choir.

April 21, 2025

IX. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Holmes presented his monthly report to the Board giving updates on the Grow Your Own college incentive Program for MHA participating prospective teachers. MHA received notice that the office of Educator Excellence has accepted the 2023 Sec. 27b GYO Expenditure report. M-Step/MME/Sat/Psat testing will begin the week of April 15, 2025. The 2025-2026 School Calendar has been drafted and looking real good. Mr. Holmes states that the Admin team should meet this week to finalize it for approval at the next Board meeting. Renew/Update our Emergency Operation Plan as all new Board members names and information has to be updated in the manual and then the Board can then approve the calendar hopefully at the next Board meeting. Food service applications have been completed for the summer program. Federal cuts will cause MHPSA to lose the CLSD grant. CRDC report was completed by Ms. Yolanda Bates and has been certified by the CRDC in which MHPSA was reported at 100% completion.

XI.S15 Management Report

Dr. Hicks presented a management report to the Board with the

- **Academic Updates:** Dr. Hicks didn't reiterate on it as Superintendent Holmes had given prior updates on his report as well. The M-STEP window is open and students in grades 3-11 are testing per the schools designated testing schedule. The MAISD West Michigan Showcase was held at the Frauenthal Theater on 3-19-25 and MHA showcased a short film that placed 2nd and won a \$500 prize. Congrats to Mr. Harrison and the students of Digital Media Dept.
- **Operational Update:** MHA camera repairs and scope of service will be presented to the Board at the May 2025 meeting. MHA alarm system is pending the camera system quote.
- **Financial Update:** Peter Mitchell-Finance Manager gave the monthly financial update to the Board.
- **Human Resources:** We currently have all academic positions filled.

XIII. Public Comment

- **Rod Coley** gave a presentation to introduce robotics neuroeducational curriculum to the Board for our MHPSA students to review and consider as a possible new genesis project. Brochures and poster board demonstrations were presented as the goal is to Empower students and develop emotional intelligence and critical thinking.
- **Mr. Stewart-Athletic Director**
Had discussion to the questions and wanted to bring light to the sports issues and the Alliance league that Mr. Stewart has been meeting and having discussions to get MHA back into the conference. The team uniforms, sad to say there was a theft and a large quantity of uniforms were stolen. Mr. Stewart explained to the Board that he and Mr. Purnell-Head Coach did put in a new track suit order but due to funding and it is not attainable this late as track is well into the season. Mr. Stewart also stated that the feedback received from other schools is mainly security, due to students fighting, to be real other schools just don't want to visit MHA. This year MHA had only 2-3 home games and traveled hours away to play and that is very costly and time consuming for the kids.
- **Ms. Crocket** addressed the Board to comment on the financial transparency and wants the public to be given a copy of the monthly budget. Does the state still require MHA to carry a fund balance? If so, what is that amount?. How much does it cost to run our district monthly?

XIV. Follow-Up Items

a. Epicenter Compliance update

President Warren had discussion on the status of compliance items being imported to Epicenter. Dr. Hicks stated that the process is ongoing, Ms. McKenzie has sent Board information by email to Dr. Smith and he is meeting remotely with Mr. Holmes to obtain other needed compliance information. Dr. Smith is the only one with access to import the items into Epicenter and that makes the process take longer.

b. Tour of all MHPSA Buildings (BOE & BOD will attend)

President Warren would like to nail down a date to get this rolling to prepare for the upcoming school year. Each school principal will be notified when a date is set.

c. Meet & Greet event held Friday 4-4-25

Secretary Sanders gave review on the event that it was a success. We had music, food, games and it was good to see parents and students come out. There was also a survey provided to staff, parents and students to fill out. A copy has been sent out to several Board members and she will get it out to the rest of the Board members, including the BOE. There is another community meet & greet on 4-25-25 from 4-7 pm.

XV. Board Correspondence

None

XVI. Other Business

a. Review the Attendance Policy

President Warren had discussion that the Board can look at the policy, review it and get a better way to get students in school

b. Discussion and status of the current Food Service Program

President Warren had discussion as complaints of unhappy food service claims were being received from staff and students. Breakfast/lunch not prepared to their liking, outdated items, and meals were just not of good standards. MHPSA students were not receiving the same menu as other schools within our district. Superintendent Holmes stated that there was a meeting held this past Thursday with the Food service manager-Dustin and they have agreed to make necessary changes to the menu and monitor quality of food.

c. Tracking team uniforms

President Warren had a discussion as a board member went to a girls track meet and the uniforms that our girls had on were very disappointing, not a good look. President Warren thought that the Board could address the issue and possibly seek new uniforms but track is already in full swing and will be tabled. Board would like to set up a meeting with the Athletic Director to better help implement and give insight as well.

April 21, 2025

XVII. Comments from the Board of Directors

President Warren had discussion on summer school and is it in place. Mr. Holmes states that summer school is set up and ready to go forward and funding will come out of title 1 funding. The teachers to be determined but will probably be the same teachers that did it last year. NWEA data will determine what programs are needed and the spring data will set the information data on what students need.

President Warren had discussion on why the Senior Graduation will be in the auditorium instead of the gymnasium. Dr. Hicks stated that the maintenance dept has figured out the lighting issues from the December Nutcracker play and the majority stated they wanted graduation in the auditorium.

XVIII. Next Meeting

- a. A Special Board of Directors meeting will be Thursday April 24, 2025 at 5 pm at Muskegon Heights Public School Academy, 2441 Sanford St. Muskegon Heights, MI 49444.

XIX. Adjournment

President Warren moved to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Bryant motioned to adjourn the meeting and Vice President Kapteyn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at: 7:53 pm.



Kesha Sanders Board Secretary

April 21, 2025