

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SYSTEM

Special Board of Directors Meeting

April 29, 2025, 5:00 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 by **President Warren** @ 5:03 pm.

II. Roll Call

Board of Directors

President Warren-Present
Vice President Kapteyn-Present
Secretary Sanders-Present
Treasurer Bryant-Present
Trustee Bankhead-Present

Administrative Staff

Superintendent Holmes-Present
Dr. Hicks-Square 1 Strategy Group-Absent

III. Approval of April 29, 2025 Agenda

President Warren moved for the approval of the April 29, 2025 Agenda with the amendment to review the OMA, Board Resolution Policy and the RFP Process.

Vice President Kapteyn motioned for the approval of the April 29, 2025 Agenda with the amendment to review the OMA, Board Resolution Policy and RFP Process..

Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. No Discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion on School Management Company

- Global Psychological
- Teachers First Inc. (MM1)

Vice President Kapteyn stated that the Board should be going in the direction of reviewing the RFP proposals for HR. That's what she has heard the community wanted, health Insurance, 401 benefits, cost etc. We do have two different company's proposals to review and discuss tonight to get the ball rolling quickly for everyone for the onboarding process.

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President Warren stated that this meeting was brought forth to make sure that we (The Board) all are on one accord. The Board should operate as one, whether we agree or if we disagree, we still can have the same common ground for the betterment of our students. We have to ensure that it's not about us but about these children here at MHPSA. If we were on the Board for any other reason, then it's the wrong reason. The Board in whole would like to hear from more than just one management company for fairness to all, as time is of an essence.

Trustee Bankhead had discussion to state that he had concerns from the last Board meeting and the valid questions asked from the heart by staff were never addressed. Will the same questions get asked of each management company presenting? If the management company will clearly answer in a timely manner what they are able to do for MHPSA and what they will not do as the new management company. We need to set up a question & answer mechanism in place so that the staff and public community. Vice President Kapteyn states she has received and compiled a list of questions from multiple staff members as well as lawyers, myself and board members trying to get the breakdown of what we need. The Board will get the questions beforehand to the two presenters so that they will have time to be prepared to give concrete answers.

President Warren stated that the other two management companies should be allowed to speak for themselves and lay out their plan on how they plan to run the district if chosen. The Board will need to come together and set a board meeting date to review the 2 other proposals to ensure all vendors have an opportunity to compete and provide a clear framework for evaluation.

V. Public Comments *(limited to 2 minutes per person)*

Ms. Crocket had questions on how the Board is handling their RFP process. There are several steps not being done fairly nor correctly in this RFP process. Were any Teachers, stakeholders, or Administrators included in the evaluation process of the proposals for the selection of RFP. There is a lot of conflict of Interest between both Boards and we all need to work together for the betterment of our kids. The negotiations should be very transparent as the Board can't just pick a company of their choosing. Let's back the truck up and follow the process because we can't afford another lawsuit and our Insurance will go through the roof.

Mr. Mathews had discussion on the fact that there is division between both Boards and all the fighting and personal issues must stop. MHPSA is losing out everytime. Why is the Board pushing for Meta 24? Is it a personal vendetta as no staff here wants Meta because of their past wrongdoings. Nothing has been gained, take yourself out the way as it ain't about you. Every year we get a new curriculum and keep making changes and that is not acceptable.

Mr. Mitchell has a discussion on using the people that have been trained to service the district. Being a leader is not always about doing what you want to do but understanding the situation and making decisions for the district as a whole. There are teachers that do not have the needed tools to even teach students and become competitive. So any extra money that the Board can find should be to help teachers do their job now, Thank You.

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Ms. Bates had a discussion to ask If time is of the essence, why can't we ask Square 1 Strategy Group to stay another 30-90 days until we get it together. Why can't we become self managed, do we not have enough adequate people?

VI. Comments from the Board of Directors

Vice President Kapteyn commented and appreciated all the input as this is a heavy lift. The Board is getting clarity and will not jump into anything without listening to all sides and to keep sustainability as the Boards top priority.

Trustee Bankhead commented that as the Board continues to go through this process the Board will keep the Staff, students first as those who will be working with the company. The goal is to make the best decision possible so that this transition is done right. If the Board does not do what they have agreed to do, then we are just hurting ourselves. This is a lot to chew. I don't like to be a part of division but so much has happened and that's a hard rock to come from up under. People need to know about tomorrow. I only came to help, not to be in a click. Who likes who and all the personal issues must cease. Please, we need to put our pride to the side and cover one another. No one should have a hidden agenda and make sidebar decisions amongst themselves, then there's no reason for me to be here. The two Boards should be working towards the same goal. If not, then I would rather step away.

Secretary Sanders commented that there will be a community meet & Greet in Tigerway to talk one on one with the Boards from 4-7 pm. Please come out and invite family and friends to attend and there's also a survey form available to complete to share your thoughts and ideas.

VII. Next Meeting

The next Regular Board of Directors meeting will be **Monday May 19, 2025, at 6 pm** at Muskegon Heights Public School Academy, 2441 Sanford St. Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

VIII. Adjournment

Vice President Kapteyn motioned to adjourn the meeting, Board Member Bankhead seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at: 7:13 pm.



Kesha Sanders-Board Secretary

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