

MUSKEGON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SYSTEM

Board of Directors Meeting

June 16, 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 by Vice President Kapteyn on June 16, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Board of Directors

President- Vacant

Vice President Kapteyn-Present

Secretary Sanders-Present

Treasurer Bryant-Present

Trustee Bankhead- Present

Administrative Staff

Superintendent Holmes-Present

Dr. Hicks-Square 1 Strategy Group-Present

Dr. Smith-Square 1 Strategy Group-Present

III. Approval of June 16, 2025 Agenda (If items are added, include under Other Business)

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of the June 16, 2025 Agenda. No amendments were made by the Board and the Agenda will run as stated.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approval of the May 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Vice President Kapteyn moved to Approve the May 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Trustee Bankhead motioned for the Approval of May 19, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. No Discussion and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

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

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V. Financial Report

Mark Graham-CFO, Provided the May 2025 monthly financial packet to the Board including the Bank reconciliation, YTD budget, and the monthly check report.

VI. Approval of Checks for Payments

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of checks for May Payments.

Trustee Bankhead motioned for the Approval of Checks for May Payments.

Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. No Discussion had and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

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

VII. Special Education Report

Mr. Anthony Pendleton-CEO of Global Psychological presented to the Board along with a two year packet outlining 2024-2025 and the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. Recommendations and suggestions were outlined in the packet given that will provide a win-win for the district, financing and the Board can make their final decision with clarity. Mr. Pendleton gave a breakdown of the services that are being provided and the severity for students being served. MHA is a charter school but the Special Education is on par as a district level program. The Special Education dept. makes up 20% of our student body count Global is willing to waive the non-compete so that MM1 can absorb continuity, thus possibly saving the district 75% in costs.

VIII. Superintendent Report

Mr. Reedell Holmes presented his monthly report packet to the Board with updates on MHPSA Schools.

Congratulations to the Senior Class of 2025 for the hard work completed from the students, teachers, and staff. MHA had a jam packed house and the ceremony was a great success. The GYO program report was shared with our partnership as required and is going strong with approx 26 participants thus far.

All student Chromebook devices were to be returned on June 9th, 2025. Thus far the IT dept has collected 125 devices. The cost of each chromebook is approx \$250.00 and a letter may possibly go home to parents with an invoice for the replacement fee if the device is not returned to school.

Summer School for students starts June 30th-July 31, 2025. Grade k-5th will be at Edgewood, Mon-Thurs from 8:30am - 12:30pm.

Project Focus starts June 30-July 31, 2025 and MHA expects great summer fun and learning opportunities, outdoor activities, field trips and so much more hands-on discoveries for the students.

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IX. Square One Management Report

Dr. Hicks presented her **final** monthly management report to the Board and gave all board members a chart comparison to show a complete breakdown of where we are at in the district now, compared to Dec. 2023 when Square One came aboard. The MDE Partnership and Benchmark Review Recommendations status was also attached and presented to the Board to show how the district current status is now yellow-off track w/ Progress, formally **red** off track back in Dec 2023.

- **Academic Updates** were presented: last year MHPSA had **4** certified teachers, today: **8** certified teachers. Currently enrolled in the GYO certification program **16** teachers, last year there were **4** teachers. Last year **0** teachers in the Bachelors Program, now there are **10** active. MHPSA set out intent to return letters with students and thus far intent letters received: MHA-40, MLK-33, and Edgewood-86. This number will change as traditionally parents enroll at the last minute.
- **Operational Update:** An attached report was given to the Board Members with an overall Improvement In Operations and Organizational Structure: Spread-to-pay, Org Chart, Curriculum, Staff Training, Community PR and Building Cleanliness.
- **Financial Update** was given in regards to the financial stability of MHPSA. MHPSA is on track for 100% pull down of all title grants and all carry over funds have been used. We have used all carry over funds and on track to have all spending done at 100% by month end.

Dr. Shannon Smith-CEO Square One gave his final closing remarks to the Board to thank the Board and the community for the opportunity given and a special thanks to Dr. Hicks for her tirelessly work efforts on behalf of this community. There are some things in place that are working, and we understand the changing of the Guards, but please keep the things that are working for the betterment of this community.

Attorney Joseph Urban asked Square One for an update on their prognosis for success in regards to the State Aid withholding appeal hard date. It was to be decided by June 2025, now there is talk thru a third party that the appeal date may be decided in July 2025. Attorney Urban asked Square one to provide him and the Board a complete electronic record of the appeal progress and all related emails. The point of contact with the changing of the guards information also is needed to know who to contact at the department for further processing in this regard.

Dr. Hicks stated that the appeal meeting was held last Tuesday and they received an email that the appeal has made it to the next step which is the office of the State Superintendent who will make the final decision. The decision could take up to seven weeks but hoping it's done sooner. Dr. Hicks stated they will have a meeting tomorrow with the State finance dept. And the Board CFO Mark Graham and that is the most recent update. Dr. Hicks stated she will provide all the State Appeal information requested to Attorney Urban and the Board.

Vice President Kapteyn would like to thank Dr. Hicks and Dr. Smith for what you have done and your time here and appreciate the report as well.

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X. Old Business

a. Teacher's First/MM1 Update

Vice President Kapteyn gave an update on the progress of Teacher's First, the new HR Management Company. The Board will now be able to move forward quickly with specific deadlines and staff re-applying. Teacher's First is projected to have offer letters ready for staff by June 27th, so they are trying to rush those through for where staff stands for the upcoming year.

b. Approval of the Teacher's First Contract subject to non-disapproval by the District Board and Removing School Operations Support and Cost from the Proposed Contract.

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of Teacher's First Contract subject to non-disapproval by the District Board and Removing School Operations and Cost from the Proposed Contract.

Treasurer Bryant motioned for the Approval of Teacher's First Contract subject to non-disapproval by the District Board and Removing School Operations and Cost from the Proposed Contract.

Trustee Bankhead seconded the motion. Discussion was had as Vice President Kapteyn abstained herself from voting. The motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

Roll Call Taken: Vice President Kapteyn-Abstained, Treasurer Bryant-I, Secretary Sanders-I, Trustee Bankhead-I

c. Building Maintenance and Repair Update

Vice President Kapteyn gave an update on school building and repair as a contractor did a walk through with Mr. Harris and another RFP may be needed as additional costs for boiler replacement may be needed.

XI. New Business

a. Approval of the 2024-25 Amended Budget

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of the 2024-25 Amended Budget.

Secretary Sanders motioned for the Approval of the 2024-25 Amended Budget.

Trustee Bankhead seconded the motion. No Discussion and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

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

b. Approval of the 2025-26 Proposed Budget

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of the 2025-26 Proposed Budget.

Trustee Bankhead motioned for the Approval of the 2025-26 Proposed Budget.

Treasurer Bryant seconded the motion. No Discussion and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

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

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c. Approval of the 2025-26 Board Meeting Calendar

Vice President Kapteyn moved for the Approval of the 2025-26 Board Meeting Calendar.

Treasurer Bryant motioned for the Approval of the 2025-26 Board Meeting Calendar.

Trustee Bankhead seconded the motion. No Discussion and the motion was carried by majority vote and was adopted.

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

d. Contract Review & Special Board Meeting

Vice President Kapteyn stated that there are several contracts that are being reviewed by the Board (Food Service and Transportation). The Board will have a Special meeting next week 6/24/25 @ 5 pm to vote on and go through over the items.

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

Mrs. Palen-Teacher made comments on how the staff was being treated unfairly and her salary being reduced.

Ms. Johnson-Principal is still seeking answers to questions previously asked of the Board as she is not able to relay back anything to her staff and parents and it's very frustrating.

XIII. Comments from the Board of Directors

None

XIV. Next Meeting

The next Regular Board of Directors meeting will be **Tuesday June 24, 2025, at 5 pm** at Muskegon Heights Public School Academy, 2441 Sanford St. Muskegon Heights, MI 49444

XV. Adjournment

Vice President Kapteyn adjourned the meeting at: 7:14 pm.



Kesha Sanders-Board Secretary

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