

MICHIGAN VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY

Regular Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2011

10:00 AM

Clark Hill Law Offices
151 S. Old Woodward Ave., Suite 200
Birmingham, MI 48009

And via conference call at
(888)824-5783x30178241#

1. *Call to Order* -President Marlow called the regular meeting to order at 10:17 AM.
2. *Roll Call:*
Present: Director Marlow, Director Tolle, Director Bender, Director Pye, Director Odum (via conference call)
Absent : Director Foster
Also Present: Stephanie Hargens (MVCA), Zack Wasilew (K-12), Leslie Schott (K-12) via conference call, Jim DeKorne (GVSU), Joe Urban (Clark Hill), Sarah Geddes (Clark Hill) arriving for presentation re: item 10.
Public: Julie Goodman (Detroit Country Day School) , Kelly Goodman (Data Driven Detroit)
3. *Approval of Agenda*
Motion by Director Bender to approve the agenda.
Seconded by Director Pye
Approved: Unanimously
4. *Public Comment* (limited to agenda items)
There was no public comment.
5. *Consent Agenda*
 - a. Approval of November invoices
 - b. Approval of November balance sheets
 - c. Approval of Board Development Plan 2011-12 School Year
 - d. Approval of Special Ed Compliance ISD Plan 2011-12
 - e. Legislative update
 - f. MVCA participation in National Charter School Week
 - g. Enrollment figures for MVCA online and Passport Program students
 - h. Update on technology and additional furniture bids for Grand Rapids Center**Motion by** Director Pye to accept the Consent Agenda.
Seconded by Director Bender
Approved: Unanimously
6. *Business Pertaining to Organizational Performance*
 - a. Update from K-12 and JLL on Detroit Learning Center site possibilities and recommendation . Pursuant to MCLA 15.268(d) President Marlow entertained a motion to go into closed session.
Motion by Director Pye that the Board go into closed session
Seconded by Director Bender
Ayes: Director Bender, Director Marlow, Director Odum, Director Pye, Director Tolle
Nays: None
Approved: Unanimously
Jim DeKorne of GVSU was invited to remain. The Board recessed to closed session at 11:35AM.
Motion by Director Pye that the Board return to open session.
Seconded by Director Bender.
Approved: Unanimously
The Board returned to open session at 12:30PM.

7. *Business Pertaining to Board Performance*
 - a. *Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – November 23, 2011*

Director Marlow stated the following change should be made in 7 (e) in order to reflect the request of Dr. Brian Carpenter contained in his Policy Governance proposal: “The Policy Governance Workshop proposal which includes a description and coversheet listing the 3 levels, their contents and costs, are included in these minutes as an addendum.”

Motion by Director Bender to accept the November 23,2011 Minutes as amended

Seconded by Director Pye

Approved: Unanimously
 - b. *Motion to approve amendment of MVCA Bylaws Schedule 3, Article VII, Section 8.*

Motion by Director Pye that the Board approve the amendment of the MVCA Bylaws and that the board attorney, Joe Urban, be tasked with sending the amendment to the GVSU Board of Trustees for approval.

Seconded by Director Bender

Approved: Unanimously
 - c. *Update on additional Board training on Policy Governance.*

Dr. Brian Carpenter will conduct a two-day, twelve-hour training session January 28-29, 2012 at the Clark Hill offices in Birmingham from 12-6PM both days.
 - d. *GVSU PD concerning how the Board can effectively handle media issues.*

Jim DeKorne contrasted an effective way to answer media questions vs. being ill-prepared for impromptu questions from any media outlets. He encouraged the Board to appoint only one person to act as a spokesperson for the Board.

Motion by Director Pye that President Marlow be designated to act as a spokesperson for the Board.

Seconded by Director Bender

Approved: Unanimously
 - e. *Update on board candidates and question review.*

President Marlow wanted to know what the Board wished her to do regarding the three candidates whose resumes had been received. Marlow reported that candidate Reynolds cannot attend either the January 25th Board Meeting to be interviewed or attend the January 28th-29th training with Dr. Carpenter. The Board agreed to keep Ms. Reynolds' resume on file in case of future vacancies, but instructed President Marlow to inform Ms. Reynolds of this action and to invite Ms. Daschke and Mr. Wilckens to come to the January 25, 2012 Board Meeting to be interviewed. President Marlow will send an email after the New Year holiday reminding Board members to send the questions which board members would like added to the GVSU recommendations for board candidates prior to the January meeting.
8. *Business Pertaining to Student Performance*
 - a. *Fall Scantron student data*

Stephanie Hargens reviewed and expanded on the K12 Fall 2011-2012 school year Scantron Performance scores. She is looking into the validity of the Language Arts test in the Scantron system with K12.
9. *Authorizer’s comments*

Jim DeKorne had no further comments.
10. *Public Comment (non-agenda items)*
 - a. Sarah Geddes (Clark Hill Attorney) reported on the new MI Anti-Bullying legislation. She handed out a summary booklet of the policy, **Update on Anti-Bullying Legislation**, which all school districts will need to use when writing or reviewing their own anti-bullying policy. Stephanie Hargens said that MVCA already has a policy in its handbook, but it must be reviewed for compliance and submitted by 6/6/2012 to the MI DOE. In addition, the board must have 1 public hearing prior to adopting the policy and submitting it and MVCA must provide a notice to students and parents of the policy. Ms. Geddes specifically drew the board’s attention to Section 3 of the booklet and commented that 1) the legislation now specifically defines what “in school” is, 2) gives further parameters for what bullying is, but not specific punishments except in some cases, and 3) has a definition of bullying, but not cyber-bullying. Ms. Geddes also spoke about cyber-bullying and how it pertains to in-school as well as out-of-school behavior which threatens or disrupts normal activity. Cyber -bullying pertains to Facebook and Twitter, for example, and students need to be made aware that threatening or disruptive behavior can have consequences whether they are at home or in school.

- b. Kelly Goodman requested information on data collection practices for virtual schools. Her electronically written comment: "Virtual schools create new demands for data collection, apart from MDE and CEPI requirements. For example, what percent of students log-in to classes on a daily basis? In light of the recent New York Times articles on K12 Inc. there will be an increased interest in virtual school data. The more data MVCA collects and shares publicly, the better informed parents and students can be when choosing schools. MVCA also has the opportunity to set standards for future virtual schools operating in Michigan." President Marlow said that a board spokesperson will send Ms. Goodman a written response within 30 days.
- c. Julie Goodman requested information re: ISD funding support for students with learning challenges, specifically, is it done individually, what the service delivery is like at MVCA and do the ISD funds pay for that service. President Marlow said that a board spokesperson will send Ms. Goodman a written response within 30 days.

11. *Next meeting:* January 25, 2012, at 10:00AM, Clark Hill offices

12. *Adjournment:* President Marlow adjourned the Meeting at 1:16 PM

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting held on December 21, 2011, the original of which is a part of the Board's minutes and further certifies that a notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.


Recording Secretary, Board of Directors

Individuals with a disability who need accommodation for participation in this meeting should contact Jon Robinson at (517) 614-1270 in advance of the meeting to request assistance.

Minutes available at:

Michigan Virtual Charter Academy , 678 Front Avenue NW, Suite 190, Grand Rapids , MI 49504, and on the Michigan Virtual Academy website, www.K12.com/MVCA