

The Autism Model School
Board Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2018
Location: Autism Model School
Jaeger Hall
3020 Tremainsville Road
Toledo, OH 43613
5:30 PM

Attending: Cynthia Frye, Toni Gerber, Mark Greenblatt, James Rothschild, Bruce Weinberg

Excused: Ed Cancio, Isaac Demarest, Lisa Marsalek, Raj Parikh

Also Attending: Mary Walters, Director; Catherine Moore, Administrator 2 /Recorder of the Minutes; Joel Vidovic, Behavior Management Director; Mary Cornell, Assistant Behavior Management Director; Luke Reed, Developmental Director; Jen Adkins, Sponsor Representative - ESC Lake Erie West; Dave Massa, Fiscal Agent – Massa Financial Solutions, LLC

Meeting began at 5:30 PM

I. Welcome and Public Comments

- Nothing presented.

II. Minutes

- From the August, 2018 board meeting. Discussion and approval.

Motion to approve the August 28, 2018 minutes, clarifying between Cynthia Frye and Alison Frye within the minutes by including their first initials:

1. Toni Gerber

2. Cynthia Frye

Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild

III. Contract Modifications from sponsor

- The board reviewed and discussed the contract modifications with Adkins.

Motion to approve the contract modifications:**1. James Rothschild****2. Mark Greenblatt****Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild**

IV. Standing Reports

a. Financial Report

i. August, 2018 Financials—budget & variance reports.

- The Board reviewed and discussed the August, 2018 budget & variance report.

Motion to approve the August, 2018 Financials:**1. James Rothschild****2. Toni Gerber****Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild**

ii. New Van quotes – updates since August meeting

- Julius Walker, Transportation Director, created a more robust summary of the current condition of the vans. Summarizing the summary, Walters said the vans are really falling apart at the seams.
- Walker also updated the quotes from area dealerships. He prefers the Hondas of all the vans he looked at, and recommends retrofitting all of the vans with Plexiglass, regardless of the make/model purchased.
- Weinberg asked Massa if the school could afford to buy all six vans at once. “They are definitely not in the budget,” he replied. They would have to be financed. He also suggested that it may be a good time to find out what Signature Bank can offer in terms of credit.
- The board discussed talking to dealerships about sponsorship opportunities or tax-deductible contributions in support of the school’s transportation department.

iii. Board review of Signature Bank proposal

- The board revisited the Signature Bank proposal – Rothschild banks with Signature and feels that the “level of service of a truly local bank” is not comparable to any large scale banking operation; Frye also banks with Signature Bank and has no complaints; Weinberg again stressed the value of local supporting local within the community.
- Massa said that the transition to Signature Bank would take 30-45 days and recommended leaving the investment piece with Huntington Bank to see what they can do with it.

Motion to switch the Autism Model School banking relationship from Huntington Bank to Signature Bank:

1. James Rothschild

2. Toni Gerber

Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild

b. Sponsor Representative Report

- i. Adkins talked about the September update, once again praising the board for meeting and exceeding expectations.
- ii. ODE 2018 Special Education Rating for Autism Model School: Meets Requirements (highest rating) – “essentially an A+”.
- iii. Due to busy schedules, Adkins will conduct the September site visit on Friday, September 28th.

c. Policies and Procedures

- i. Online system updated (Board Docs)
 - A link to the Board Docs website will be sent to board members in the next ten days to give everyone an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the system.

d. Director’s Report

- i. The Board reviewed and discussed the August, 2018 New Hires and Resignations.

Motion to approve the August, 2018 hires and resignations:

1. Mark Greenblatt

2. Cynthia Frye

Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild

- ii. Walters reiterated the value of the ODE 2018 Special Education Rating for Autism Model School.
- e. Development Director's Report
 - i. 21st Century Community Learning Center Update [handout]
 - Afterschool grant proposal was denied, but we can reapply in the next round. The feedback from the denial is helpful in reapplication (helped with the Straight A Grant in the past).
 - ii. Nonprofit Innovations Award Contest – Toledo Community Foundation
 - Comics4Comprehension concept was entered for consideration for the \$5,500 unrestricted grant.
 - Breakfast awards ceremony on Tuesday, October 9th, 2018. Reed invited interested board members to contact him about attending.
 - iii. Special Events
 - Dance Till U Shine “Not-Too-Spooky” Dance Performance will also be held on Tuesday, October 9th.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Paid Time Off policy update
 - The policy will be discussed at a future board meeting.
 - b. Aut to be Partners (E Value) and ProMedica Innovations update
 - i. Walters and Vidovic will present “The E Value” proposition to the ProMedica Foundation on Thursday, September 27th at 12:30 pm. Rothschild will also attend the meeting, along with Intentional Growth, the consulting firm that has been working with the school to develop the business plan.
 - ii. Vidovic presented “The E Value” proposition to the board, specifically connecting Autism Model School to ProMedica’s \$45 million *Social Determinants of Health Initiative*.

- Vidovic reviewed the program and highlighted the newer developments of the business plan such as creating software and gamifying that software with “addictive qualities.”
 - iii. The board discussed the meeting, the presentation, and the expectations thereof.
 - c. The May Institute
 - i. The May Institute has expressed interest in working together on a grant for the purpose of analyzing our Direct Instruction data with a statistician.
- VI. New Business
- Frye presented the resume of Jessica Hopkins to the board for consideration for board membership.

Motion to adjourn at 6:36 PM:

1. Mark Greenblatt

2.

Vote – Yes – Unanimous: Frye, Gerber, Greenblatt, Rothschild

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 5:30 PM at the Autism Model School, 3020 Tremainsville Road, Toledo, Ohio, 43613.