

**The Autism Model School
Board Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2024**

Meeting Start: 5:30 PM

Attending: Bruce Weinberg, Linell Weinberg, Lisa Marsalek, Mark Greenblatt, Toni Gerber, Raj Parikh, Isaac Demarest(5:32p)

Excused: Jim Rothschild

Also Attending: Joel Vidovic, Executive Director; Marcus Flynn – Recorder of Minutes; Brittany Beck, Sponsor Representative - ESC Lake Erie West

Meeting began at 5:30 PM

I. Agenda

- a. Discussion and approval.
 - i. **Motion to approve the March agenda as written:**
 - 1. **Greenblatt**
 - 2. **Gerber**
 - a. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Parikh**

II. Welcome and Public Comments

- a. None

III. Minutes

- a. Discussion and approval of minutes from the February 2024 board meeting.
 - i. **Motion to approve the February 2024 Minutes as written:**
 - 1. **L. Weinberg**
 - 2. **Gerber**
 - a. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Parikh**

IV. Standing Reports

- a. Financial Report
 - i. The Board reviewed and discussed the February financial report.
 - 1. **Motion to approve February 2024 Financial reports:**
 - a. **Marsalek**
 - b. **L. Weinberg**
 - i. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**
- b. Sponsor Representative Report

- i. Brittany Beck presented the Sponsor Representative Report for March 2024
- ii. There were no questions.
- iii. The Autism Model School site visit is scheduled for March 22nd, 2024.
- iv. No red flags given.

c. Policies and Procedures

- i. Paraprofessional aide review policy 10.06
 - 1. **Motion to approve the revisions to the paraprofessional training program completion incentive policy:**
 - a. **L. Weinberg**
 - b. **Gerber**
 - i. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**

d. Student Address Verification Report

- i. February 2024 Student Address Verification presented
 - 1. Discussion and approval.
 - a. **Motion to approve the February 2024 Student Address Verification Report:**
 - i. **Marsalek**
 - ii. **Demarest**
 - 1. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**

V. Director's Report

- a. Staffing Update for February 2024
 - i. Reviewed and Discussed
 - 1. **Motion to approve the February 2024 Staff Changes:**
 - a. **L. Weinberg**
 - b. **Demarest**
 - i. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**
- b. Current Funding
 - i. Annual funding projections remained stable through March payment, as did student enrollment.
- c. Custodial Services
 - i. After multiple violations of service agreement by Goliath Enterprise, AMS terminated the contract with 30-days notice on March 1st, 2024.
 - ii. Hired full-time custodian- first day was Sunday, March 3rd.
 - 1. Working Sunday-Thursday for AMS to ensure the building is in good condition before every single school day.
 - 2. Looking to fill two additional part time positions (each 6 hours per week) to support cleaning efforts

3. Multiple staff members have commented on the improvement in the quality of cleaning since the change was made.
- d. Lockrey Manufacturing Community Service Application
 - i. Autism Model School was notified that we are a finalist for a \$12,500 award that is also paired with a full-day of community service from 30-60 volunteers.
 - ii. AMS, along with the 3 other finalists, will present to Lockrey Manufacturing on April 9th at 4pm in a bid to be crowned this years' winning organization.
- e. Software Update
 - i. Contacted by Dr. Alice Shillingsburg from UNMC on February 21st about a grant with the Organization for Autism Research.
 - ii. UNMC wants to partner on an application to study IDAPT and wanted to inquire about our interest.
 1. We are of course interested.
 - iii. UNMC would take the lead on this, and the grant likely would not result in any revenue being directed to AMS. However, it would result in additional exposure and study of IDAPT- and certainly a publication to follow.
 - iv. One component of the software is being phased out by Microsoft by the end of this coming summer. This would impact our ability to display and edit various media forms...a critical function within the program. WTA is working on identifying a solution and estimated costs.
- f. Catastrophic Costs- Now Called Threshold Costs
 - i. Catastrophic Cost Application was submitted on March 11th, 2024
 - ii. Refund would be expected in June of 2024.
 - iii. Total costs submitted were \$386,799.30 higher this year than last.
 1. If reimbursement rate is 42%, we would receive \$640,913.95
 2. If reimbursement rate is 40%, we would receive \$610,394.24
 3. If reimbursement rate is 37%, we would receive \$564,614.67
- g. United Way of Greater Toledo Grant
 - i. Worked closely with Luke Reed to submit an application for a UWGT grant. Our grant application highlighted some of the impressive outcome data and various elements of AMS' programming for students.
 - ii. Requested \$87,500 in funding for FY25, FY26, and FY27 to offset costs of AMS' Summer Learning Program
 1. If awarded, funds are unrestricted
 - iii. Since this program is currently funded by the school's annual revenue, the offset in costs would allow us to direct general fund dollars at various other projects

VI. Development Director's Report

- a. Development Director Report was reviewed and discussed.

VII. Transportation Directors Report

- a. Transportation Director Report was reviewed and discussed.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Sunshine Law Training
 - i. Reviewed and Discussed

- b. Lease Update
 - i. Reviewed and Approved

IX. New Business

- a. Hands on Task
 - i. Reviewed and Discussed
 - 1. **Motion to approve \$4,000 for the purchase of Hands on Task boxes**
 - a. **Parikh**
 - b. **Marasalek**
 - i. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**
- b. Insurance Benefit Renewal
 - i. Reviewed and Discussed
 - 1. **Motion to approve the insurance benefit renewal offer through Anthem:**
 - a. **Greenblatt**
 - b. **Marasalek**
 - i. **Vote – Yes – Unanimous: L. Weinberg, Marsalek, Gerber, Greenblatt, Demarest, Parikh**
- c. View Point Project
 - i. Reviewed and Discussed

Motion to adjourn at 6:27 PM

- 1. **Demarest**

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 at 5:30pm. The meeting will be held at the office of Mark Greenblatt, located at 7150 W. Central Avenue, Ste. 100 Toledo, Ohio 43617