



**Michigan Virtual Charter Academy**

Charter Office  
1620 East Elza  
Hazel Park, MI 48030

Administration Office  
5910 Tahoe Dr., SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

616-309-1600

**Michigan Virtual Charter Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda  
Monday – August 23, 2021  
6:00 PM  
Hazel Park Schools  
1620 E. Elza  
Hazel Park, Michigan 48030**

If unable to attend in person, please participate via zoom link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87966811707>

1. **Call to Order** Time: 6:03
  
2. **Roll Call**  
Marva Foster, Monique Lake, Colin Houston, Aaron Walker  
Ramone Crowe, Jr. – arrival 6:15  
Lynn Hathorn – arrival 6:22  
  
Absent: Scott Stangeland  
  
Other Attendees:  
Mary Markert-Stride K12, Bonnie Pawlowski-Stride K12, Todd McIntire-Stride K12, Randy Rodriguez-MVCA, Rachel Forgo-MVCA, Kim Bush-MVCA, Mark Weinberg via Zoom-Hazel Park
  
3. **Public Comment on Agenda** (comment on agenda items only, 3 minutes per person)
  
4. **Approval of Agenda**

**Motion: Director Monique Lake moved to approve the agenda**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

**5. Approval of July 26, 2021 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion: Director Aaron Walker moved to approve the July 26, 2021 minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Second: Director Monique Lake**

**Motion unanimously approved**

**6. Finance Report**

- a. Motion to approve the July K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$2,074,758.93.

**Motion: Director Marva Foster moved to approve the July K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$2,074,758.93.**

**Second: Director Monique Lake**

**Motion unanimously approved**

**7. Head of School Report**

- a. **Summer School** - HOS, Randy Rodriguez, shared the elementary summer school focused on students that were not performing at grade level. It went well, and we are in the process of building our literacy roadmap.

Mr. Rodriguez reported the high school's summer school was credit-recovery focused. We had a 65% passing rate, with 40 seniors graduating this summer.

- b. **Summer Programs** - We offered ACE-Aviation Career Education, which is STEM-focused, which serves under-represented students. 20 students from MVCA enrolled.

Director Ramone Crowe, Jr., shared that they enroll students from all over the country and have a collaboration with other groups/entities, such as colleges. Students received a model airplane and each had to do a presentation. The students took a virtual tour of a base, and cockpit tour of a Delta Airlines cockpit. The FAA highlighted our camp because many across the country were cancelled due to COVID.

Mr. Rodriguez applauded Kirsten Brown, MVCA CRE Coordinator, & Dr. Sheila Boehning, HS Principal, for starting to build this out. Director Crowe added that a degree is not needed to become a pilot or air traffic controller, and that these careers pay very well.

Mr. Rodriguez went on to share that we also re-partnered with Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program (DAPCEP), to offer a coding camp. This also serves under-represented students. Thirty two students signed up for this virtual camp this year and learned coding through digital game development.

- c. **Summer Clubs** – Mr. Rodriguez presented that our summer clubs are about engagement and retention of students. The kids were very excited about this opportunity. Supplies were purchased and sent to students or they used household items.

- i. Seven summer clubs; two at K-5 and five at Middle School

- ii. MS – A First Aid course was held in the Spring. We also held one in the Summer and we'll do one in the Fall. Others include a cooking club, Summer craft corner, Drama & Theater, and Music Appreciation.
- iii. Elementary – The Elementary included Summer Olympics, and Creative Hands.

8. **New Business**

- a. Motion to approve and adopt the new Article II. Curriculum and Instruction, Section 16- Harassment and Non-Discrimination policy as written and rescind current Article II, Sections 16-Anti-Harassment Policy and 17-Non-Discrimination.

Ann VanderLaan shared that while reviewing the MVCA Parent-Student Handbook she realized we didn't have a compliant procedure in the board policy. This motion will provide the policy and it's in the handbook.

**Motion: Director Colin Houston moved to approve and adopt the new Article II, Curriculum and Instruction, Section 16 - Harassment and Non-Discrimination policy as written and rescind current Article II, Sections 16-Anti-Harassment Policy and 17-Non-Discrimination.**

**Second: Director Ramone Crowe, Jr**

**Motion unanimously approved**

- b. Motion to amend Article VII. Community Relations, Section 2-Freedom of Information Act-to change the FOIA Coordinator from the Head of School (Randy Rodriguez) to the Operations Manager (Kim Bush) and provide for appeal to the Head of School instead of the Academy Board.

**Motion: Director Ramone Crowe, Jr. moved to approve amending Article VII, Community Relations, Section 2 – Freedom of Information Act – to change the FOIA Coordinator from the Head of School to the Operations Manager and provide for appeal to the Head of School instead of the Academy Board.**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

- c. Motion to Amend MVCA's Organizational Board Resolution to change the Academy's FOIA Coordinator from the Head of School (Randy Rodriguez) to the Operations Manager (Kim Bush).

**Motion: Director Ramone Crowe, Jr. moved to amend MVCA's Organizational Board Resolution to change the Academy's FOIA Coordinator from the Head of School to the Operations Manager.**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

- d. Motion to approve the MVCA SY202 –2022 Parent-Student Handbook.

**Motion: Director Colin Houston moved to approve the MVCA SY2021-2022 Parent-Student Handbook.**

**Second: Director Lynn Hathorn**

**Motion unanimously approved**

- e. Motion to accept the quote from Michigan Office Solution in the amount of \$197,492 to digitize MVCA student records on-site, at MVCA's Grand Rapids office location, subject to a mutually agreed upon contract to be negotiated by the parties.

**Motion: Director Lynn Hathorn moved to accept the quote from Michigan Office Solutions in the amount of \$197,492 to digitize MVCA student records on site at MVCA's Grand Rapids office location, subject to a mutually agreed upon contract to be negotiated by the parties.**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

9. **Authorizer Comments and Updates**

None.

10. **K12 Comments and Updates**

You may recall for the last 2-3 years we've been talking about the auditor general in the state of Michigan doing a review of MDE's oversight of cyber schools. The field work for this audit was done almost three years ago. The results kept being put off. They've been looking at how MDE holds authorizers accountable when they authorize academies. While the report has not been released yet, we have learned that the report will not identify schools that were audited, but that any findings will result in recommendations for all cyber schools.

Director Marva Foster asked if they are working with anyone.

Mr. McIntire stated that they did the field work. We know they visited two Stride schools, not including MVCA, back in the 2018-19 school year. It appeared to follow general audit protocols including analyzing pupil accounting, enrollment, attendance records, etc.

The other item to share is you may have seen some news regarding Federal funding threats. The Federal Government only controls the title funds, not the funds that come through the state. The House of Representatives passed a budget that included a provision that no title funds could go to charter schools that use a for-profit management company. It's currently in the house-approved budget. We're monitoring this carefully.

11. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** (limited to 3 minutes)

12. **Reminder of Next Board Meeting**

September 27, 2021

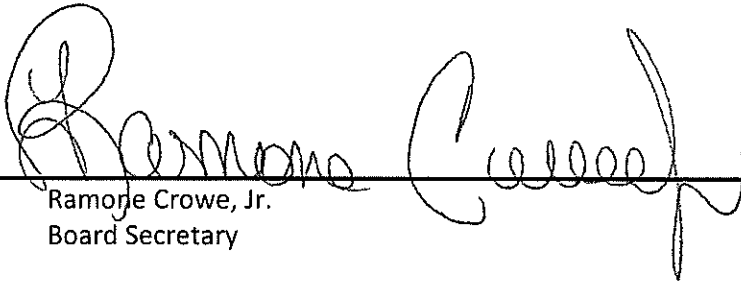
Hazel Park Schools

6:00 PM

**13. Adjournment**

6:55 p.m.

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Board Meeting Minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 23, 2021, and approved at the Board's September 27, 2021 Board Meeting, and that proper notice of the regular Board Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramone Crowe, Jr.", is written over a solid horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends across the line.

Ramone Crowe, Jr.  
Board Secretary