



**MICHIGAN**  
VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY<sup>SM</sup>

POWERED BY **Stride**

**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 – May 23, 2022**

**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/83165281449>

**1. Call to Order**

Time: 6:06 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Marva Foster, Monique Lake, Lynn Hathorn, Colin Houston

Absent: Scott Stangeland, Ramone Crowe Jr., Aaron Walker

Other Attendees:

Randy Rodriguez-MVCA, Ann VanderLaan-Clark Hill, Todd McIntire-Stride K12, Michael Dixon-Dixon Public Consulting, LLC., Rachel Forgo-MVCA, Lisa Faulkner-MVCA, Colleen Kayl-MVCA, Annie Butzu-MVCA, Kim Bush via zoom-MVCA, Carol Main via zoom-Stride K12, Tom Graham via zoom-Stride K12

**3. Public Comment on Agenda (comment on agenda items only, 3 minutes per person)**

None

4. **Approval of the modified agenda adding item 5b: Approval of the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion: Director Monique Lake moved to approve the modified agenda adding item 5b: Approval of the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Board Meeting.**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

5. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **Approval of the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion: Director Lynn Hathorn moved to approve the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting.**

**Second: Director Monique Lake**

**Motion unanimously approved**

b. **Approval of the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion: Director Colin Houston moved to approve the April 25, 2022 Minutes of the Closed Session of the Regular Board Meeting.**

**Second: Director Lynn Hathorn**

**Motion unanimously approved**

6. **Finance Report**

a. Motion to accept the April finance report

**Motion: Director Marva Foster moved to accept the April finance report.**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**

**Motion unanimously approved**

b. Motion to approve the April K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$2,605,283.84

**Motion: Director Marva Foster moved to approve the April K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$2,605,283.84.**

**Second: Director Lynn Hathorn**

**Motion unanimously approved**

7. **Head of School Report**

a. **High School Presentation**

Annie Butzu, Lisa Faulkner, and Colleen Kayl, MVCA's High School Lead Teachers, shared information from the high school level. Additional members of the high school leadership team were acknowledged: Hollie Brabbs, Angela Hammer, Joanna Kinel, and

Lauri Alexander. Mrs. Butzu shared the high school's efforts around LASER the last couple years: Learning Culture, Assessment, Standards, Empowerment, Results. They made changes to grading policies and shifted to more standards-driven instruction. Staff have worked with John Spencer during professional development learning how to incorporate Project-based Learning into their courses. With these changes, the high school is seeing an increase in academic performance. Mrs. Kayl shared that passing rates tracked are higher and the number of students passing all courses increased throughout the year. Dual enrollment options are increasing as the number of dual enrollment students have increased from 16 to 58. Currently, there are 20 students dual enrolled with Western Michigan University, and these students have an average 3.8 GPA. There have also been significant increases in transcript requests and FAFSA/TIP submission forms. Mrs. Kayl also shared that they have had the lowest turnover rate of high school staff and students and family satisfaction has greatly increased from 2019-2022. Mrs. Faulkner shared benchmark testing data in which there was a 50%+ growth for grades 9-11 from the beginning of the year to the middle of year.

While the teachers focus on LASER, Mrs. Butzu shared that students focus on #Dream It, #Own It, #Do It. Through this motto, students determine career and college goals, take ownership of their education, and get it done. In 2021, 96% seniors graduated. Each year, students have virtual college visits, career chats, and attend a career fair.

Mrs. Butzu, Mrs. Faulkner, and Mrs. Kayl shared that the homeroom is the hub of culture building at the high school. In homerooms, students expand on the idea of Dream It, Own It, Do It as they work on grad plans, are nominated for Trailblazer of the Month, participate in Spirit Week, attend assemblies, complete SEL activities, create vision boards, listen to guest speakers, and complete a "Real World" series. Each grade level has two teacher advisors as well that help lead the career focus in homerooms.

This year, the high school had its first ever Esports season with over 25 students participating. Two students represented MVCA at the national level. Special thanks to Brooke Spears, Kevin Stephens, and Patrick McClanahan for leading the Esports team.

Mrs. Butzu explained that everything they are able to do is because of the amazing staff. A high school directory was created to get to know the high school staff better. Mrs. Butzu also thanked the board of directors for their dedication to MVCA, their constant support of our staff and students, and their belief in our vision of delivering hope to our families. Thank you for helping us blaze the trails of virtual education.

Mr. Rodriguez acknowledged that the high school has created the framework for building up the staff and student culture and increasing student paths beyond high school. He noted that as we look for a new high school principal, these are the things that are giving us the foundation for what we are looking for.

**8. New Business**

- a. Motion to approve the Agreement with Western Michigan University for Dual Enrollment Online Courses for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Motion: Director Colin Houston moved to approve the Agreement with Western Michigan University for Dual Enrollment Online Courses for the 2022-2023 school year.**

**Second: Director Lynn Hathorn**

**Motion unanimously approved**

- b. Motion to approve the DAPCEP Contract for the 2022 summer Virtual STEM Camp school.

**Motion: Director Colin Houston moved to approve the DAPCEP Contract for the 2022 summer Virtual STEM Camp school.**

**Second: Director Lynn Hathorn**

**Motion unanimously approved**

**9. Authorizer Comments and Updates**

None

**10. K12 Comments and Updates**

Mr. Todd McIntire reminded the board the Stride Partner Summit is on July 27-28 in Virginia. Mr. McIntire also shared that the state budget is moving along well. He noted that the state is being generous this year with a projection of more than \$400.00 per pupil for funding. This includes funding for cyber schools. Mr. McIntire gave an update on the auditing manual changes. There has not been a reply to the board's letter, and Stride continues to use a direct approach to speak with representatives from the department. At least three different efforts have not met in agreement to meet. The legislative solution we continue to work on is the language in the senate and house budget bill that would prohibit the department from taking the funding away due to the auditing manual changes. The language is also retroactive, and it is clear that the language is based on attendance and not on hours of participation. There have been several charter school attorneys that have investigated the language as well. Majority opinion is that funding will not be withheld. Mr. McIntire noted that Stride is focused on wrapping up the school year, trainings, and early hiring.

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

Mr. Randy Rodriguez shared that Graduation is June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be streamed virtually and MVCA is hosting a live watch party at the LMCU Ballpark. Approximately 100 students signed up to attend with their families. The board members are invited to attend as well.

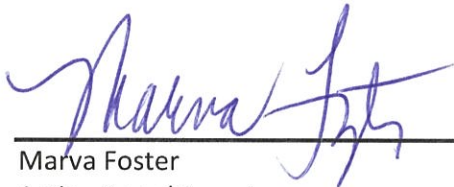
**12. Reminder of Next Board Meeting**

June 20, 2022  
Hazel Park Schools  
6:00 PM

**13. Adjournment**

7: 18 p.m.

The undersigned duly qualified 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 the Board Meeting Minutes of the regular board meeting held on May 23, 2022, and approved at the Board's Regular June 27, 2022 Board Meeting, and that proper notice of the regular public Board Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.



Marva Foster  
Acting Board Secretary

6/27/22  
Date

