

Landmark Academy
Minutes of the Board Meeting
August 26, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Landmark Academy was called to order at 12:06 pm, by Sherry Bevins-Castillo, Board President. Copies of the agenda were emailed to the Board members and posted at Landmark Academy for other interested parties in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Members Present	Members Absent
1. Sherry Bevins-Castillo – President/Treasurer	1.
2. Kimberly Bowman - VP/Secretary	2.
3. Bonnie DiNardo - Member	3.
	4.
	5.
	6.

2. Regular Business:

Visitors: Douglas Newcombe, Nicholas Bowles

Sherry Bevins-Castillo informed the board that there is a reinstatement on the agenda and would like to move it up to the front, since student 18's parent was in attendance. Debby Wilton informed the board that the father is here to speak to the board and the submitted paperwork was emailed to the board last week. Nicolas Bowles is the father of student 18. Mr. Bowles shared his thoughts with the board concerning the incident and his son. Sherry informed the board that they can go into closed session to discuss, and she would like Debby Wilton to stay for the discussion, but they need a motion.

Motion by Kim Bowman (Board Member) to approve moving to closed session to discuss reinstatement of student 18.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Initial BMD

Motion by Kim Bowman to move back into open session.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Sherry informed Mr. Bowles that the board has discussed the reinstatement of student 18 and in order for student 18 to return to in person learning the following criteria must be met. Student 18 will need to meet with a psychologist, social worker, or school counselor for an interview and evaluation; based on that evaluation student 18 will or will not be allowed back to in person learning. Student 18 will also have to have a daily backpack check for the school year.

Motion by Kim Bowman (Board Member) for reinstatement of student 18 after review of evaluation with psychologist or equivalent person and daily backpack check for the 2021-2022 school year.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Discussion: Mr. Bowles does not want his son to speak with a psychologist or anyone, he feels that it would just bring things back up and he does not want student 18 to discuss this issue anymore. Sherry explained that that is Mr. Bowles right and the board supports that, but they must think of the entire school campus. Landmark Academy has a social worker on campus that can meet with student 18 free of charge. Mr. Bowles informed the board that he will let student 18 know, he feels that student 18 should make the decision. Until the evaluation, student 18 can continue in the virtual program. Again Mr. Bowles was informed of his options and Sherry called for a vote

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Public Comments: None

Correspondence: Two items both from SVSU, one is the SVSU Field Report and the other is regarding the open vacant board positions. Travis Gostinger informed the board that the openings have been posted, so far, we have not received any applications.

Approval of July 22, 2021 Minutes

Motion by Kim Bowman to approve the July 22, 2021 meeting minutes.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Initial BMD

Discussion of financial reports:

Financial Reports as of July 31, 2021, presented by Travis Gostinger.

Travis states that as of July 31, 2021, Landmark's cash is 2.5 million and we are starting with a healthy cash position. This is the start of the trend that we typically see since we do not begin to receive state funds until sometime in October. We have 823 students currently enrolled, but that will change as we start the school year. Our budget is set at an enrollment of 775. The first Wednesday in October is count day. The audit is underway this week and there will be an audit presentation to the board, most likely in October. Sherry mentioned that Doug had a question, "what is the per pupil budget?" Travis informs that the budget they used was \$8,111 with a \$120 increase for \$8,231 and the actual that the state released is \$8,700. Kim Bowman asked if our online enrollment has grown. Debby answered that it is smaller, we have about 75 students in the online program this year so far.

Approval of July 31, 2021 Financial Reports.

Motion by Kim Bowman to approve the July 31, 2021 meeting financial reports as presented.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – Yes

Kimberly Bowman – Yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

3. Executive Leadership Update:

Adam Hoskins (K-5): Adam informed the board that he is settling into his principal role. Flooring projects in the building has made for an interesting summer school but they juggled the room changing well. He will be staying on as the Athletic Director this year and hopefully transiting to the Assistant Athletic Director. The kindergarten readiness event was a huge success, they had nearly 100% participation. Tuesday's Open House went well, lots of positive feedback from K-2 parents. Tonight, is the 3-5 Open House. Elementary is starting a Leader in Me program that is student driven, with student leadership and encouraging students to take a more active part in their school. Our athletic program has a sports resolution for MHSAA that needs board approval to adopt Michigan high school sports bylaws.

Motion by Kim Bowman to adopt MHSAA resolution for the 2021-22 school year.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Debby Wilton (MS/HS): Café is torn up and new flooring will be laid. The small gym is done and beautiful, the main gym has had the floor painted, a new awning in the back and new fencing in front around the pond, new sign out front. We are working with the IT and the sign company to get a stronger signal so that we can update the sign. There has also been new cement poured in some places that needed it. The carpet is here for the hallways, it will be installed later this year.

Initial BMD

Orientation is tonight from 1 to 6pm. There will not be pictures, Lifetouch had to cancel.

We need the board to approve the handbooks and course catalogs. Landmark Academy high school is offering A.P. Government this year. Kim Bowman had some questions on the dress code regarding earrings and hairstyles. Debby explained that the middle school dress code and the high school dress code are different with regards to hair. High school students can have the tips of their hair, or a strip of hair colored an unnatural color. The earrings rule was change several years prior. Kim asked why the difference in dress codes and Debby explained that high school dress code is different because they are older and they do not have to wear a uniform, they can wear jeans every day. Kim also asked about if you miss more than 1 and a half hours it is an unexcused absence, what about appointments. Debby explained that this does not include appointments, doctors and dentists will give students a note to bring to school that explains they were at an appointment, then the absence is excused, not unexcused.

Motion by Kim Bowman to approve the Elementary, Middle, High School and Learning Connections handbooks.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Motion by Kim Bowman to approve the 2021-2022 course catalogs.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – yes

Kimberly Bowman – yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

4. Board Strategy & Planning:

Sherry Bevins-Castillo reminded the board members about the online new board member training that will be taught by Doug. All the board members have already registered for it. Doug said he hopes it does not get cancelled, there is talk it may need to be canceled.

Sherry also informed that the management evaluation form is still in process.

Kim Bowman said that St. Clair County Health Department issued a mask recommendation, asking about not making masks a requirement at school. Debby Wilton said it had been discussed and the decision was that it is a recommendation not a mandate, so at this time masks are not required, but if anyone chooses to, they may wear a mask. At this time there are no school districts in our area that are requiring masks to be worn.

5. Adjournment: The next meeting will be September 23, 2021, at Landmark Academy MS/HS building at 6:00pm. It is one of our evening meetings.

Initial BMD

Motion by Sherry Bevins-Castillo to adjourn at 1:03 p.m.

Second: Bonnie Dinardo

Roll Call Vote: Sherry Bevins-Castillo – Yes

Kimberly Bowman – Yes

Bonnie DiNardo – Yes

Motion Carried

Board Secretary Signature Bonnie DiNardo

Date 9-27-2021

Initial BMD