SPECIAL MEETING
EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY

_X_ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

__ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Date: March 13, 2012
Time: 2:00pm
Location: Wayne State University
McGregor Memorial Conference Center
495 Ferry Mall
Detroit, MI 48202

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Roy Roberts at 2:00pm. Chairperson Roberts welcomed newly appointed Board Member Dr. Jann Joseph to her first meeting of the EAA Board. He also reminded the Board and public that this meeting was a joint meeting of the EAA Board and Executive Committee.

II. Roll Call

Chairperson Roberts asked Melissa Hamann to call the roll of the Board of Directors.

Board Member Attendance:

Roy Roberts, Chairperson	☒Present	☐Absent
Carol Goss, Vice Chairperson	☒Present	☐Absent
Judith Kaye Berry, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Sharlonda Buckman*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Michael Duggan*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Jordan, Director	☐Present	☒Absent
Jann Joseph, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Michael Morris*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Mark Murray*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
William Pickard, Director	☐Present	☒Absent
Shirley Stancato, Director	☒Present	☐Absent

Members Murray and Morris joined the meeting by phone, and Member Duggan joined a portion of the meeting by phone. Member Buckman joined the meeting in progress at 2:05pm.

A quorum of the EAA Board was determined.

Chairperson Roberts then asked Melissa Hamann to call the roll of the EAA Executive Committee.

Executive Committee Attendance:

Roy Roberts, Chairperson	☒Present	☐Absent
Michael Duggan, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Michael Morris*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
Mark Murray*, Director	☒Present	☐Absent
William Pickard, Director	☐Present	☒Absent

*Members Morris and Murray joined the meeting by phone.

A quorum of the EAA Executive Committee was determined.

III. Approval of Agenda

Chairperson Roberts asked whether there were any suggested changes to the joint meeting agenda.
Chairperson Roberts then asked for a motion to approve the agenda.
Motion: Member Morris
Support: Member Stancato
Ayes: 9 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

IV. Chancellor Updates

Chancellor Covington and his team provided a number of updates to the EAA Board. They include the following:

- Legal representation: Dr. Covington presented members of the Allen Law Firm in attendance. The firm will be providing counsel to EAA moving forward.

- Athletics: EAA has been working with Detroit Public Schools and with the MHSAA to ensure that EAA can participate in the Public School League in the 2012-2013 and will be a member of MHSAA as well.

- Human Capital Recruitment: EAA has been formulating its plan to recruit, attract and select a strong principal pool. To date, EAA has received over 200 resumes for principal positions. The application process includes the initial application, an online course, and an interview, and candidates are rated according to disposition, knowledge, and skill in each step. EAA aims to have contracts extended to principals by April 2, 2012. Dr. Covington noted that while principals will officially start in July, onboarding will take place beginning immediately to allow principals enough time to learn about the EAA's instructional program and learning platforms, to spend time learning about the school community and building relationships, and to select school staff for the upcoming year.

V. Old Business

a) Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve the EAA Board meeting minutes from the February 9, 2012 board meeting.

Motion: Member Goss
Support: Member Berry
Ayes: 9 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

b) Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting

Chairperson Roberts then asked for a motion to approve the EAA Executive Committee meeting minutes from the February 9, 2012 board meeting, and asked that only Executive Committee members vote on this item.

Motion: Member Duggan
Support: Member Murray
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

c) Proposed Standard Operating Procedures Manual

EAA presented the Board with an updated draft of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual, which was previously provided to Board Members at the February 9 meeting. The updated draft reflected both Board input and legal counsel.

d) Proposed Strategic Vision

Chancellor Covington reminded the Board that the strategic vision presented reflected the input from over 12 statewide meetings with community stakeholders. The team is also working on a Strategic Performance Matrix, which is in progress. The Strategic Vision outlines the following goals:

1) Governance based on earned autonomy;
2) All students complete school college, career, and workforce ready;
3) Provide individualized support for teachers;
4) Provide a culture of universal support and wrap-around services;
5) Foster safe and orderly environments conducive to teaching and learning;
6) Create a performance-based performance management system;
7) Apply best practices to financial management.

The vision will be posted on the website.

VI. New Business

a) Monthly income statement

EAA reported revenues of $1,385,539 and expenses of $911,846 through February 29, 2012. Cash received was from the Michigan Excellence Education Foundation (MEEF). The EAA team noted that per pupil revenue will not be received until October. Member Morris requested that the monthly income statement be reframed as a Sources and Uses of Cash document instead.

b) Proposed school calendar, with extended year plan

Chancellor Covington noted that Michigan, with its requirement of 1098 hours of instruction (or the equivalent of about 170 days) falls behind both national peers and international leaders. Further, when reviewing the NAEP achievement data relative to national peers, Michigan ranks in the "below basic" category. He stressed the need for a longer school day and longer school year.

The EAA team outlined three potential options for an EAA school calendar. Each staggered school breaks in a slighly different way, but all three included over 200 days of instruction with a start date in September and end date in August. The proposed option, Option B, includes a start date of September 4, an end date of August 6, and 210 student days in total. EAA estimates the cost of an extended day and year to be $6.4 Million for the 2012-2013 school year, driven primarily by salary, transportation, and utilities costs.

Member Duggan noted that a longer school year extending into the summer could be problematic in those buildings where there is no air conditioning. Chancellor Covington suggested that EAA would evaluate the use of window units for those schools where this may be an issue.

Member Duggan asked whether charter schools, if granted by the EAA, would be given the same per pupil allocation as other EAA schools and whether they would be required to adopt the same calendar. EAA Board Members noted arguments in favor of holding all schools to the same calendar and including in the assurances, but Member Murray also suggested that a charter operator with a track record for success may still need flexibility to achieve their results.

Member Berry asked about the difference in calendars for DPS and EAA, as some families may have children in both systems. The EAA calendar is rooted in the common calendar outlined by Wayne RESA but will have some differences for families.

Member Goss asked whether individual schools could make choices about the length of the school day itself. Dr. Covington responded that schools would have this flexibility.

Member Joseph questioned whether an additional $5K in salary per teachers is enough to make up for the additional number of days and hours in this longer calendar.

Member Buckman asked whether longer school days mean that students will receive additional meals. Dr. Covington replied that it is EAA's intent to offer three meals per day for students.

c) Proposed contract/charter process

EAA is working with the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) to facilitate the process for charter and contract school applications. Applications are due March 23, the evaluation process begins March 26. The rubric for evaluation of applications was shared and is posted online.

d) Proposed teacher and administrator contracts

EAA presented the contracts that teachers and administrators would receive upon hiring.

e) Proposed contract with Teach for America

EAA has been working with Teach for America Detroit to discuss sourcing teachers for EAA charter, contract, or university schools for the 2012-2013 school year. The proposed contract includes recruitment of up to 200 teachers.

f) Proposed list of schools assigned to EAA for the 2012-2013 school year

EAA presented 15 schools to be assigned to the EAA for the 2012-2013 school year.

The nine elementary/middle schools that were proposed are:

Brenda Scott Elementary/Middle
Burns Elementary/Middle
Law Academy
Mary M. Bethune Elementary/Middle
Murphy Elementary/Middle
Nolan Elementary/Middle
Phoenix Elementary/Middle
Stewart Elementary/Middle
Trix Elementary/Middle

The six high schools are:

Central Collegiate Academy
Denby High School
Ford High School
Mumford High School
Pershing High School
Southeastern High School

VII. Public Comment

Tyrone Charles – Mr. Charles expressed disappointment that so few parents and stakeholders were present for the meeting, likely due to lack of notice of the meeting.

Joe McGuire – Mr. McGuire indicated that he is a member of Occupy Detroit and remarked that the EAA's plan does not reflect true democracy. He remarked that the plan is about charter schools and privatization.

Annie Carter – Ms. Carter asked whether EAA will shoulder some of the debt service burden that DPS currently faces and inquired about the winter break in the school calendar.
Dr. Covington and Mr. Roberts indicated that EAA will pay its share of the debt service burden and noted that the winter break will be 7-8 days.

Shandria Vaughn – Ms. Vaughn remarked that she is a member of BAMN and that the true solution for Detroit's children should include race integration, books and supplies, fewer students in classrooms, no charters, and direct input from the community.

Tristan Taylor – Mr. Taylor remarked that he is a member of BAMN and urged meeting attendees to organize to contest the EAA's plan as well as the closing of DPS schools.

Tyler Wood – Mr. Wood remarked that he is a member of BAMN and urged meeting attendees to fight the EAA's plan as well as the closing of DPS schools.

Helen Morre – Ms. Moore remarked that what is missing from the EAA's plan is meaningful and continued parent and community engagement.

Edna Reaves – Ms. Reaves remarked that Mumford High School, funded through Proposal S bond dollars, rightfully belongs to the city of Detroit and not the EAA. She also asked whether EAA teachers will be unionized and whether the union, teachers, and parents were consulted.

Russ Bellant – Mr. Bellant noted that the area from I-75 to Harper Woods, with school closings and schools moving to EAA, will include almost no DPS schools. He also noted that both Brenda Scott and Mumford received bond funds and asked whether there will be bond repayment for the transferring schools.

Kristy Albarracin – Ms. Albarracin expressed her concerns that there was no parent representation at the meeting. She also wanted to know the size of the EAA staff whether buildings moving to EAA are being modernized.

Curtis Lyons – Mr. Lyons expressed his belief that there is a conflict of interest in the appointment of DPS Emergency Manager Roy Roberts as EAA Board Chairperson. He also wanted to know how the current staff members in the 15 buildings will be impacted.

Farrah Harris – Ms. Harris expressed her concern that people were notified about the meeting so late and that the neighborhood from I-75 to Harper Woods was being impacted so greatly.

Mr. Roberts thanked all individuals for their comments.

VIII. Other Business

a) Executive Committee Action Items

a. Resolution 2012-1: Approval of EAA Standard Operating Procedures Manual

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-1: Approval of EAA Standard Operating Procedures Manual.

Motion: Member Murray
Support: Member Morris
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

b. Resolution 2012-2: Approval of EAA Strategic Vision

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-2: Approval of EAA Strategic Vision.

Motion: Member Murray
Support: Member Morris
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

c. Resolution 2012-3: Approval of School Calendar, with Extended Year Plan

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-3: Approval of School Calendar, with Extended Year Plan.

Motion: Member Morris
Support: Member Murray
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

d. Resolution 2012-4: Approval of Contract/Charter Process

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-4: Approval of EAA Contract/Charter Process.

Motion: Member Murray made a motion to approve the resolution with the an amendment noting that the power is granted to the Chancellor and will be in effect after a speical meeting of the EAA Board and Executive Committee during which the Chancellor outlines the proposed mix of schools (charter, contract, and university).
Support: Member Morris
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

e. Resolution 2012-5: Approval of Teacher and Administrator Contracts

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-5: Approval of Teacher and Adminstrator Contracts.

Motion: Member Morris
Support: Member Murray
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

f. Resolution 2012-6: Approval of Teach for America Contract

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-6: Approval of Teach for America contract.

Motion: Member Morris
Support: Member Murray
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

The motion was carried.

g. Resolution 2012-7: Approval of Schools Assigned to EAA for the 2012-2013 School Year

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2012-7: Approval of Schools Assigned to EAA for the 2012-2013 school year.

Motion: Member Murray
Support: Member Duggan
Ayes: 4 *Nays: 0*

Chairperson Roberts asked Melissa Hamann to conduct a roll call vote.

Michael Duggan	☒Yea	☐Nay	☐Abstain	☐Not Present
Michael Morris	☒Yea	☐Nay	☐Abstain	☐Not Present
Mark Murray	☒Yea	☐Nay	☐Abstain	☐Not Present
William Pickard	☐Yea	☐Nay	☐Abstain	☒Not Present
Roy Roberts	☒Yea	☐Nay	☐Abstain	☐Not Present

The motion was carried.

IX. Adjournment

Chairperson Roberts noted that the next regular meeting of the EAA Board and EAA Executive Committee scheduled for May would be held in Lansing.

Chairperson Roberts asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Motion: Member Goss

Chairperson Roberts adjourned the meeting at 4:15pm.

MINUTES CERTIFICATION

Proposed minutes respectfully submitted,

Michael E Duggan
Secretary / Recording Secretary

3-21-12
Date

Approved by the Authority Board,

Secretary / Recording Secretary

Date