

**Ann Arbor Learning Community Monthly  
Board Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, September 16, 2019  
at 6:30 pm  
4377 Textile Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**Document List**

Agenda	Treasurer's Report
Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting	Business Manager's Report
School Leader's Report K-8	9-12 Leader's Report

**Meeting Start: 6:37 p.m.**

**Roll Call:** Larry Berg, Nathaniel Gleeton, James Goebel

**Public Attendees:** Cynthia Andrews, John Kirk, Anne Owens, Jacklyn Welch, Joe Welch, Bill Lalonde, Leah Davis, Evan Boyst,

**Appointment of New Board Members-** Prospective Board Member Not in Attendance- No appointment made at this time

**Consent Agenda- Motion:** James Goebel motioned to move the 2<sup>nd</sup> public comment to up on the agenda. Seconded by Nathaniel Gleeton. *Motion passed (4-0)*

**James Goebel Motioned to add Attorney Discussion after Staff updates and Communication on the agenda as Item No. 7.** Denne Lawton seconded *Motion passed (4-0)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Public Comments (for comments pertaining to this meeting's agenda; limited to 3 minutes by policy of the Board)**

**Jacklyn Welch- (AALC Parent)-** Stated, she is new to the school and would like to know about parent volunteer groups and opportunities. She expressed concerns about charter renewal and the impact of parental involvement. Ms. Welch further stated that AALC is a good school but parents are reluctant to send their students because of the financial instability of the school

**James Goebel (Board Member Response)-** Ms. Welch was advised by James Goebel to take this matter and question to the current school leadership. He reiterated that the board's role is to make sure that operations are aligned with the state. He further encouraged Ms. Welch to work with Cynthia Andrews.

**Bill Lalonde (AALC Parent)-** Has a son who is in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. He loves the school and believes it is an awesome fit for his son. It is difficult to get his son placed in a school. He expressed his concern that there were very few teachers in place on the first day of school. He and his wife will not remove their son from the school but would like to give the school time to align and develop. He is appreciative of Cynthia Andrews and feels very comfortable with her. He would like to see a fundraiser to purchase playground equipment for the school and hopes that there will be better communication from the board in the future. He would like to see a process that will involve the parents in on-boarding the future school leader. He also indicated that he is concerned about the number of students leaving and the financial impact that this may have on the charter renewal.

**Larry Berg (AALC Board Member Response)** Larry thanked Mr. Lalonde for coming and indicated that a lot of people are passionate about the school and we will continue to work on fundraising and marketing for the school. He also noted that many of the teachers leaving along with the school leader leaving happened very quickly which resulted in the Board's inability to respond in a timely manner. Larry also indicated that AALC has increased the number of students in the high school which is currently sustaining the school's financial circumstances.

**James Goebel (AALC Board Member Response)-** described his involvement as a parent and how he contributed and kept coming to board meetings to raise issues. He further indicated that the process of obtaining goals was arduous at times but perseverance as a part resulted in the school opening and turning itself around. He is confident that parental input will result in a similar outcome.

**Board Member Nathaniel Gleeton and Denne Lawton (AALC Board Member Response)-** expressed their continued commitment to the Board and will work to provide support.

**Correspondence (2 minutes)**

**K-8 School Leader's Report** (10 minutes) Count is currently 56. Epi-pens have been ordered by previous school leader Abby Kuhn. Jack Atkinson has been hired intermittently Ms. Lambert has been hired an Amelia Hissong- hired part time. Physical education teacher Masterson Staffing –provided front office support and Mr. Russell Sheppard- is Social worker/psychologist. The 2-3 new hire will begin the week of September 23, 2019. Professional development occurred on Wednesday (Harry Wong) along with developing procedures and routines. Assessments will begin to determine where students are academically.

**9-12 School Leader's Report** (10minutes) – 250 students enrolled. /there is currently as waiting list. NWEA testing must be completed this month and will begin the week of September 16<sup>th</sup> and September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Students who are behind will be asked to come to the center. Seniors are meeting with counselors and working on capstone projects. Issa has a meeting with Dr. Winbourne to discuss growth concerning 9-12 school students.

**K-8 Business Manager's Report** (5 minutes) – Business Manager's spreadsheet has been shared. Wendi is working with Larry Berg regarding the building's HVAC lighting issues in the hallway.

**Treasurer's Report** (10 minutes)- Larry Berg reminded us that AALC has an interim loan to address the shortage of funding between September and October as state aid is not paid out until October. James Goebel indicated that the budget will need to re-aligned to reflect the actual enrollment in K-8. The high school is currently sustaining the financial capacity for K-8.

## **Board Business**

1. **Board Executive Committee Appointments** (10 minutes) The following Board nominations occurred as follows:
  - Vice President-Denne Lawton Nomination made by Larry Berg, Seconded by James Goebel (Motion Passed-4-0) Nomination accepted by Denne Lawton (*Motion passed 4-0*)
  - Treasurer-Nathaniel Gleeton- Motion by Larry Berg. Second by James Goebel to nominate Nathaniel Gleeton as treasurer. Nomination accepted by Nathaniel Gleeton (*Motion passed 4-0*)
  - Secretary- Denne Lawton (acting secretary)- Motion by Larry Berg for Denne Lawton to continue as acting interim Board Secretary. Nomination accepted by Denne Lawton (*Motion passed 4-0*)
2. **Sub Committee Development** (15 minutes) Larry Berg-AALC Board President- We will determine who will facilitate these committees. It was suggested by James Goebel that the committees meet an hour before each board meeting. PTSO works independently and can raise funds and make request on decisions of how the funds can be used.
  - Academic Excellence & Advancement (Strategic Planning and Oversight for Leader, Teachers, Students)
  - Finance & Infrastructure Development (Mid-Long term Financial Management & Short Mid- Term Planning and Building/Supplier Strategic Oversight)
  - Community Development & Relationships (Strategic Planning & Oversight, Communications Planning for Parents, Business, Political, Community Partnerships)
  - Marketing & Fundraising (Strategic Planning & Oversight for Marketing and Fundraising Campaigns)
3. **GEE Student Count Amendment** (10 minutes)- Rashad Muhammad proposed that this is postponed until next meeting
4. **Review of Monthly Cash flow and Profit & Loss** (20 minutes)-Wendi has provided check to James Goebel for signing purposes. An ACH form has been presented as a way of paying substitute teachers. Denne Lawton motioned that the Board completes the ACH form as a form of payment to pay substitute teachers. Nathaniel seconded. (*Motion passed 4-0*)
5. **Spring 2019 Disposition Form-** The board has subscribed to a free professional service to adopt recommendations for legal issues. The board agreed that the language on the agenda should be updated and adjustments and amendments need to be made. Denne Lawton motioned to accept the disposition as is with the recommendation that the board will moved to take action to be in compliance with the agenda. James Gobel seconded (*Motion passed 4-0*)
6. **Staff Updates & Communication Plans** (15 minutes)

Larry Berg indicated that the board is currently vetting school leaders and interviewing. One candidate has been interviewed and the board hopes to interview another candidate.

7. Attorney Discussion- A former school leader has been subpoenaed by a parent. James Goebel Motion to have Clark Hill to act on the behalf of AALC, Seconded by Larry Berg.( *Motion Passed 4-0*)

## Committee Reports

### 1. Board Member Recruitment- New members will trained at EMU on Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>

**Second Public Comment** (for all additional items either addressed or not addressed during the meeting; limited to 3 minutes by policy of the Board)-No public comments at this time.

### Review Action Items and Next Meeting Date

- A. Address the student count Amendment with GEE
- B. Improve Communication From Board
- C. Follow up with Student Disposition
- D. Sub committee assignment developments
- E. Review Agenda Format prior to the next meeting

## Appreciations

**Larry Appreciates-** commitment of Board and parental participation. He appreciates the donation from Global office solutions who donated over \$3,000 worth of school supplies and chairs. He also appreciates Mrs. Andrews- she has been remarkable in helping the school and children over the years.

**James Goebel-**Appreciated parents attending Board meeting and resources given to AALC from Larry

**Nathaniel Gleeton-**Appreciates Parental Feedback

**Denne Lawton-**Appreciates Parental Feedback and Opportunity to serve

**Adjournment: 7:40**

Any person with a disability who needs accommodations for participation in this meeting should contact the school at the address/phone below to request assistance.

Minutes will be available after the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting at Ann Arbor Learning Community, 4377 Textile Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Main telephone: (734) 477-0340  
a2learningcommunity@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted

*Denne Lawton*

Denne Lawton  
Interim Board Secretary