

**CROSSROADS CHARTER ACADEMY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 13, 2009**

DATE: August 13, 2009  
TIME: 7:00p.m.  
PLACE: CCA Library/Media Center—Elementary Building

1. Call to Order: 7:00p.m.  
Present: Jim Woolen, President  
Jimmie Rodgers, Vice President  
Paula Vaughn, Treasurer  
Sayed Hashimi, Board Member  
Kemi Fadayomi, Board Member Nominee (Oath Tonight)  
Absent: Krissy Workman, Secretary  
David Frees, Representative At Large  
Also Present: Ronald Schneider, Superintendent  
Trudi Green, Director of Finance  
Tom Saporito, MS/HS Principal  
Kendall Schroeder, K-6 Principal  
Bob Fortin, GVSU Representative

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Jimmie Rodgers, to approve the agenda with the addition to B. 12. of Deb Lipnicki's resignation from her Food Service position. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Paula Vaughn, to approve the regular minutes for June 25, 2009. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jimmie Rodgers, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to approve the special meeting minutes of June 25, 2009. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Paula Vaughn, to approve minutes of the closed session of the special meeting on June 25, 2009. Motion carried.

4. Reports:

P.A.C.: None

P.T.O.: None--Ron will invite the new P.T.O. President or a representative thereof to bring an update report to the board of their monthly proceedings.

Director of Finance: Trudi Green

Its been a very busy month in July. We received Federal monies, including the ARRA funds, Title I and II receivables. The Teacher Institute will be paid for out of Title V. The GVSU Board Training Grant has been received. We had our normal expenses for this time of year. The GVSU fee was taken out and will be adjusted in August. The books are reconciled and all agree.

We had the AHERA and Asbestos training yesterday. The Audit was conducted this month and due to the additional funds received we had our first Single Audit, along with a Title I Audit. It was last minute notice on Title I and we had to get a lot of things together. We want to thank the Title I staff for coming in and helping get things ready for the audit. The Auditor said it was the cleanest audit she has done so far. We continue to work on various reports coming due throughout the summer. We're getting ready for school to start.

Jim Woolen complemented Trudi and her staff on a job well done, based on the auditor's comments. Sayed Hashimi agreed with Jim's complement.

K-6 Principal: Kendall Schroeder  
We've been very busy. We said goodbye to several people over the summer. We are losing some great staff, but we had a great interview committee with some great applicants; 60 in fact and we interviewed 17. Thank you to Paula Vaughn for being part of that committee. It was not an easy job. It was very tough to make decisions with so many great, great candidates to choose from. It is tough to see great people go, but gives a chance for new faces and new ideas. We want to continue focusing on student achievement, etc. We had a good group of eight people on the interview committee choosing our new staff members. Our Teacher Institute just finished today. We focused on Math and Writing and aligning the curriculum to the grade level expectations. We are excited to implement these new ideas with our staff before school begins, and will continue them throughout our professional development schedule.

We invite you to look through the building. It looks great. Ron Dunn and his staff have been working tirelessly to get the building and grounds looking great for Fall. Ron Dunn loves this building. He works very, very hard. He has made great use of the Michigan Works Teams as well.

The All Star Academy will kick up this Fall and help kids get excited about learning. Our families really love this program. We have Art Teacher interviews next week, and we still have a Receptionist position to fill. We are getting close and excited about the new year.

Jim Woolen noted that all of the staff leaving have good reasons related to moves and jobs closer to their homes. Ron Schneider agreed and said that all of the people have been very professional about leaving and love us and like it here, but they have to do what's best for their families. We are so appreciative of them and what they have given to CCA.

Jim Woolen thanked Paula Vaughn for spending two days of her personal time on the interview committee. Paula stated that she enjoyed it and it was exciting to see all the great candidates. It was a great experience. The Board asked Kendall to pass on thanks to all the staff for volunteering two days of their time to sit on the interview committee.

MS/HS Principal: Tom Saporito  
We worked on our Title I Grant and turned it in to the State of Michigan. We have hired one parapro and one is almost ready for hire. We have met with many students and parents on schedules and choices for post high school. The parents have been very pleased with this process. Fall sports have started and all are doing very well, with good turn outs. We have hired a MS Language Arts teacher who is outstanding. We are also pleased with our new Spanish and Technology teachers. He noted the "Understanding By Design" framework template that was included in the board member packets for this evening.

Superintendent: Ronald Schneider  
It's been a busy summer. We've been blessed with the Michigan Summer Works program; which was extended. It allowed us to do projects that we would never have had time to ask of our own staff. They were able to scrape and paint the bleacher framework and other things in and out of our buildings. We will take advantage of this again if it is offered.

Our numbers are growing, but 4th Wednesday Count will tell the story. We will talk later in the meeting about additional sections. The PLC has been moved to one of the classrooms behind the stage. It will be more private for adult meetings. A letter on the preschool situation was sent out to families this week, as we still don't know what the State is going to do. He will be attending a Great Start Readiness meeting tomorrow. We may not know until October. He will attend GVSU's Administrator meeting on September 1 to meet with the new GVSU Charter Office Director. We are still a Star Burst drop site, still partnering with them and made a delivery this summer. CCA shirts are now available at Walmart for around \$4.

Sayed Hashimi complimented Ron Schneider on all that he has done working right along side the staff and the work teams. He is not afraid to get dirty.

Ron thanked Sayed for letting us know about the chairs being discarded by FSU. He has some around his conference table, and we are using several elsewhere in our buildings.

GVSU Representative: Bob Fortin

Jim Woolen welcomed Bob Fortin back as our designated representative. Bob stated that he is grateful and appreciative to be back and assigned here. Jim DeKorne is now working with our Detroit schools. He stated that he really appreciates how your administration and staff work together. You don't see that a lot at other schools; working as a family. September 1 we will be getting to know our new boss. He has new goals. There will be some grant money this year, but I don't think it will be just connected to compliance, but also board training, etc. The Blue Ribbon Grant Writer program is one possibility. We are in the process of replacing Nick who followed Ed to National Heritage. We are also looking for a Technology Specialist that would be available to our schools. It's good to be back. Thank you!

5. Public Comments: None

6. Action Items:

B. New Business:

1. Oath of Office:

Jim Woolen administered the Oath of Office to Paula Vaughn and Kemi Fadayomi. Paula will serve a three year term through 6/30/12 and Kemi will complete Lynda Brandly's vacated term through 6/30/10.

A. Old Business:

1. Approve Woodbridge WMES Contract for 2009-10

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Paula Vaughn, to table this item to the September 10 meeting. Motion carried.

2. Approve Woodbridge 401K Plan for 2009-10

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Paula Vaughn, to table this item to the September 10 meeting. Motion carried.

## B. New Business:

## 2. Establish Board Committees for 2009-10

Building & Grounds Committee Board Members:

David Frees and Sayed Hashimi

Education Committee Board Members:

Kemi Fadayomi, Jimmie Rodgers, and Jim Woolen

Finance Committee Board Members:

Paula Vaughn, Jim Woolen, and Krissy Workman

There is an Education Committee meeting on August 20 at 1:00p.m. in the CCA Library. They will generally meet the third Thursday of the month at 3:30p.m. The Finance Committee is moving to the third Thursday of the month at 8:15a.m. Building & Grounds will meet as usual.

## 3. Approve Finance Committee Recommendations

## a. Bridge Loan

Motion was made by Jimmie Rodgers, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to approve the Resolution for the Bridge Loan through Chemical Bank not to exceed \$375,000. A vote was taken as follows:

Paula Vaughn-Aye; Jimmie Rodgers-Aye; Jim Woolen-Aye; Sayed Hashimi-Aye, and Kemi Fadayomi-Aye. Motion carried.

## b. Two New Teachers

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Kemi Fadayomi to approve recommending Woodbridge Group hire two new teachers for expanding grades 4 and 5 to 3 sections each. Motion carried.

## 4. Approve Building &amp; Grounds Report &amp; Recommendations

Sayed Hashimi gave the report and recommendations will be voted on later in the meeting. Ron Schneider explained about the clean up of Mitchell Creek's dead trees and brush. The wood is available to whomever would like to come and cut it up and haul it away. Otherwise we will fill in for erosion control along the banks in the reeds, etc.

## 5. Approve Education Committee Report &amp; Recommendations

No report as they have not met this summer.

## 6. Approve Budget Revisions for 2009-2010: None at this time.

## 7. Approve Receipt of GVSU Board Member P.D. Grand Money

Motion was made by Jimmie Rodgers, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to approve the acceptance of the generous Professional Development Grant money from GVSU. Motion carried.

## 8. MOTA

Ron Schneider gave an update report on the MOTA Contract for the coming year.

## 9. Recreation Department Open Gym

Ron Schneider stated that this will be a “Win-Win!” We will make some money and it helps our parents who participate in the program. BRR Department have been running this at BRMS, and it is no longer available to them, so it is great timing as they need a new place. It will be \$3 per person for two hours of play, up to 15 people. A BRRD supervisor will actually be here signing the people in and directing the evening. It will be just in the elementary gym. If there are 10 people for 50 weeks; CCA makes \$1,500. If there are 15 people for 50 weeks; CCA makes \$3,000.

Sayed and Jimmie both stated that this would be great Public Relations, and shows that we are a public minded school.

The Recreation Department will do the advertising, and bring their own equipment. One key will be issued to the BRRD Administrator. The new lock on the elementary gym will prevent entrance through other doors in the building. The supervisor will assure that people do not wander out into the building, and only use the restrooms within the gym area.

Jim Woolen asked how the money will be handled? Ron stated that they will collect the money and send us a check. The sign in sheets will be the checks-n-balance for accounting purposes.

Kemi asked if there are any CCA programs that would be needing the gym past 8:00p.m. on Wednesday? Ron has checked schedules and Wednesday evening at 8:00p.m. and Sunday night are both clear.

Motion was made by Kemi Fadayomi, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to approve the Open Gym with the Big Rapids Recreation Department being fully responsible for the events. Motion carried.

## 10. Three Sections: K, 4, 5, and Two Sections of 1st

We will run 3 sections of Kindergarten and 2 of 1st grade until we see how our numbers come out. There’s a good chance that we will be coming back and asking for a third section of 1st grade as well. If we have a preschool the third 1st grade would go into the old PLC room. If we have no preschool they will use the existing preschool room.

Kemi asked how many students are in our Kindergarten classes? There are 20 per class allowed by board policy. We will have 3 sections of 4th and 5th grade with 22 per class each.

## 11. MOISD AI (Autism) ROOM

Ron Schneider introduced Lynette Suchner of the M-OISD. They presented the AI Room concept to the board. It is proposed that they would use the other classroom up behind the stage area; which has its own entrance/exit. At present there are no handicapped students. It would be for up to 7 students with up to 4 staff.

Jimmie Rodgers asked that we check to make sure that there is not a legal requirement that Kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms be on the main floor of the building. Ron Schneider agreed to check this out before finalizing

this arrangement.

Motion was made by Jimmie Rodgers, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to approve the MOISD AI Room in CCA's facilities providing there are no K-1 restrictions to certain floors. Motion carried.

Ron Schneider stated that CCA will actually receive a portion of FTE for all time provided within our classrooms. The ISD currently has 3 programs in Reed City. The AI program will use the old PLC room if we don't have a preschool program.

- 12, Recommend Woodbridge Group Accept Resignations:

Motion was made by Jimmie Rodgers, seconded by Sayed Hashimi, to recommend Woodbridge Group accept the resignations of:

- Beth Forrest, El. Art
Nicole McCrimmon, 3rd Grade
Kathy Ross, El. Receptionist
Cindy DesJardins, MS/HS Special Education
Deb Lipnicki, Food Service

Motion carried.

- 13, Recommend Woodbridge Group Hire:

Motion was made by Sayed Hashimi, seconded by Paula Vaughn, to recommend Woodbridge Group hire:

- Monica Dukes for MS English
John Lowery for MS/HS Technology
Melinda Lang for MS/HS Title I Parapro
Erica Sinicropi for Kindergarten
Vicki Trombley for 3rd Grade
Cheryl Wright for 3rd Grade
Sarah Benson for 4th Grade
Sarah LaLonde for 5th Grade

Motion carried.

Ron Schneider stated that there will be one more MS/HS Title I Parapro hired for approval at the September 10 meeting.

Jimmie Rodgers asked about the Pay to Participate policy. There were no issues and people were sent information letters. It is in effect. Jim Woolen has received one letter already. They must pay prior to the first game of the season.

- 7. Next Regular Meeting: September 10, 2009

- 8. Adjournment: Jim Woolen adjourned the meeting at 8:20p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_
Krissy Workman, Secretary