



# GERALD DAWKINS ACADEMY

February 4, 2025 – 10:00 am  
Gerald Dawkins Academy  
1050 Fisk Road SE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49507

## Board Meeting Minutes

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.
- II. ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Mr. Jerry McComb, Reverend Jerry Bishop, Ms. Melisha Reid Roberts, Dr. Andrea Smith (virtual), and Mr. Brian Cloyd (virtual)  
Center for Sound Literacy: Mrs. Teresa Weatherall Neal, Mrs. Nancy Kennedy, and Ms. Angela O'Brien  
GVSU Charter Schools Office: Mrs. Cheryl Edwards-Cannon and Mrs. Courtney Stahl  
Gerald Dawkins Academy: Mr. Lacey James  
Veritas: Ms. Danielle Corbeil (virtual)  
General Public: Mr. Joe Jones and Ms. Lori (Jeanne) Vinson
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY** – There was no public comment.
- IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – Jerry Bishop made a motion to approve the February 4 agenda and Melisha Reid Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- V. PRINCIPAL UPDATE** – Lacey James presented the principal update and answered the board members' questions.
- VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
  - a. Financial Update – Angela O'Brien introduced Danielle Corbeil to present the monthly financial update and answered the board members' questions.
  - b. 2025-2026 Enrollment Update – Angela O'Brien presented the board with a 2025-2026 enrollment update, which outlined the enrollment window and number of new students enrolled.
  - c. Updated Board Policies – Angela O'Brien introduced the board members to the updated board policies created by the National Charter Schools Institute. Board members will review and vote on this item at the March meeting.
  - d. ICE Protocols – Angela O'Brien presented the ICE Protocols and answered the board members' questions.
  - e. April Board Meeting Date – One of the board members presented a conflict with the April 15 board meeting. After a brief discussion, the board members agreed upon rescheduling the meeting to April 23 at 10:00 am.

## VII. AUTHORIZERS COMMENTS

- a. Cheryl Edwards-Cannon passed out the 2023-2024 School Performance Report created by the CSO. Courtney Stahl presented the report to the board members and answered any questions around the report.
- b. Angela O'Brien noted that the MSTEP proficiency percentages for the comparison schools in the report were for the schools' 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders, which does not create an exact comparison to GDA. GDA only had 3<sup>rd</sup> graders take the MSTEP last year. Angela outlined the average of the comparison schools' 3<sup>rd</sup> graders MSTEP proficiency, which is as follows: ELA: 17% and Math: 18.5%. The statewide average for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders MSTEP proficiency is as follows: ELA: 39.6% and Math: 23.5%.
- c. Cheryl Edwards-Cannon also noted the need to include GVSU CSO and the CSL on flyers, enrollment forms, letterhead, signs, etc. moving forward per a new law.

## VIII. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Approval of December 3, 2024, Meeting Minutes – Jerry Bishop made a motion to approve the December 3 meeting minutes and Melisha Reid Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Approval of the Updated Board Policies – The board members decided to push this action item to the March 4 meeting to allow more time for review.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Lori (Jeanne) Vinson attended the board meeting. Jeanne is a substitute at Gerald Dawkins Academy. She recommended the school do their best to hire a diverse group of classroom teachers to ensure GDA students see themselves in and connect with the classroom teachers. Jeanne also suggested increasing the substitute pay rate.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

**Next Board Meeting:** Tuesday, March 4, 2025 @ 10:00 am  
Gerald Dawkins Academy  
1050 Fisk Road, SE  
Grand Rapids, MI

Board Meeting Minutes Approved

  
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Signature

  
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Date