

Goodwill LEADS, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. EDT

The Goodwill LEADS, Inc. Board of Directors met on October 19, 2023 at Goodwill Industries of Michiana. Those present were:

LEADS, INC. Board:

Debie Coble, Goodwill President/CEO, LEADS Chair
Anthony Allison, LEADS Chair
Andrea Pearman, Vice Chair, virtually
Dana Trowbridge, virtually
Juliann Jankowski
Ann Carol Nash
Wally McQuade
Bishop Eddie Miller
Marguerite Taylor, virtually

Absent:

Mary Pat Latowski
Louis Gonzalez

Staff present:

Karmen Eash, CFO
James Wiggins, Accounting Manager
Sharron Steward, Executive Office Manager
Dr. Chris Alber, Vice President of Excel Centers
Mike Gallo, School Director Elkhart
Melissa LaPlace, School Director South Bend
Dr. Countance Anderson, School Director Hammond, virtually
Rose Loraff, Early Childhood Services Director
Kimberly Beck, Student Records and Data Reporting Manager

NOTES ON THE MINUTES

Roll call and all votes on measures presented to the board are done via a roll call vote that is reflected in the minutes and performed within the approved measures outlined in the bylaws.

WELCOME

The meeting began at 12:04 p.m. Those present were announced by roll call.

Roll Call		
Board Member	Y	N
Debie Coble	Present	
Anthony Allison	Present	
Dana Trowbridge	Present, Virtual	
Juliann Jankowski	Present	
Mary Pat Latowski		
Ann Carol Nash	Present	
Wally McQuade	Present	
Andrea Pearman	Present, Virtual, 12:22 p.m.	
Louis Gonzalez		
Marguerite Taylor	Present	
Bishop Eddie Miller	Present, Virtual	

PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no public present, no comments were made.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 5, 2023 MINUTES

There being no corrections or comments on the minutes, a motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. McQuade and seconded by Ms. Jankowski.

Approval of June Meeting Minutes		
Board Member	Y	N
Debie Coble	X	
Anthony Allison	X	
Dana Trowbridge	X	
Juliann Jankowski	X	
Mary Pat Latowski		
Ann Carol Nash	X	
Wally McQuade	X	
Andrea Pearman	X	
Louis Gonzalez		
Marguerite Taylor	X	
Bishop Eddie Miller	X	

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Mr. Wiggins reviewed the shared summary documents with those present. Revenue was indicated to increase overall due to an increase student count of 721. It was noted that due to ICSB guidelines, a revised budget would need to be approved if there was a change of at least ten percent in student count. Excel Elkhart met this qualification, so the adjusted budget for the campus was reviewed with those present. Mr. Wiggins then reviewed high level budget changes with the new student count numbers.

Ms. Eash noted that there was a difference overall of 70 students between July projections and the submitted October count, and notified those present that the state would begin to make that difference up in future payments.

Dr. Alber notified those present that as student count continues to grow, he would like to further a conversation with the board around supplementing extra staffing needs that may arise in future budgeting.

Ms. Eash noted that there is still money that is owed back to Goodwill Industries from Goodwill LEADS, and that they are working on getting that debt settled prior to deciding how to balance any increased funds that may be needed due to further increases in student counts.

Mr. Allison requested future follow-up with Mr. Wiggins regarding a decrease in Goodwill Industries support due to the increased student count. He indicated that this could take place at future meetings.

Mr. Trowbridge requested future analysis over what effects a higher student count may have on the budget, both for increased funding and staffing needs. He indicated that this could take place at future meetings.

Mr. Wiggins and Ms. Eash also noted that at the next meeting further grants that were used due to existing ESSER funding will be reflected in the financials, and should make up for the difference in grant revenue that were in the current financial statements. Wages were also considerably less than expected, due to staff turnover at some locations. Operating expenses were in line with what was budgeted. Overall it was still a loss, but not as large as expected.

Ms. Pearson joined the meeting virtually at 12:22 p.m.

There being no further discussions, a motion was made to approve the revised Elkhart 2023-2024 budget by Ms. Nash. It was seconded by Mr. Trowbridge.

Revised Budget Approval		
Board Member	Y	N
Debie Coble	X	
Anthony Allison	X	
Dana Trowbridge	X	
Juliann Jankowski	X	
Mary Pat Latowski		
Ann Carol Nash	X	
Wally McQuade	X	
Andrea Pearman	X	
Louis Gonzalez		
Marguerite Taylor	X	
Bishop Eddie Miller	X	

A motion was then made to approve the accounts payable by Bishop Miller, and seconded by Ms. Nash.

Approval of Accounts Payable		
Board Member	Y	N
Debie Coble	X	
Anthony Allison	X	
Dana Trowbridge	X	
Juliann Jankowski	X	
Mary Pat Latowski		
Ann Carol Nash	X	
Wally McQuade	X	
Andrea Pearman	X	
Louis Gonzalez		
Marguerite Taylor	X	
Bishop Eddie Miller	X	

A motion was then made to approve the financials by Ms. Nash, and then seconded by Ms. Jankowski.

Approval of Financials		
Board Member	Y	N
Debie Coble	X	
Anthony Allison	X	
Dana Trowbridge	X	
Juliann Jankowski	X	
Mary Pat Latowski		
Ann Carol Nash	X	
Wally McQuade	X	
Andrea Pearman	X	
Louis Gonzalez		
Marguerite Taylor	X	
Bishop Eddie Miller	X	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Coble reviewed the nominating committee report with those present. There was a wish to bring in Mr. Jade Lippert from LCI as a board member, and recommended that Ms. Taylor return for another term. Ms. Coble noted that Mr. Lippert is currently on the Goodwill Industries board, and he is very engaged and interested in working to help the Excel Centers through being a member of the Goodwill LEADS board.

It was also noted that Bishop Miller had requested that his term as a board member not be renewed. He thanked those present for their service, and noted that he appreciated his time being able to serve his community on the board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Alber first thanked the Excel Center staff for their work in increasing the student counts for the schools. He also reviewed the national Excel Center networks future goals including 80 schools nationwide. He noted that at this time, there were not currently plans in the work to open a new school in Michiana for the 2024-2025 school year.

Dr. Alber announced the hiring of a new director for Excel Center Gary – Aquinas Lewis, an ELA teacher for the last five years from Gary.

He reviewed current plans for engagement, enrollment, and retention within each school.

There being nothing left to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Kimberly Beck
Student Records and Data
Reporting Manager