

Gateway Online Academy of Ohio
An Ohio Not-for-Profit Corporation
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Gateway Online Academy of Ohio (the “School”) held a Board Meeting (the “meeting”) on May 13, 2024 at 12925 Corporate Drive, Parma 44130.

Board Members in Attendance:

Michael Johns
Kimberly Bartlett, Treasurer
Mark Sanzotta, Secretary
Diane Faehnrich, Vice Chairwoman
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman

Guests in Attendance:

Jenn Heyman, Sponsor Representative, Charter School Specialists, via Zoom
Brian Hessey, Head of School, Gateway Online Academy OH
Marty Yoder, Principal, Gateway Online Academy
Jim Nichols, Massa Financial Solutions, via Zoom
Christina Lamorgese, ACCEL, Gateway Online Academy, via Zoom
Shaquila Horne, Gateway Online Academy OH, via Zoom
Anne Trakas, Sr. Board Services Manager, Callender Law Group

1. Sign-in / A Call to order

Chairman Petrea called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Members Present

Chairman Petrea requested a roll call of members, noting a quorum was present.

3. Review/Acceptance of Agenda

The Agenda of the May 13, 2024 Board Meeting was brought forward for consideration by the Board. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Agenda for the May 13, 2024, Board Meeting without amendment, seconded by Member Bartlett, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

4. Reports and Updates

a. Head of School Report/Management Company Report (B. Hessey/ACCEL Schools)

- 1. Head of School Report*
- 2. Superintendent's Residency Verification Update*
- 3. Discussion, 185 Day Calendar 2024/2025 Academic Year*
- 4. Discussion, 205 Employee Calendar, 2024/2025 Academic Year*
- 5. Discussion, Daily Schedule, 2024/2025 Academic Year*
- 6. Discussion, Revised School Schedule, 2024/2025 Academic Year*

Mr. Hessey provided the Head of School and Management Company Report.

Ms. Horne discussed testing. The School completed testing in April with about 59% of students completing testing. Around 68% tested for STARS and 59% tested for Tide. This brings them a step closer to graduation.

The extended test window was last week. All staff was out for testing for three weeks. The School is working on a grant and waiting for the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to release date for the grant.

One student completed the STNA program and is waiting to take the Board exam. Attendance is up as seniors are working to cram in their final round of classes.

Ms. Lamorgese discussed engagement. The average engagement is at around 62%. The range is referenced in the Head of School Report. Onboarding has about 60% live participation.

There are social opportunities in the works. There will be in-person as well as virtual events.

Mr. Yoder remarks that 6,285 courses have been completed. The number jumped to 6,440 as of today. Around 1,138 earned an 'A'; 2,063 earned a 'B'; 1,830 earned a 'C'; and 1,244 earned a 'D.'

Staff are working on intervention plans for students who need IEPs. They have seen improvements in Social/Emotional wellness.

The Parent Survey was discussed. Around 218 responses per the last reporting; there was an upsurge in "yes" for satisfaction.

Mr. Hessey discussed enrollment. Enrollment is at about 1,439. Around 184 students have withdrawn, around 39 never logged in, and around 104 had the 72-hour rule applied to them. Of the withdraws, around 32 withdrew to another school because either the online format did not work or the School was a placeholder until they got into the school of their choice.

There are plans to drive up engagement. Mr. Hessey recognizes that engagement at 62% is not good enough and they are trying to increase that number.

Mr. Hessey sent in three calendars for the Board. One of which was a revised calendar which includes tutoring on Fridays. The other two were for reviewing what a 185-day calendar and what the 205-day calendars look like.

The daily schedule was also included for approval. Evening hours have been added for two evening terms. Staff who don't have evening hours will cover Friday tutoring. The evenings should accommodate schedules better.

The School is bringing in operations assistance which will include a tech person to manage data, and an attendance officer who will be brought back locally and not regionally.

Parents want more engagement so there is a plan for weekly updates for parents. Mr. Hessey plants to hire another assistant principal and put them in charge of the CTE program.

There was a discussion of testing legislation. One is for virtual schools and testing virtually. The other is SB79 which is for dropout prevention schools to test virtually depending on whatever is best for the student rather than being dependent on testing dates for in person exams.

There was discussion regarding school funding, and possible future adjustments.

Graduation is June 14th at Goodyear Theater in Akron 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Yoder estimates the School to have 175 or more to graduate and 100-125 to attend.

Residency Report shows that no new students have been enrolled. Residency Verification shows 12 files; 8 updates; and no disputed residencies.

Member Sanzotta notes that having the evening opportunity for working students will hopefully make a difference.

b. Sponsor Report (St. Aloysius-Charter School Specialists)

1. – 2. *Discussion, Fiscal Review Memos, March and April, 2024*
3. – 4. *Discussion, At-A-Glance Reports, April and May 2024*
5. – 6. *Discussion, Sponsor Connection, April and May 2024*
7. *Discussion, Ohio Site Visit Report*
8. *Discussion, Site Visit Rubric*

Ms. Heyman provided the Sponsor Report. There is a 20-hour training required by the state on the Science of Reading.

The Literacy Academy is coming up in Dublin, OH this year. Board members and staff are welcome to register and attend.

There was a site visit. The Sponsor looks for alignment to the contract and areas for technical assistance. Andrea Dobbins completed the site visit report.

c. Treasurer Report (Massa Financial)

- i. Discussion, April 2024 Financial Statements*
- ii. Discussion, School Budget 2024/2025 Academic Year*
- iii. Discussion, Five-Year Forecast*
- iv. Discussion, Audit Report 2022/2023 Academic Year*

Mr. Nichols provided the Treasurer Report. The March and April financials were provided in the materials. The School was paid out on approximately 670 FTEs in March and about 674 FTEs in April. The School has a cash balance of about \$49,141, an accounts payable balance of \$40, 515 to ACCEL, a net income of about \$20,992; and a year-to-date net income of about \$41,502.

There are no issues financially for the School. Reimbursements are being used from Federal awards.

The Budget and Five-Year Forecast were discussed.

d. Legal Update (Callender Law Group)

- April and May 2024 Legal Updates*
- Review of New Business Items*

There was a discussion of the resolutions on the agenda. There was a discussion of the board meeting schedule for next year.

e. Acceptance of Reports and Updates

A discussion was had about acceptance of the reports and updates. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich for the acceptance of reports and updates as presented, seconded by Member Johns, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

5. Committee Reports, if submitted

- a. Finance Committee
 - b. Academic Excellence Committee
 - c. Workforce Development Committee
- None.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

a. *Discussion, Adoption/Approval of Minutes, March 11, 2024 Board meeting*

The March 11, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Legal Update. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Minutes of the March 11, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

b. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of Child Find Policy, update*

The Child Find Policy was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Legal Update. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Child Find Policy without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

c. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of School Budget, 2024/2025 Academic Year*

The School Budget for the 2024/2025 Academic Year was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Treasurer Report. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the School Budget for the 2024/2025 Academic Year without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

d. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of Five-Year Forecast, Spring 2024*

The Five-Year Forecast for the Spring of 2024 was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Treasurer Report. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Five-Year Forecast for the Spring of 2024 without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

e. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of Board Meeting Schedule, 2024/2025 Academic Year*

The Board Meeting Schedule for the 2024/2025 Academic Year was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Legal Update. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Board Meeting Schedule for the 2024/2025 Academic Year without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

f. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of Revised Academic Calendar, 2024/2025 Academic Year*
The Revised Academic Calendar for the 2024/2025 Academic Year was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Legal Update. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Revised Academic Calendar for the 2024/2025 Academic Year without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

g. *Resolution, Adoption/Approval of Daily Schedule, 2024/2025 Academic Year*
The Daily Schedule for the 2024/2025 Academic Year was brought forward for consideration by the Board. A discussion was had during the Legal Update. Upon Motion duly made by Member Faehnrich to adopt the Daily Schedule for the 2024/2025 Academic Year without amendment, seconded by Member Sanzotta, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote.

Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

8. Open Discussion/Public Comment

Chairman Petrea praised the School staff on their engagement with students.

Member Sanzotta praised the School for scheduling according to terms.

Member Johns asks after a tutoring contact engagement. Yes. There is more interaction than in live classes. Students are not required to attend live classes, they must get their hours in however via tutoring, or classes, etc.

Chairman Petrea commends the School for innovative solutions.

9. Date/time for next meeting/location: Currently scheduled for June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern at Parma Academy 12925 Corporate Drive, Parma 44130

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon Motion duly made by Member Sanzotta to adjourn the May 13, 2024, Board meeting of Gateway Online Academy of Ohio without amendment, seconded by Member Johns, the Motion passed by unanimous affirmative vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.






Roll Call Board Member	AYE	NAY	Other <i>(Abstain, not present, etc.)</i>
Kimberly Bartlett	X		
Diane Faehnrich	X		
Michael Johns	X		
Mark Sanzotta	X		
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman	X		

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion to approve and adopt minutes of the May 13, 2024, Regular Board meeting of

Gateway Online Academy of Ohio, with/without amendment(s)

Made by FAEHRICH, Seconded by JOHNS.

Roll Call Board Member Name/Initials	AYE	NAY	Other (Abstain, not present, etc.)
Kimberly Bartlett			
Diane Faehnrich			
Michael Johns			
Mark Sanzotta			
Jonathan Petrea, Chairman			

Executed and adopted by a vote of the Board on this 10th day of JUNE,
2024.



Jonathan Petrea, Chair
Gateway Online Academy of Ohio