

Howard Gardner MI Charter School
Public Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 20, 2025

The Howard Gardner MI Charter School (HGMICS) held a public Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Sam Ceccacci, President, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Sam led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and took roll call for the board members and non-voting attendees.

The following Trustees attended: Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen, Michael Barbetti, Dino Galli, Suzanne Ambrogio-Jaffe, Laurie Cadden, Al Dorunda, Wayne Evans, and Susan Hennemuth. Absent from the meeting: Mary Beth D’Andrea and Dr. Fran Langan. Also in attendance: Joe Ross, CEO; TreeAnne McEnery, Principal; and John Marsico, Business Manager.

Sam Ceccacci announced that no visitors were present.

I. Minutes **Sam Ceccacci**

Sam Ceccacci presented the April 15, 2025, Board of Trustees meeting minutes and asked for approval.

A **MOTION** to approve the April 15, 2025, Board meeting minutes, as submitted, was made by Dino Galli and seconded by Michael Barbetti. Sam asked if there were any comments or questions on the minutes. Not hearing any, Sam called for a vote. All Trustees voted to approve the April 15, 2025, as submitted, with two Trustees absent.

II. President’s Report **Sam Ceccacci**

As we approach the end of another school year, we look at the numerous accomplishments of our students, education staff and administrators and commend all for an outstanding effort and a job well done!

Of course, we look forward to Graduation Day on Thursday, June 5th for our 37 Graduates who will mark the end of their Howard Gardner Experience. The 13th Graduation Ceremony of the Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School will begin at 9:30 AM and will feature fellow Board Member, Mr. Wayne Evans, as guest speaker. We wish all of our Graduates health, happiness and success in their future endeavors.

Later that same day will be the 3rd annual Employee Recognition Event beginning at noon at the Waldorf Social Club.

Students and staff are still actively engaged in education and extra-curricular activities such as the Spring Concert scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st at 6:00 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room featuring the school band and the debut of the school choir. A STEAM Careers of the Future Job Fair will take place on Friday, May 23rd.

At the conclusion of the school year, renovation work will begin to assure there is ample classroom space to accommodate student expansion in the coming years.

Best wishes for a successful end to the current school year as we look for even greater things to come at Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence Charter School.

III. Finance/Facilities Committee **Michael Barbetti**

1. April 2025 Financial Report **John Marsico**

Fiscal year to date revenues for the period ending 04/30/2025 were \$5,735,748 as compared to \$5,168,070 for the period ending 04/30/2024. Fiscal year to date expenses for the period ending 04/30/2025 were \$5,552,470 as compared to \$5,009,684 for the period ending 04/30/2024. The fiscal year to date Net Operating Income for the period ending 04/30/2025 was \$183,278, as compared to Net Operating Income of \$158,386 for the period ending 04/30/2024. Full fiscal year budgeted Net Operating Income is \$201,916. Revenue and expenditure increases due to expanded enrollment and additional staff. The school had \$1,411,347 in cash as of 04/30/25 as compared to \$1,060,562 as of 04/30/2024. The new ELA curriculum for the 2025-2026 academic year was purchased and received in April 2025. This cost was \$116,152. It was thus removed from the approved FY2025-2026 budget. The outstanding loan balance after our April 2025 payment is \$3,896,747.

At this time, Sam Ceccacci entertained a **MOTION** to approve the Financial Report through April 30, 2025, as reported and submitted. The motion was made by Laurie Cadden and seconded by Susan Hennemuth. All Trustees voted to approve the April 2025 Financial Report, as presented, with two Trustees absent.

2. HGMICS Annual Review of the Wellness Policy

Michael Barbetti

A **MOTION** to approve the Annual Review of the Wellness Policy was made by Dr. Catherine Richmond-Cullen and seconded by Susan Hennemuth. All Trustees voted to approve the review of the Wellness Policy, with two Trustees absent.

IV. School Matters

Joe Ross

1. NEIU Special Education Agreement

A **MOTION** to approve the NEIU Special Education Agreement was made by Al Dorunda seconded by Susan Hennemuth. All Trustees voted to approve the review of the Wellness Policy, with two Trustees absent.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.