

YOUNGSTOWN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSION

Members:

Dr. John Richard
Nicholas Santucci
Vincent Shivers
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster
Dr. Ben McGee

Anthony J. Farris, Office of the Attorney General

MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019 ~ 10:30 A.M. - EAST HIGH SCHOOL, LIBRARY

I. The Youngstown Academic Distress Commission meeting was called to order by the ADC Chairman, Dr. John Richard at 10:30 a.m. on May 10, 2019 at East High School Library, 474 Bennington Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44505.

II. Roll Call	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Dr. John Richard	— x —	_____
Nicholas Santucci	— x —	_____
Vincent Shivers	_____	(<i>Arrival at 10:32 a.m.</i>)
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster	— x —	_____
Dr. Ben McGee	— x —	_____

III. Approval of May 10, 2019 Agenda

Motion by: M. Hoffmaster *Seconded by:* B. McGee

Roll Call Vote:

Dr. John Richard	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Nicholas Santucci	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Vincent Shivers	Yes	_____	No	(<i>Arrival at 10:32 a.m.</i>)
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Dr. Ben McGee	Yes	— x —	No	_____

Vincent Shivers, ADC member arrived at 10:32 a.m.

IV. Motion for commission to bundle the following meeting minutes as a set; April 3, 2019, April 10, 2019, April 11, 2019, April 23, 2019 April 24, 2019 and April 25, 2019.

Motion by: B. McGee *Seconded by:* M. Hoffmaster

Roll Call Vote:

Dr. John Richard	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Nicholas Santucci	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Vincent Shivers	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster	Yes	— x —	No	_____
Dr. Ben McGee	Yes	— x —	No	_____

V. Approval of bundled meeting minutes; April 3, 2019, April 10, 2019, April 11, 2019, April 23, 2019, April 24, 2019 and April 25, 2019.

Motion by: M. Hoffmaster

Seconded by: B. McGee

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Richard, Santucci, Shivers, Hoffmaster, McGee

Nays: None

Motion passed

VI. Public Comment:

- Angelou Peruzzi, Jr., concerned citizen and school district employee – addressed the commission members regarding his inquiries regarding state funding, funding for innovative education programs, and concerns with the legislation of HB70 in regards to the state report grade rating.

Dr. Richard commented on the role of the ADC and that the ADC cannot speak on the intent of the legislation that passed, that is a discussion that should take place with legislative personnel.

VII. Comments regarding CEO search

- Dr. Richard spoke about the process of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) search and thanked everyone that participated in the search. He then introduced the next Youngstown CEO, Mr. Justin Jennings. Mr. Jennings introduced himself and expressed that he looks forward to working with everyone.

VIII. Transition plan

- Dr. Richard mentioned the recent announcement of the current CEO, Krish Mohip taking Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). It was announced that Christine Sawicki, Chief Academic Officer (CAO) will serve as CEO Mohip's designee while working with Joseph Meranto, Superintendent during his leave. The transition plan was explained and discussed with administrators and teachers. The ADC members will be involved throughout the transition with Sawicki, Meranto and Jennings with everyone working together with a focus on students and transparency.

The goal to establish a date for a joint work session with Board of Education members sometime in June which would be beneficial to transparency and understanding the district budget, academic and decision making. The work session will be open to the public and a future date and time will be announced.

IX. Progress on Youngstown Improvement Plan

- Christine Sawicki, CAO/CEO designee presented updates on the Youngstown improvement plan and where the district is currently at. She referenced the 2017-2018 ODE district review and mentioned that the 2018-2019 ODE review would be released in June. (*Refer to power point presentation*). ADC members and leadership team members continued discussions throughout the presentation on various aspects of the improvement plan.

X. Staffing updates

- Mrs. Sawicki reported that with the transition of the leadership, staffing has been placed on hold and a meeting will take place to discuss staffing and the possible impact on the district budget. Position vacancies, job descriptions, professional development and classroom sizes was also discussed. Dr. Richard emphasized that it is very important for everyone to work together. Dr. Richard thanked Mrs. Sawicki for her presentation and for her leadership through this transition.

XI. Financial update

- AJ Ginnetti, District Treasurer presented the current district financial report. He provided district financial data regarding revenue, expenses and purchased services. He further explained foundation deductions and utility payments. The 5 year forecast is being finalized and must be submitted by May 31.
- Dr. Richard requested that within purchased services to create separate line items for both utilities and foundation deductions on the budget report, so that it is easier to read and understand the budget report. Further discussion took place regarding purchased services. Within the June work session district finances will be a focus area that both the ADC members and Board members can discuss.

XII. Financial Advisory Council update

- Mr. Santucci, ADC Vice-Chair and Chair of the Financial Advisory committee and Dr. McGee, ADC member representative for financial advisory committee reported on the status of the financial advisory committee. Mr. Santucci explained the purpose of committee which is advisory in nature with an intent to be transparent. Candidates from the community are being narrowed down and there should be a meeting sometime in June after the work session. Dr. McGee thanked the commission for the establishment of the committee and the importance of being transparent and knowledgeable of school funding.

XIII. Discussion of future meeting dates & topics

- Discussion continued regarding the desire to have a joint work session with ADC members and Board of Education members to discuss two major focus areas 1.) Budget 2.) Curriculum. The work session will be conversational and informative with discussion of plans for the next school year.
- Dr. Richard & Mr. Santucci mentioned the need for the ADC members to formalize a standard meeting topics for future ADC meetings. This is being done so that both ADC and District leadership members have a clear expectation going forward.

Dr. Richard closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and Dr. McGee also thanked Mr. Jennings for attending.

XIV. Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Motion by: V. Shivers Seconded by: M. Hoffmaster

Roll Call Vote:

Dr. John Richard	Yes	<u> x </u>	No	<u> </u>
Nicholas Santucci	Yes	<u> x </u>	No	<u> </u>
Vincent Shivers	Yes	<u> x </u>	No	<u> </u>
Dr. Maria Hoffmaster	Yes	<u> x </u>	No	<u> </u>
Dr. Ben McGee	Yes	<u> x </u>	No	<u> </u>