



MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, July 30, 2018

The **Special Meeting** of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Sharon Irvine at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by President Irvine.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

President Sharon Irvine, Secretary Maria Sheler-Edwards, Vice-President Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Trustee Brenda Meadows, Trustee Ellen Champagne, Trustee Sharon Lee

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT

Treasurer Meredith Schindler

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Accepted as Presented

Motion by Lee, supported by Sheler-Edwards

Action Recorded: 6/Yes; 0/No

PUBLIC COMMENTS #1: None

APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT, Principal of Estabrook Elementary

MOTION TO approve the administrative contract with Ryan Johnson to serve as Principal of Estabrook Elementary for a period commencing on August 3, 2018 and ending on June 28, 2019.

Motion by Sheler-Edwards, supported by Lee

Roll Call Vote: 6/0 Yes

Yes: Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins, Meadows, Champagne, Lee, Irvine

REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION - Section 8(h) OMA, Attorney-Client Privilege

MOTION TO convene in closed session under Section 8(h) of the OMA to consider an attorney-client privilege.

Motion by Lee, supported by Meadows

Roll Call Vote: 6/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Champagne, Lee, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins, Irvine

The meeting was called to closed session at 6:50 p.m. The meeting reconvened to open session at 7:25 p.m.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION: Contracting for Interim Full-Time Superintendent Services

Amended: MOTION THAT the Board of Education approve the resolution to approve contracting for interim full-time superintendent services through the Washtenaw Intermediate School District.

Motion by Sheler-Edwards, supported by Champagne

Roll Call Vote: 4/2 Yes

Yes: Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins, Champagne, Irvine

Discussion Included: Irvine commented Assistant Superintendent Dr. Sherrell Hobbs respectfully declined an offer for consideration of this position; if a search is opened, Hobbs may decide to apply at that time; Hobbs expressed commitment to the new interim superintendent and this community. Irvine commented the WISD would not give us a WISD employee; instead, the WISD would "act as a fiscal agent". The contract would include an end date. The WISD has recommended Alena Zachery-Ross as interim

superintendent. Discussion of August 13th meet-n-greet for the community to meet this candidate; also, for this meeting to include an approval of her contract with the WISD. Hawkins shared there is, available online, a TEDx Talk and the interview of Zachery-Ross at Okemos Schools. Zachery-Ross' resume was distributed to audience members. Superintendent Dr. Benjamin Edmondson commented she has been in an urban district and is a qualified candidate to step in.

PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Tiffany Powell and *Tracy Armstrong* commented on the lack of laptops for staff. *Maria Goodrich* commented on the superintendent transition.

OTHER

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

- Edmondson commented on the need for additional laptops. There will be future conversation about a sinking fund: asking the community to hear our needs and to invest in our schools. We are using operational monies to use on other needs, so monies are limited for things like laptops.
- Hawkins inquired on conversation on how to fix this right now.
- Hobbs commented some computers are outdated and will stop working at some point.
- Edmondson said there has been some computer replacement over the last two years. Replacement has been with Chromebooks, and not Apples.
- Sheler-Edwards commented on the August 7th Board meeting (budget cuts & sinking fund).
- Edmondson thanked the Board for the approval of Ryan Johnson as new Estabrook principal.
- Hawkins thanked Edmondson for all he brought to the community. It is comforting to know Zachery-Ross has his support.
- Edmondson thanked the Board for the opportunity of the superintendency. He is indebted.
- Hobbs, as requested by the Board, received the following information from Technology Director Nik Jackson during the meeting: there are 218 laptops for 300 staff; just can not meet the needs.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:13 p.m.

Attachment: Alena Zachery-Ross Resume

Date Approved: 8.13.18



Maria Sheler-Edwards, Secretary
Board of Education
Ypsilanti Community Schools

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