



MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 19, 2019

The **Special Meeting** of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Dr. Celeste Hawkins at 6:44 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by President Hawkins.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

President Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Vice-President Brenda Meadows, Treasurer Gillian Ream Gainsley, Trustee Ellen Champagne (7:58 departure), Trustee Sharon Lee

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT

Secretary Maria Sheler-Edwards, Trustee Meredith Schindler

ACCEPTANCE OF "AMENDED" AGENDA: Amended Agenda Accepted as Presented

Motion by Lee, supported by Ream Gainsley

Action Recorded: 5/Yes; 0/No

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSULTATION WITH BOARD OF EDUCATION | Professional Development Plan on Equity & Inclusion:

Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross facilitated this consultation session with Dr. Dorinda Carter Andrews, Equity and Inclusion Researcher at Michigan State University and Professor in Teacher Education. The session was presented via a Zoom video webinar. This session was a consult to the Board relating to a proposal of Dr. Carter Andrews consulting with YCS on this learning/professional development.

Dr. Carter Andrews presented the Board with options and an overview of possibilities on equity and inclusion. Presentation included: 1) our "lenses"; 2) working through cultural differences; 3) titles of workshops presented {to provide a sense of range of professional development topics}, and; 4) list of Michigan school districts she has worked with, along with the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Association of School Boards.

After conclusion of the webinar, the Board discussed the consultation. By consensus, Board members present favor working with Dr. Carter Andrews.

(Champagne departure)

BOARD PRIORITIES, Follow Up Discussion: *Zachery Ross* presented a PowerPoint on Board-ranked "big concepts"/proposed Board agenda topics. A previous Board meeting produced the following Board-ranked results of Board priorities: 1) Hire Superintendent = 52; 2) Robust Curriculum/Cycle = 30; 3) Expand IB Program = 23; 4) Transportation = 26; 5) Trauma-Informed Practices for All = 18, and; 6) Develop Vacant Properties into Teacher/Family Housing = 29.

Board members participated in an activity in which proposed Board meeting agenda topics were considered for removal, modification or to be added. The activity included concepts, person responsible and expected completion date. Also included was Board agenda items: items/removed, items/modified and items/added. The results of this activity, of Board members present, indicated the following as top priority of Board interest:

Hire Superintendent
Robust Curriculum
Transportation

This activity will also be requested for completion by those Board members not in attendance for the activity.

PUBLIC COMMENTS *(Added Item)*

Amanda Smith commented on equity/inclusion work, and, a comment from Ypsi Live.

OTHER

- *Board members* commented on working, collectively, on Board priorities.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

- Hawkins shared plans to attend the upcoming (MI Excel) Blueprint training, along with Superintendent Zachery-Ross.
- Zachery-Ross spoke of the Blueprint conference.
- Lee expressed interested in attending Blueprint training.
- Meadows commented on attending the Blueprint conference, and, the Board priorities.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:57 p.m.

Date Approved: March 11, 2019



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

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