



MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

The **Special Meeting** of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Dr. Celeste Hawkins at 6:33 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, Secretary Maria Sheler-Edwards (6:38 arrival), Treasurer Gillian Ream Gainsley, Trustee Ellen Champagne, Trustee Sharon Lee, Trustee Meredith Schindler

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT: None

MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATIVE CABINET PRESENT (& Participants in Workshop)

Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross, Director of Business and Finance Edwina Hill, Director of Human Resources Sue McCarty, Director of Facilities & Operations Steven Burgess, Director of State & Federal Programs Priya Nayak, Communications & Marketing Coordinator Taryn Willis. Also in attendance was Turquoise Neal, YCS Installation Facilitator | MI Excel Statewide Field Team.

ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDED AGENDA: Accepted amended as follows: **Add:** 1) Field Trip, and; 2) Closed Session, *if needed* for Superintendent | 8(a) OMA. (NOTE: A closed session was not included in the meeting.)

Motion by Champagne, supported by Schindler

Action Recorded: 6/Yes; 0/No

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADDED ITEM | APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP, YCHS RCTC Auto/Collision

MOTION TO approve the overnight field trip of the Ypsilanti Community High School RCTC Auto/Collision to Grand Rapids, April 5 - 7, 2019.

Motion by Champagne, supported by Meadows

Action Recorded: 6/Yes; 0/No

(Sheler-Edwards arrival @ 6:38 p.m.)

~~ADDED ITEM @ ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA | CLOSED SESSION 8(a) OMA, if needed. Item DELETED ITEM FROM MEETING | CLOSED SESSION was not required.~~

BOARD MONITORING OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

Mary Kerwin, Senior Consultant | Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) facilitated this session. MASB Consultant Deb Macon also participated in the facilitation. Conversation and monitoring for progress of the Superintendent's performance goals. Topics of conversation included: 1) Achievement/Student Growth; 2) Curriculum Audit; 3) Core Curriculum & Supplemental Curriculum, and; 4) Consistent Discipline/Restorative Practices. Also discussion of the following: 1) Blueprint Installation; 2) Instructional Infrastructure; 3) Talent Management; 4) Allocation of Resources; 5) Grants - State, Federal & Washtenaw ISD; 6) Operations and Maintenance, and; 7) Marketing & Communications. Board requests included: #1) Posting of Current Curriculum, as listed on Core Program & Supplemental Programs Spreadsheet, on the website; #2) Finance - a) Assumptions; b) Budget Links to Strategic Plan, and; c) Quarterly Reports on Consolidation Debt; #3) Facilities/Operations - Conversation on facilities audit and the idea of auditing every 5 years, and, the distribution of parent transportation survey to Board members;

#4) Superintendent Performance Goals: Regarding the Install Lobby Level, establishing timeline and targets for each quarterly.

The Board recessed at 8:26 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:34 p.m.

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

Mary Kerwin, Senior Consultant | Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) facilitated this session with Board members. MASB Consultant Deb Macon also facilitated. The session examined Board performance, and, ways to improve their work and continue progress. Conversation included “things the Board does well”, and, “areas for improvement”. The self-assessment is a way to building a strong and more effective Board.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT (BP)

This topic/data was discussed as part of the Board Monitoring of District Performance, listed above.

OTHER: *None*

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

- Meadows commended Mary Kerwin on the smooth process of her facilitation. Recognition of Deb Macon and her interest in our District. The YCS Cabinet team shared good information.
- Hawkins echoed Meadows’ comments. Comments on the progression of the District. Recognition of Zachery-Ross and her work, with a separate mention on communication.
- Superintendent Zachery-Ross spoke of Board members support of March is Reading month; thanks to those who visited schools for activities. U.S. Representative Debbie Dingell and Governor Gretchen Whitmer also visited schools yesterday, touring and reading to students.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:16 p.m.

Date Approved: April 8, 2019



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