

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

*Administration Building, Professional Development Room * 1885 Packard Rd.; Ypsilanti, MI 48197*

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, April 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Celeste Hawkins at 6:34 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by Washtenaw International Middle Academy (WIMA) students and Principal Nhu Do and Associate Principal Jessica Garcia.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

President Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Vice-President Brenda Meadows, Secretary Maria Sheler-Edwards, Treasurer Gillian Ream Gainsley, Trustee Ellen Champagne (6:38 arrival), Trustee Sharon Lee, Trustee Meredith Schindler

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT: *None*

ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

WIMA Points of Pride included: 1) Teaching Tolerance Grant; 2) Student-to-Student Mentoring; 3) WIMA CompTIA FUSE Grant; 4) Parent University & Cultural Proficiency; 5) MLK Day of Service; 6) Restorative Peer Mediation, and; 7) Whole Kids Grant.

(Champagne arrival)

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Accepted "as is".

Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler

Action Recorded: 7/Yes; 0/No

PUBLIC COMMENTS #1

Peri Stone-Palmquist commented on the Achieving College & Career Education (ACCE) middle school program and the new superintendent contract. Charlotte Tillerson and Kier Ingraham commented on ACCE middle school. Patricia Stevenson-McGee spoke of career paths for in-district talent.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO approve the following minutes: 1) March 15-16, 2019 special meeting; 2) March 18, 2019 special meeting; 3) March 18, 2019 closed session meeting; 4) March 18, 2019 regular meeting; 5) March 19, 2019 special meeting, and; 6) the personnel matters as per the ~~amended and~~ attached list dated April 1, 2019: New Hires, Resignations and Retirements.

Motion by Lee, supported by Champagne

Action Recorded: 7/Yes; 0/No

Topics Included: The motion was recorded as "amended and"; however, no change was made to the presented Consent Agenda.

ACTION ITEMS, Student Affairs

District-Wide Calendar Consideration, 2019/20

MOTION TO approve the district-wide traditional calendar for PreK-12 students in 2019/20.

Motion by Champagne, supported by Schindler

Action Recorded: 7/Yes; 0/No

ACCE Middle School Pilot Program Consideration, 2019/20: Item Tabled

MOTION TO discontinue the Achieving College and Career Education Middle School program, effective June 30, 2019.

Motion by Meadows; no Board member support

No Vote: Motion Failed with No Support

Topics Included: Discussion on this pilot program, including: 1) plan for success in regular middle school; 2) program goal/intent is to return students to traditional/regular setting; 3) middle school plans/staffing across Grades 6-8 (ACCE Middle and YCMS); 4) funding, including June 30, 2018 deficit which was prior to the addition of this program -- \$ could go back into traditional middle school; 5) staffing at other buildings – for example, Holmes has a “large” Grade 2 classroom; 6) sharing of Board members opinions on discontinuing/continuing the program; 7) recommendation of Administration; 8) program rollout; 9) academic/behavior outcomes; 10) plan if we discontinue program; 11) plan development with Board decision; Board needs to guide. Conversation on previous study sessions/presentations on this program.

Audience ACCE staff members spoke stating part of the pilot included: no students in/no students out. They spoke of goals: 1) number of students in the program; 2) comprehensive finances, and, 3) have students improved.

President Hawkins stated a need for a future study session. Ideas included: 1) mission/goal/purpose; 2) make a case to eliminate program; 3) how would students be transitioned to the traditional middle school, YCMS. Intensive middle school v. continue ACCE Middle School another year.

Field Trip, YCHS Robotics

MOTION TO approve the April 2019 overnight field trip of YCHS Robotics to the First in Michigan State Championship Competition in Saginaw.

Motion by Schindler, supported by Sheler-Edwards

Action Recorded: 7/Yes; 0/No

ACTION ITEMS, Business/Finance

RFP: Student Transportation

MOTION TO approve, as presented, the Request for Proposal for student transportation services.

Motion by Champagne, supported by Schindler

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Ream Gainsley, Champagne, Lee, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins

Tyler Technologies, Transportation Operations

MOTION TO authorize the Superintendent to contract with Tyler Technologies for the purchase of bus technology, installation, serve and training as outlined in the Tyler Technologies License and Service Agreement for an amount of \$87,413.

Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Ream Gainsley, Champagne, Lee, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins

Donation: Toyota, Donor

MOTION TO accept the donation of 25 laptop computers, valued in excess of \$1,000, from Toyota Motor.

Motion by Sheler-Edwards, supported by Lee

Action Recorded: 7/Yes; 0/No

Contract: PIC Food Safety & Staffing

MOTION TO approve the contract with P.I.C. Staffing for space at the middle school kitchen/Willow Run campus for a contract term of April 8, 2019 – April 8, 2021, with a 2-year renewal

Motion by Meadows, supported by Champagne

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Ream Gainsley, Champagne, Lee, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins

ACTION ITEMS, Human Resources

Superintendent

MOTION TO approve the YCS Superintendent contract for Alena Zachery-Ross.

Motion by Hawkins, supported by Meadows

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Ream Gainsley, Champagne, Lee, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins

Assistant Superintendent

~~AMENDED:~~ MOTION TO approve the administrative contract with Dr. Carlos Lopez to serve as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction with a start date ~~"to be determined"~~ of April 22, 2019 and a contract expiration date of June 30, 2019.

Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

Yes: Meadows, Ream Gainsley, Champagne, Lee, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Hawkins

PRESENTATION

Education Project: YCS McKinney-Vento Liaison Marquan Jackson facilitated a YCS Homeless Report 2019 PowerPoint presentation. Presentation included: 1) Context-Housing Affordability; 2) Root Causes of Homelessness; 3) The McKinney-Vento Act; 4) YCS Point in Time Data March 2019; 5) All Things Considered; 6) Cost of Transportation, and; 7) YCS District Liaison Role.

PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Debra Stevens commented on the student transportation RFP. *Zachyra McCoy* spoke of the traditional setting of Ypsilanti Community Middle School and the ACCE middle school program.

OTHER

- *Hawkins* spoke of concerns of a meeting with Ypsilanti Township officials. Conversation on keep the lines of communication open and there were questions on finance that Superintendent Zachery-Ross was not prepared for, regarding Willow Run taxpayers.
- *Sheler-Edwards* shared the meeting was about Sugarbrook. It was a "beginning of a conversation". There was no outcome to the meeting, just information sharing. *Meadows* commented she would have preferred that all Board members were informed of the meeting.

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

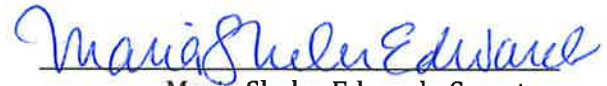
- *Sheler-Edwards* spoke of the upcoming Student Advocacy Center annual storytelling event.
- *Zachery-Ross* shared YCS students are participating in the event. Also, Zachery-Ross and Communications/Marketing Coordinator *Taryn Willis* shared information on the upcoming Grizzly Soirée. Keynote speaker is Ypsilanti Public Schools graduate and celebrity chef Darrell "DAS" Smith. The event location is the Riverside Arts Center; YCS

culinary students will provide breakfast. Willis also gave a measles update for Washtenaw County.

- *Hawkins* commented on an EMU/YCS collaboration meeting last Friday with YCS stakeholders, State Rep. Ronnie Peterson and Eastern Michigan University President Dr. James Smith.
- *Zachery-Ross* commented the focus of the meeting was YCS and how to excel learning.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:54 p.m.

Date Approved: May 6, 2019



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

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