

REGULAR MEETING Agenda | Electronic Meeting VIA Zoom; see "IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS MEETING" (Monday, August 2, 2021)

Generated by Julie Haines on Monday, August 2, 2021

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Board President

Action: A. Roll Call of Board of Education Members

2. IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS ELECTRONIC MEETING

Information: A. Electronic Meeting (via Zoom) In Accordance with DHHS Emergency Order and PA 254 of 2020; COVID-19

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: This meeting of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education will proceed electronically in accordance with DHHS Emergency Order and PA 254 of 2020.

If participants do not have technology access, please contact our Director of Technology Nik Jackson for accommodation: techdirector@ycschools.us.

Public viewers please use the following link to watch the live stream: <https://www.facebook.com/ypsilanticommunityschools>

-or join directly on Zoom-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83401100127>

The public can register their attendance at the following link. If they would like to ask a question or make a public comment to the Board, there is a place for that, as well:

- Live form: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_Comments
- Call in to speak during public comments time: **734-221-1081**

As public comments come in, they will be collected in the order received in the following spreadsheet. Board and Cabinet are the only ones with access:

- Formatted Public Comments: https://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_FormattedComments
- Sheet Collecting Attendance and Comments: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_PublicCommentsCollected

Information: B. Electronic Meeting Guidelines

ELECTRONIC MEETING GUIDELINES: Because electronic meetings are new to the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education, it is appropriate to outline those procedures which may vary from typical meeting procedures.

#1: Board members will be asked to state their name when making motions and seconds for the benefit of the audience.

#2: All votes are urged to be taken by roll call for clarity.

#3: The Chair will strive to recognize Board members by name before they speak. In the event this does not happen, trustees are encouraged to announce their own name or may be reminded to do so.

#4: Audience members will be muted until recognized by the Chair during public comment(s).

#5: People who speak during public comment time will be asked to state their name and topic before speaking.

#6: If there is a closed session in a meeting, it will take place in a separate Zoom session. The regular meeting will remain open until the Board returns from closed session.

#7: Board members must avoid using email, texting, instant messaging and other electronic forms to communicate with each other or with members of the public during the meeting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Board President

4. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Action: A. Acceptance of Agenda

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the agenda, as presented.

Motion by Meredith Schindler, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

5. PRESENTATION

Presentation: A. MICIP/Performance Management

Dr. Carlos Lopez, Assistant Superintendent, will provide an explanation of YCS' Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP). MICIP is a pathway for districts to improve student outcomes by assessing the needs of the whole child. All Michigan districts are required by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to develop plans and coordinate funding around the data reviewed by the MICIP team.

Click [here](#) to view presentation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS #1: Electronic Participation Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol

Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 0167.3

*The Board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express their view.

*Please limit statements to three (3) minutes duration.

*Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants; no person may address or question Board members individually.

*Remarks shall be made in a respectful and professional manner.

Virtual Public Comment Information:

The public can register their attendance at the following link. If they would like to ask a question or make a public comment to the Board, there is a place for that, as well:

- Live form: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_Comments
- They can also call in to speak during public comments time at **734-221-1204**

As public comments come in, they will be collected in the order received in the following spreadsheet. Board and Cabinet are the only ones with access:

- Formatted Public Comments: https://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_FormattedComments
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No public comments.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent), Minutes, Report: A. Consent Agenda

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) July 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes 2) July 12, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes 3) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 7/22/21; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the:

- 1) July 12, 2021, [Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
- 2) July 12, 2021, [Special Meeting Minutes](#)
- 3) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 7/22/21; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

8. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. Second Reading of NEOLA Policy Updates - Vol. 35, the EDGAR Collection, and Nondiscrimination/Anti-Harassment Policies

Re: NEOLA of Michigan Local Templates/Policy Updates - **Vol. 35, No. 2 - February 2021**, The Edgar Revisions, and Nondiscrimination/Anti-Harassment Policies Update

The Board of Education shall adopt bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of this Board and the District. The Policy subcommittee has recently reviewed the following, and has now submitted these to begin the approval process.

9. ACTION ITEM: Neola Policy Updates

Action: A. Adoption of the NEOLA Policy Updates

Re: NEOLA of Michigan Local Templates/Policy Updates - **Vol. 35, No. 2 - February 2021**, The Edgar Revisions, and Nondiscrimination/Anti-Harassment Policies Update

The Board of Education shall adopt bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of this Board and the District. The Policy subcommittee reviewed the NEOLA policies and the Board had its first reading at its previous board meeting. The second reading occurred earlier in the meeting and pending no additional changes or discussion required, the board will consider adopting the policies.

The following bylaws/policies are included in the Vol. 35, No. 2 packet:

1. #2260.01: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability
2. #7440.01: Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring
3. #8321: Criminal Justice Information Security (Non-Criminal Justice Agency)
4. #8330: Student Records
5. #8400: School Safety Information
6. #8450.01: Protective Facial Coverings During Pandemic/Epidemic Events
7. #8500: Food Services

The following bylaws/policies are included in the Edgar packet:

1. #6114: Cost Principles - Spending Federal Funds
2. #6325: Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds

3. #7450: Property Inventory
4. #7455: Accounting System for Capital Assets

The following bylaws/policies are included in the Nondiscrimination/Anti-Harassment Policies packet:

1. #1422: Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
2. #1623: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
3. #1662: Anti-Harassment
4. #2260: Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity
5. #3122: Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
6. #3123: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
7. #3362: Anti-Harassment
8. #4122: Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity
9. #4123: Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Disability Discrimination in Employment
10. #4362: Anti-Harassment
11. #5517: Anti-Harassment

...MOVE THAT the board of education adopt the NEOLA policy updates, as presented: Vol. 35, EDGAR Collection, and Nondiscrimination/Anti-Harassment Policies.

Motion by Meredith Schindler, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

10. ACTION ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Approval of Assistant Principal Employee Contract: Sue McCarty, Director of Human Resources

The presented Administrative Contract is provided for the position of Assistant Principal of Instruction at Ypsilanti Community Middle School for review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Mr. Reginald Olds.

[Click here to view Mr. Reginald Olds' resume.](#)

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Administrative Contract of Reginald Olds with the official commencement date of August 3, 2021.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

Action: B. Approval of Assistant Principal Employee Contract: Sue McCarty, Director of Human Resources

The presented Administrative Contract is provided for the position of Assistant Principal of Instruction at Ypsilanti Community Middle School for review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Mr. Lavell Blanchard.

[Click here to view Mr. Lavell Blanchard's resume.](#)

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Administrative Contract of Lavell Blanchard with the official commencement date of August 3, 2021.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

11. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Approval of the Bus Lease Agreement for 2021-2022: Priya Nayak, Director of Business Services and Finance

Hoekstra Leasing is a bus company that leases buses to various school districts. YCS will need four additional buses to insure adequate transportation for the students during the 2021-2022 school year. The administration is requesting that the Board approve the lease of four buses for the year at a total of \$91,000. We previously leased (6) additional buses, with school mostly remote last year we did not lease these additional buses. These (4) buses are needed to fill the gap.

[Click here to view the leasing agreement.](#)

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Hoekstra Leasing bus lease for the period of 8-15-21 to 8-15-22 for four buses in the total amount sum of \$91,000.

Motion by Meredith Schindler, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

Action: B. Donation: Backpacks from Costco Warehouse: Alena Zachery-Ross, Superintendent

Costco Warehouse donated 900 backpacks worth approximately \$5660.00 for the YCS students. We are very appreciative of the support that Costco has provided to the students of YCS by donating back packs to our students for the past several years. Thank you, Costco!

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a donation of 900 backpacks valued at approximately \$5660.00 from Costco Warehouse.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

Action: C. Donation: Upright Piano: Alena Zachery-Ross, Superintendent

Community member and long-time YCS supporter, Mrs. Cynthia Wilbanks, donated an upright piano made by Story and Clark that has an average resale value of \$1200. We appreciate the ongoing support that the Willbanks family has provided to YCS over the years.

Thank you, Mrs. Willbanks!

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a donation of an upright piano from Mrs. Cynthia Wilbanks with an average resale value of \$1200.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

12. ACTION ITEM: Other

Action: A. Adoption of JUUL Litigation Resolution: Priya Nayak, Director of Business and Finances

In 2019, several California public schools sued Juul Labs, Inc. and other producers of vaping products in a California federal court, specifically Case No. 3:19-md-2913-WHO in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California ("Lawsuit"). Thrun Law Firm is representing Michigan schools in a similar lawsuit. The purpose of this resolution is to provide Thrun Law Firm the authority to include YCS in this upcoming litigation. There is no cost to the district and no fees unless there is a judgment awarded and fees will be provided from the amount granted to each district.

Click here to view the resolution.

...MOVE THAT the board of education adopt the JUUL Litigation Resolution, as presented.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2: Electronic Participation

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol

Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 0167.3

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14. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. Subcommittee Reports

Vice President Lee: Just to inform the board that the preschool subcommittee is on break until to October and I hate to say that I did miss the YCS foundation meeting last Tuesday. I was stuck in traffic and couldn't make it back home in time to get online, so I will attend the next one next month.

Trustee Schindler: We've heard from the Policy Committee, we've got policies. We haven't met otherwise just letting the public know. The Sex Ed Advisory Board and the coordinated school health team are both on break for summer.

President Hawkins: The only thing I will note is that the Finance Committee met and we are just preparing for our upcoming audit.

15. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Fields: I just want to comment on the on the jazz festival we had a couple weeks ago. That was really nice and very successful. I was so glad that we were able to pull it off with the threatening of the weather, I didn't think we're going to be able to do that but we did. I just want to say it turned out, really, really nice. I was glad to see that we still had a nice crowd and we still have committed people who like to come to our event, so it was really nice.

Superintendent Zachery-Ross: We want to show a video from the art department. They have done such a tremendous job

pivoting. We all have had to pivot. They demonstrated this as we know they were supposed to go to Washington D.C. and monies were raised. They were able to instead working with the city and Rotary put the banners up in Depot Town and had a wonderful ceremony in which Dr. Hawkins spoke. They wanted to commemorate it so they've created this video. This video will be available and we'll put on our website. that And we just want to thank the Communications Committee, as well as the art department for their leadership in this work. Thank you for providing us that opportunity to share. We are so proud of our students, we're proud of our staff, and the community for wrapping their arms around each and every one of them. I think this is just an example of the work that the Board is leading and when we start seeing it with students, then that means that the work is truly getting done, we're not merely talking about things at a meeting. This is happening and it's because of our standing and our outstanding staff as well, so I thank each and every one of our staff members who made this possible. This is the Grizzly Nation.

President Hawkins: Thank you so much, Dr. Zachery-Ross for allowing us to see this beautiful tribute to our talented, creative, and just brilliant YCS students. And a huge thanks. I didn't have any comments but now I have a comment. I'm so moved by the video. It was amazing. So a huge thanks to whoever put the video together, all the hands that played a part in putting the video together. What our students and our family, our teachers, our staff, and our administrators, the persistence, the perseverance, and the commitment and dedication to our YCS students is just absolutely phenomenal. So I just say thank you. This was a beautiful video and I hope that you could share this with us so that we can share it with others and brag about YCS and Grizzly Nation.

Superintendent Zachery-Ross: I do want to recognize and just acknowledge the fact that it is August 2 and we do not have bell times to our families. I want to acknowledge that. We are working with transportation. We thought it would be today and we are just really hoping by tomorrow at the latest that a letter will be sent out with the bell times, we'll talk about coming back to school and those expectations. We also know we've gotten a lot of questions and some of this changing has to do with the buses but also what kind of after school opportunities will there be and working with our partners and being sure that we can give one answer so our yes means yes and no means no. So know that we're working together with all of those but I don't want to just avoid. I want to make sure people know that we are taking this very seriously. We know they need to make plans and so we're working diligently together. In addition, we aren't having the traditional Back to School bash. We are working with Pastor Wimberley. They're going to do a drive-through backpack drive. We are also going to have boxed food and lunches for the families who come to the drive-through. However, you just approved, and we thank Costco for their donation - every student, when they come to class will get a backpack so it's not that our students won't get it, they're getting it in school and one of the things is we always give to anybody who shows up, to the Back to School bash, but we want to make sure every single one of our students has a backpack. We know with social distancing, we are concerned because we know that children are not vaccinated so bringing in a whole bunch of children to the Back to School bash we thought to partner with the church. They're going to provide backpacks and supplies. We're providing the food and we will make sure that every single child in our school has a backpack in their classroom at their desk. In addition, just wanted to thank the people from Jazz in the Parking Lot. It was an amazing event. Thank you to Taryn and to the entire committee. Thank you to all of our custodians and grounds folks. They did a lot to prepare for that so thank you to all of them. We're still doing Boots on the Ground and we're seeing people enroll constantly so we want to just continue to welcome everyone to enroll. If you so happen to be at Briarwood Mall, you will see the wonderful display and again thank you, Taryn and the Communications Committee. It's amazing, the display at Briarwood about YCS. It's something worth going to see. Finally, we want to welcome our principals, all of our building administrators returned today. Our teachers return back on August 16 and our students on August 30 and considering is August 2, it's all happening very quickly. So thank you to everyone who worked the summer planning, making sure that we are coming back to a safe environment and people who are continuing to plan. Some of our teachers have been in working on curriculum already. Some of them have been starting to come in with the compassion resilience circles that we will be training, not only to have them available for staff members for six weeks to meet together to be support but also compassionate resilience circles for our parents and families because we know this transition is not going to be just simple. We see the variant is coming, so we know we're going to have to provide support and so people are trained in every single building so that each building can offer their own circles for staff and for students. So thank you to all the staff who've been coming in early and getting trained and will be providing training to our parents and our own staff members.

Trustee Schindler: I wanted to commend the Art Department on their amazing work and the students on their amazing work and what a video! So moving.

16. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. Closed Session- Pursuant to Sections 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education go into closed session pursuant Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

17. REQUEST TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Action: A. Approval to return to Open Session

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education return to Open Session

Motion by Meredith Schindler, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields

18. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting Adjourned at 8:32 p.m.