

April 26, 2021 REGULAR MEETING Agenda | Electronic Meeting VIA Zoom; see "IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS MEETING" (Monday, April 26, 2021)

Generated by Julie Haines on Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Members absent

Meredith Schindler

Meeting called to order at 6:32 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: **734-221-1204**

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
- 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 Sharon Lee, second by Maria Goodrich.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

5. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. NAAPID Certification of Excellence

Ypsilanti Community Schools, a National African American Parent Involvement Day Contributor, received a Certificate of Excellence from Chairperson, Shoshana DeMaria on March 8, 2021 for an outstanding performance and lasting contribution for National African-American Involvement Day. [Click here](#) to see the certificate.

Recognition: B. Recognition of Support Staff

We are recognizing some of our YCS support staff today by giving them Meijer gift cards. Meijer is family-focused on enriching lives in the communities they serve. This philosophy has guided their company for more than 85 years, especially during difficult times like we've experienced this past year. Meijer wanted to support, recognize, and show their appreciation for everything our staff is doing. We also want to thank all our staff for their hard work and dedication. The support staff that we will be recognizing at this board meeting are: Cleveland Albertie, Iman Al-Ghrai, Jennifer Allred, Carmen Bell, Amyre Bishop, Michael Brower, Jacqueline Center, Garrie Chea, Dwanna Dawson, Richard Durr, Mariea Evans, Carol Ford, Rosie Freeman, Orangelle Gardner, Angelina Gibbs, Fredrick Hall, Larry Hankins, LaKeisha Higgs, Arthur Holt, Consuelia Johnson, Bobbie Kincaid, Landis Lewis, Arrawanna McCalep, Mohammed Muhsen, Elizabeth Royce, Vonyea Swanson, Angela Taylor, Beverly Thomas, Debra Woods, and Deanne Wright.

Action: C. Resolution: Staff Appreciation 2021: Alena Zachery-Ross, Superintendent

School Principal Day: May 1, 2021

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: May 3 - 7, 2021

School Lunch Hero Day: May 7, 2021

School Nurse Day: May 12, 2021

School Principal Day is May 1, 2021. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is the first full week in May of each year. School Lunch Hero Day are May 7, 2021. School Nurse Day is May 12, 2021. It is a time to honor principals/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses, recognizing the contributions they make.

The success of our children and community are significantly influenced by exemplary Ypsilanti Community Schools staff who dedicate their talents of heart and mind to help ensure that our public schools and our young people excel, including during this unprecedented time of COVID-19. The knowledge, support and skills YCS staff provide children will positively impact generations for years to come.

YCS principals/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses are extraordinary. They inspire children daily. We express our sincere gratitude for those who enthusiastically dedicate themselves to our schools and children. We encourage the community to join in honoring principals/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses for their impact on our children and our learning community.

YCS High School Assistant Principal, Raymond Alvarado, will present the events that are scheduled for Teacher Appreciation Week that the Sunshine Committee has put together to honor the teachers throughout the district.

[Click here](#) to see the resolution.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopt the Resolution of Recognition proclaiming May 1, 2021 to be School Principal Day, May 3-7, 2021 to be Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, May 7, 2021 to be School Lunch Hero Day, and May 12, 2021 to be School Nurse Day.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

6. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. E.C.O.L. Update by Dr. Lopez

YCS Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Carlos Lopez, will give the board an update on the E.C.O.L Plan. **The ECOL Plan is an additional plan that includes new assurances and sections on educational goals, instructional delivery, grading, and equitable access – it does not replace the District's current COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.** [Click here](#) to see the presentation.

Turquoise Neal: At the Middle School for sixth grade for sixth grade and are self-contained classrooms, they will resume or phase in on May 10th, and our 7th and 8th grade will phase in on May 17th. We will have our state PSAT testing on April 30th and that is for 8th grade students only. For the high school on behalf of Principal Gildersleeve students in grades nine through 11 will phase in on May 10th. For our seniors it's a little bit different schedule as they are nearing the end of their academic year and so they will participate in a senior checkout and that will be conducted during that week as well. State testing for high school students more information will be provided to those students who have opted to participate in State testing. **Jonathan Royce:** We are running pretty similar to what the high school is. We have our testing this week 27th, 28th, 29th. We'll look at it May 10th to bring back our 9th, 10th, and 11th graders and we're planning for our seniors to come in now (we just have a few) that week as well so we can see them, socially distance hug them, check in and see how they're doing. We're really looking forward to seeing the kids. It's been a long long time without them so each time there's that little push back, it's a little disappointing and heart-wrenching each time that happens so we're really looking forward to seeing those that are coming to test.

Vice President Lee: The Pre-school were started in person or no not yet? **Dr. Lopez:** Not yet. All the pre-schools will resume May 10th.

Vice President Lee: With the testing, how are we doing that? Are they doing it the same way that they have done it in the past or exactly how we're doing the testing? **Dr. Lopez:** With the standardized/state testing, parents have the option of either having their children tested or test out meaning their students won't take the test. Most of our parents, in our communities especially throughout the state of Michigan have opted not to have their student tested. There are a handful of students that are there currently tested so

NAAPID

Certificate of Excellence

IS HEREBY AWARDED TO:

Ypsilanti Community Schools, NAAPID Contributor

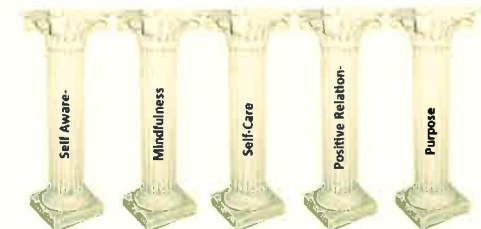
FOR AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AND LASTING CONTRIBUTION
FOR NATIONAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT DAY

5 PILLARS of Resilience

RESILIENCE IS TIMELESS

PRESENTED THIS 8TH DAY OF MARCH, 2021

Shoshana DeMaria - Chairperson
NAAPID - Committee





RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

School Principal Day: Saturday, May 1, 2021

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: May 3 - 7, 2021

School Lunch Hero Day: Friday, May 7, 2021

School Nurse Day: May 12, 2021

Ypsilanti Community Schools (MI)

A meeting of the Board of Education of the District was held **virtually/electronically due to COVID-19** for the **Ypsilanti Community Schools** located in **Ypsilanti, MI 48197**, on the **26th day of April, 2021** at **6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by **Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President.**

The following Resolution was offered by Member _____ and supported by Member _____ .

WHEREAS,

1. During this unprecedented time, Ypsilanti Community Schools principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses continue to change the lives of children every day. Their immense work and impact moves us beyond words; and
2. With a world pandemic/health crisis continuing, YCS principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses have done even more to continue education with virtual classrooms and “learning at home” lessons as well as in-person learning; all to ensure every student has the tools they need to reach their full potential; and
3. YCS principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses fill many roles as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators and mentors; and
4. YCS principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories; and
5. The principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses of Ypsilanti Community Schools spend countless hours preparing lessons, supporting and guiding staff, preparing healthy meals, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service; and
6. Our school district recognizes and supports its principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses in educating the children of this great learning community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education proclaims May 1, 2021 to be SCHOOL PRINCIPAL DAY, May 3 - 7, 2021 to be TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK, May 7, 2021 to be SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY, and May 12, 2021 to be SCHOOL NURSE DAY; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education strongly encourages all members of our community to join in personally expressing appreciation to our principals/teachers/staff/school lunch staff/school nurses for their dedication and devotion to their work.

AYE:

NAY:

Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President
Board of Education
Ypsilanti Community Schools

Alena Zachery-Ross
Superintendent
Ypsilanti Community Schools

Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Version: Strict Adherence to Legislation

Reconfirmation Meeting

Required Every 30 Days After Initial Plan Approval

April 2021

Agenda:

- Reconfirm how instruction is going to be delivered during the 20/21 school year
- Public comments from parents and/or guardians on the Extended Learning Plan
- Review weekly 2-way interaction rates

Reconfirmation Meeting for <April 26, 2021>

Reconfirm how instruction (Return to Learn Plan) is going to be delivered during the 20/21 school year: We had no modifications to our Return to Learn Plan.

(Recommendation: Explain in narrative form any modifications to the original Extended Learning Plan)

As we enter the 2020-21 school year, we are committed to offering all of our students and families three viable options: [In-Person](#), [Remote](#), and [Fully Online](#). We are also committed to putting the structures, systems, routines, and procedures that will ensure that our diverse student population is engaged and achieving under these three modes of instruction. As a result, we are committed to an equity plan that focuses on deep equity work around excellence, voice and access for all.

The [Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan](#) is necessary at YCS to increase student engagement and achievement for the 2020-21 school year because we are in the middle of a Global Pandemic that has significantly impacted the lives of our students, families and staff. The trauma caused by this pandemic has created significant mental health and academic gaps that have negatively impacted student learning. The racial divide and the significant impact of supporters of the Black Lives Matter movement have also created a National Platform that has brought RACE to the forefront of our National Agenda. No longer will people stand silently witnessing hatred, racism, oppression, and the victimization of a group of our citizens just because of the color of their skin. As we move forward, we at YCS will always lead from an equity lens. We are committed to the continuation of deep equity work around excellence, voice, and access for all students, staff, and families - [Statement of Commitment to Equity and Action Plan for YCS](#).

Modes of Instruction: Our YCS students will begin their 2020-21 school year on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. All K-8 students will attend school Monday through Thursday in the mode of instruction that their parents chose for them – In-Person, Remote, or Fully Online. Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity Days where our students' work on individual projects focused on cultivating their genius and generating their energy in freedom dreaming experiences such as storytelling, quick writes, and other creative ways of expanding their knowledge about deep equity work in the areas of excellence, voice and access. We are not taking attendance on Fridays. High school students will begin the year receiving all of their content area instruction remotely regardless if they are receiving instruction in any of our three modes of instruction: In-Person, Remote, or Fully Online. Our HMH Anywhere curriculum allows us to teach our students at any setting. For example: An English teacher may be teaching in-person but can also have students in her class that are learning remotely or fully online. The curriculum allows us the required flexibility to make this happen for our students.

- **In-Person Instruction** will be provided to students in grades TK-5 by our instructional staff four days per week (M-TH) at Estabrook Elementary School. Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity

student work. Grades 6-8 students attend In-Person Instruction 2 days per week (M and T) at YCMS and work remotely with their teachers 2 days per week (W and TH). Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity student work. Grades 9-12 students attend In-Person Instruction 2 days per week (W and TH) at YCMS and work remotely with their teachers 2 days per week (M and T). Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity student work.

- **Remote Learning** will be provided to students in grades PreK-12 by our instructional staff 4 days per week (M-TH) via distance learning by our instructional staff using the Flipped Learning Model (A Blended Learning Instructional Model where student voice is honored, respected, and encouraged). The Flipped Learning Model is a student-centered approach to learning that aims in helping students to stay engaged and take responsibility for being more self-directed. Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity student work.
- **Fully Online** will be provided to students in grades PreK-12 by our instructional staff four days per week (M-TH) via distance learning by our instructional staff using the Flipped Learning Model (A Blended Learning Instructional Model where student voice is honored, respected, and encouraged). The Flipped Learning Model is a student-centered approach to learning that aims in helping students to stay engaged and take responsibility for being more self-directed. Fridays are designed for independent PBL Equity student work. The flexibility of this option is that students can complete the school work independently 24/7 at their leisure. The student is not required to log in to live sessions.

The district is also working closely with the Collaboration for Change team members to identify Community Learning Labs throughout Ypsilanti where YCS students can visit to have access to the Internet, academic and social emotional support, and tutoring throughout the day.

Document Public Comments:

Please see the link below for public comments regarding the ECOL *Return to School Plan* for Ypsilanti Community Schools for the November 9, 2020 School Board Meeting.

- [School Board - Extended Covid-19 Learning Plan Attendance / 2 Way Communication Reports](#)
- [Board Adoption of Revised 2020-21 School Year - Attendance Policy](#)
- [Public Comments - June - November 9, 2020](#)

Superintendent Zachery-Ross made a presentation to the YCS School Board explaining the reasons why Option 1 for transitioning Remote Students to In-Person Instruction was not feasible at this time.

- All In-person classes from Estabrook transition to buildings week of 11/2/20
- All remote Staff report beginning 11/9/20-without students
- Remote elementary students begin transition 11/30/20 (i.e. K, 1st, 2nd and so forth) *consideration will be given to building grade level structure and space availability
- Additional students added ~each 2 week period *
- [Superintendent Return to In-Person Schooling Update to School Board](#)

Superintendent Zachery-Ross shared the district's findings and proposed the following plan that will be revisited in the December 2020 Board Meeting. Option 2 for transitioning Remote Students to In-Person Instruction

- All In-person classes from Estabrook will transition to buildings the week of 1/4/20
- All Remote Staff will report to their buildings beginning 1/4/21-without students
- Remote elementary students will begin to transition on 1/19/21 (i.e. K, 1st, 2nd and so forth) *consideration will be given to building grade level structure and space availability
- Additional students will be added ~ each 2 week period *
- Contingencies depending on the metrics *

Ypsilanti Community Schools closed In-Person Instruction at the end of the school day on Thursday, November 12, 2020. All students receiving In-person instruction were transitioned to Remote Learning starting as follows:

- Grades TK-5 - Start Remote Instruction on Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Grades 6-12 - Start Remote Instruction on Monday, November 16, 2020

YCS In-person instruction will resume on January 19, 2021.

[PPT YCS COVID-19 Extended Learning Plan Presentation Presented to School Board on December 14, 2020](#)

Please see the link below for public comments regarding the ECOL *Return to School Plan* for Ypsilanti Community Schools for the December 14, 2020 School Board Meeting.

[Board Comments - December 14, 2020](#)

January 11, 2021 Tentative 2020-21 Return to School Plan

OPTION 1

Please note that we will address the following (3) learning modes of instruction as we have all year:

- **In-Person** - Students who began in-person instruction on September 8, 2020, at YCES/Estabrook and YCMS are expected to return to in-person instruction on Monday, January 25, 2021. Please note that your child will continue to receive remote learning instruction effective Monday, January 4, 2021, through Friday, January 22, 2021.
 - **Students in Grades TK-5** who attended in-person instruction at YCES/Estabrook will return for in-person instruction on **Monday, January 25, 2021**.
 - **Students in Grades 6-8** who were attending in-person instruction at YCMS will return to YCMS 2 days per week (Monday and Tuesday) for in-person instruction on Monday, January 25, 2021.
 - **Students in Grades 9-12** who were attending in-person instruction at YCMS will return to YCMS 2 days per week (Wednesday and Thursday) for in-person instruction on Monday, January 25, 2021.
- **Remote** - Those students who have received their instruction remotely to date will continue to receive their instruction remotely. They will continue to receive instruction remotely until Friday, February 5, 2021, and will tentatively begin in-person instruction on **Monday, February 8, 2021**.
- **Online** - Those students who chose to remain online for the entire 2020-21 school year will continue to receive their daily instruction online for the remainder of the school year. There will be no change to the existing schedule. Online instruction for these students will commence on **Monday, January 4, 2021**.

OPTION 2

As promised, we have reviewed the multiple factors to make a safe return to school decision for students and staff, here is a tentative outline of significant dates to remember: We will address the (3) learning modes of instruction as we have all year, please refer to your particular group for your specific return dates. Further details are forthcoming.

In-Person- Those students/staff who began in September at YCES/Estabrook and YCMS

Remote- Those students/staff who have been in the remote to return in-person option.

Online- Those students/staff who chose to remain online all year.

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - In Person Staff return to school

Monday, January 25, 2021 - All **In-person students** return to the in-person school option

Monday, February 15, 2021 - All **Remote staff** will return to their assigned classrooms (further details will be provided by your building administrator).

Monday, March 1, 2021 - **PHASE-IN** of remote students by grade, per building for students in Pre-K through Fifth Grade.

Please note that additional details, information, and return specifications will be provided by your supervisor or building administration.

District Administration RECOMMENDS Option 2

[Public Comments January Meeting](#)

February 15, 2021 Update

[Public Comments February 15 Meeting](#)

March 1, 2020 Update

[Public Comments March 1, 2021 Meeting](#)

March 22, 2020 Update

[Public Comments March 22, 2021 Meeting](#)

April 12, 2020 Update

[Public Comments April 12, 2021 Meeting](#)

April 2021

Elementary Schools Return to In-Person Plan

- [YCS Preschool and Elementary Students Returning to In-Person on March 15th by Grade Level](#)

School	Demographics	3-1-2021	3-8-2021	3-15-2021	3-22-2021	3-29-2021	4-6-2021	4-12-2021	4-19-2021
Holmes	Grade Level	2nd Grade, SC - EI		3rd Grade		Spring Break	4th, 5th & SC - ASD		
Estabrook	Grade Level	2nd Grade		3rd Grade			4th, 5th & SC		
Erickson	Grade Level	1st Grade		2nd & 3rd Grade	4th Grade		5th Grade		
YIES	Grade Level	Kindergarten/Y5		1st & 2nd Grade	3rd & 4th Grade		5th Grade		
Beatty ELC	Grade Level	Pre-K							
Ford ELC	Grade Level	Pre-K, ECSE		Y5, Kdg			1st Grade		
Perry ELC	Grade Level	Pre-K, ECSE		Y5, Kdg			1st Grade		
**YCMS/YCHS/ACCE-Will communicate return dates by March 29th					**Dates are subject to change. Any changes will be immediately communicated with families.				
March 29-April 2: Spring Break-No School for the district					Key:				
April 5th: No School: Easter Monday					Y5-Young 5's				
					Kdg-Kindergarten				
** Monday-Thursday In-Person and Friday asynchronous/online for all grade levels					SC-Self Contained				
					ECSE-Early Childhood Special Education				

YCMS Student Return to the Building

Grade	Return Date
6th Grade, Lab School & SC (Self-contained)	Tuesday, April 19th
7th Grade	Monday, May 3rd
8th Grade	Monday, May 3rd

YCHS April Student Phase In Proposal (**updated 3/9/21*)

YCHS Student Phase In to In-Person Learning

What:

- Phase In #1:
 - 9th Grade - 4 days a week
 - 12th Grade - Flexible Schedule
- Phase In #2:
 - 10th Grade - 4 days a week
 - 11th Grade - Flexible Schedule

Why / Rationale:

- We need to bring the YCHS Students back into the building to finish this school year up and to set the tone for the fall of '21 - especially our 9th and 10th Graders
- We will look to be more flexible in the return with our 11th and 12th Graders
- The students need In-Person instruction and In-Person adult supports
- YCHS needs to work on relationship building - adults and students
- YCHS needs to work on climate, culture, expectations, and accountability

How:

- All YCHS Staff and Students will be assigned classrooms and specific areas at YCHS. We will provide a building map of this breakdown

- YCHS will use only the designated classrooms, restrooms, and hall areas
- Students will move from class to class and then participate using their computer. Teachers will teach using synchronous lessons in each Block. Running teaching and learning this way allows us to be synchronized with the students that are In-Person (Roomies) and Online (Zoomies).
- No daily auditorium, cafeteria, computer labs, or media center usage
- We would like brown bag breakfast and lunch
 - *Students will eat breakfast in their 1st Block. HS Adults collaborate with this*
 - *Students will eat lunch at the end of the day, in their 4th Block. HS Adults collaborate with this*

SECONDARY LEVEL CHANGES

As you know, Governor Whitmer asked for Secondary Schools to pause In-Person Learning for 2 weeks post spring break. While the high school was not running In-Person Learning at this time, our Central Office Leadership allowed for Secondary Staff to remain Remote for 2 weeks post spring break.

The High School is gearing up for a big 4th Quarter as follows:

- Monday, April 26: we will have our Phase In #1 for 9th and 12th graders
- Tuesday, April 27: we will run PSAT/SAT for 9th, 10th, + 11th graders
- Wednesday, April 28: we will run Work Keys for 11th graders

Starting Monday, April 26th, Ypsilanti Community Schools will be doing the following:

- **ELC's:** Beatty will resume remote learning until May 10, 2021. All Pre-K students will remain remote and return on Monday, May 10, 2021. Ford, and Perry will resume in-person instruction for K-1 only.
- **Elementary:** Erickson, Estabrook, Holmes, and YIES will remain in In-Person instruction without interruption.
- **Middle School:** Ypsilanti Community Middle School students will continue to be remote and return to In-Person on May 10, 2021.
- **High School:** Ypsilanti Community High School students will continue to be remote and return to In-Person on May 10, 2021.
- **High School:** A.C.C.E. students will continue to be remote and return to In-Person on May 10, 2021.
- **K-12 Online Program:** All K-12 online students will continue to be online for the remainder of the school year.

Review Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates

April 2021	All Students
Week 1	<p><i>Our District Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates for the Week of Beginning on Tuesday, April 6 and ending on April 9, 2021 was...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 78.99% Attendance according to Powerschool ● 82.84% for our 2-Way Interactions Rates according to Powerschool

Week 2	<p><i>Our District Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates for the Week of Beginning on Monday, April 12 and ending on April 16, 2021 was...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>71.23% Attendance according to Powerschool</i> • <i>87.97% for our 2-Way Interactions Rates according to Powerschool</i>
Week 3	<p><i>Our District Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates for the Week of Beginning on Monday, April 19 and ending on April 23, 2021 was...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>79.74% Attendance according to Powerschool</i> • <i>85.87% for our 2-Way Interactions Rates according to Powerschool</i>
Week 4	<p><i>Our District Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates for the Week of Beginning on Monday, April 26 and ending on April 30, 2021 was...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>% Attendance according to Powerschool</i> • <i>% for our 2-Way Interactions Rates according to Powerschool</i>

at this point in time is about 194 students that are interested in testing throughout. Right now currently our fifth graders with the mstep testing and 8th graders on the PSATs, 9th graders on PSATs, 10th graders on PSATs, and 11th graders on SATs. So there are a handful of students and what is happening is like every other year they have to come in to take that test in person. So they are taking the test in person. So even students who are online who want to test and we have a number of students that we're scheduling in and providing testing for them in a building. **Vice President Lee:** So you're scheduling how many at a time? **Dr. Lopez:** Since we have small numbers we have spacing in essence you were looking at an auditorium or gymnasium so that space allows you to have the kids six feet apart. We're actually testing in small groups because we got a window that they gave us so in essence and since there's not that many students this year who opted to test, they will be in small groups in large open areas so the students are safe, the staff and everybody will be six feet apart.

Trustee Fields: So for this year because of the pandemic and the situation that we're in as far as that testing was an option and then will it go back to being a requirement as we go, like gradually read it back into that process? **Dr. Lopez:** We received from the MBE and Blaha and Collins, the biggest thing for us is the whole perspective of being responsive. What parents need to understand is that the accountability piece is not going to count against the students for not testing at this window and most people throughout the state aren't really testing their children. Some parents want to and the state recognizes that and the federal government understood that as well so those options are open and we will provide the parents with the scores when they come in. At this point in time it is hit or miss so the tests won't be that solid for young people. **Trustee Fields:** So my question is that it will eventually go back to being a requirement. **Dr. Lopez:** As it stands, yes. State assessments are not something that are going to go away. Quality shifts here and there but at this point in time they will resume for the following year if conditions are no different.

Presentation: B. YCS Language Program by Dr. Carlos Lopez

YCS Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Carlos Lopez will present our proposed K-12 World Language Program that includes the addition of a new Spanish immersion kindergarten classroom at Ford Early Learning Center as well as World Language courses in grades 4 and 5 at Holmes, Erickson, and Estabrook Elementary Schools. This 5-year World Language Plan includes offering Spanish in grades 6 through 8 as well as offering Spanish Levels 1 through 4 at YCHS. This plan also includes the continuation of Spanish at YIES as well as the adoption of our Seal of Biliteracy that provides the opportunity for our world language proficient students to graduate from YCS. For qualifying students, the Seal of Biliteracy will be added to their high school diploma letting employers, colleges, and universities know their language proficiency skills. Click [here](#) to see the presentation.

Vice President Lee: Will there be other languages offered or is it only Spanish, Arabic, and American sign language **Dr. Lopez:** This is only to get us started. It doesn't mean that our students cannot take other languages online as well cuz we offer those and so they could take those online but right now. The challenge is finding certified teachers in these world languages that it's very hard to attract them so we figure we will start with the language that we could get more teachers more readily than others. **Vice President Lee:** So maybe Swahili and French could be offered in the future. With the American sign language are you aware they are now offering black American sign language so with that be offered? **Dr. Lopez:** This is a growing of the department known as world language. So I think that the opportunity is as broad as we want it. The reality here is I think more exposure to our young people the better and so just because we didn't think it as we were developing it doesn't mean we won't bring it. **Vice President Lee:** I don't know if it's certified or not but I know if more like two-handed sign with black American sign language. **Dr. Lopez:** Swahili and French.

Trustee Gainsley: I know how many positions are going unfilled and how difficult it is to find Spanish-speaking and find bilingual people when you're trying to hire and so having our students have that advantage is just incredible so I really appreciate this program and would like to support it. There are quite a lot of students in our schools already who speak Spanish as their first language and so I guess I just love for you to address how it's going to be handled to put them in a very basic Spanish class if they have other alternatives or how that would be handled? **Dr. Lopez:** So when you do a Spanish immersion program you like to have a combination of students who are native speakers as well as students who are just starting. So you accelerate is how you immerse students and remembers students teach each other and work with each other so we visualize that by having a variety of students in the classroom that that will accelerate the learning and it does because having a native speaker of the language one or two in the classroom or three really empowers the other students to catch up even on the rapid basis so in essence we are looking at the kindergarten when we do it it's going to be very developmental, very project based, very engaging, just very non-traditional because really when you're learning a language not only are you learning the language but you are learning culture, the values. So I think the beauty is that we have an opportunity here. We have so much expertise and the people from Wayne State that are helping us also ran the Academy de Americas and so we have a lot of expertise in the table right now. This is why we can get this done. We have already started looking at materials and we are so excited about what we can put in front of our students. **Trustee Gainsley:** Could you talk a little bit about the evaluation that's going to go into this and what kind of feedback we might be able to expect to support about how it's going a year from now? **Dr. Lopez:** We were talking to Wayne State University from the get go to have an evaluation system of tracking and making sure that looking at those non-traditional factors that we need to take a look as our students learn world languages. In essence the cultural implications, the student relationships, the actual learning that is taking place, the bilingualism itself and the mental flexibility. The university will be meeting with us to really identify and since they have been working with other districts that have world language programs of that magnitude of Spanish immersion and other immersion languages we're going to be looking at mirroring what others and study and learn from others as well as we develop ours as well. So that's one of the biggest dialogue that is one step at a time as we are trying to get this approved so we can move to the next phase and the next phase is looking at materials, look at the assessment and the whole training that needs to happen and we are able to support and coach and mentor the teacher who's in that space because the first teacher is going to be pretty much by themselves and we don't want a teacher to be by themselves so we want that teacher to be supported and know that what they have this whole EL Network that exists in our district of support.

7. 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.



World Language

Changing Lives

Transforming our Community

Transforming Lives - Connecting Cultures

Ypsilanti Community Schools is a community that is enriched with the natural resources of vibrant cultural expression. Students in our schools bring untapped genius to the classroom each and every day. Innovative and transformative programming is crucial to the dismantling of the status quo in order to give voice to students and create powerful cultural connections that will impact our community and the world.

Program Overview

Ypsilanti Community Schools will commence a Dual Language Spanish Immersion Pilot Program for the 2021-2022 school year. We will begin with a cohort of 25 kindergarten students. Our Spanish Immersion kindergarten classroom which will be instructed 90% of time in Spanish and 10% of time in English will be staff with a highly qualified teacher. This initiative is pursued to honor our diverse population of students, families and staff. Research has shown that students who have been enrolled in Dual Language Programs achieve higher academic achievement and increased cultural competency. While this offering is being pursued for its strong academic qualities, we realize that with its success, we will gain back many of our students who have left us due to our state's support of the School of Choice movement. Celebrating Language Together will support our continued re-imagining of our dynamic school district while honoring the diverse languages our students bring to our educational settings.

Spanish Immersion

and

World Languages at Ypsilanti Community Schools

Mission

The mission of the YCS World Language program is to develop empowered, multilingual and culturally proficient students equipped to transform our global society.

Vision

The vision of the YCS World Language program is to create and maintain a language program that transforms lives and creates multilingual, caring students grounded in their cultural identity while being celebrated and embraced within our community.

Stronger Together



When exploring programming options for our Celebrating Languages Together Spanish Language Immersion Program, we cultivated a magnetic and powerful collaborative relationship with Wayne State University, based on their deep experience with language acquisition and a common vision for students rooted in equity. This partnership works in tandem with our continuing partnership with EMU which supports our district's EL students. Our WSU experts have graciously provided us with the most recent research regarding dual language immersion programming: specifically those programs operating in districts similar to YCS demographics. Based upon our new learning and communications with other successful immersion programs, we are confident in recommending the most effective model of immersion instruction. Our EMU and WSU partnerships additionally provide a resource for future language educator hires.

Spanish Language Immersion Program Structure

Maximum Language Input = Best Results for Acquisition

The structure of our Spanish Language Immersion Program will consist of 90% of instruction being provided in Spanish and 10% of instruction being provided in English. Language allotment across the program will be as follows:

Grade Level	Spanish	English
Kindergarten	90%	10%
1st Grade	80%	20%
2nd Grade	70%	30%
3rd Grade	60%	40%
4th Grade	50%	50%
5th Grade	50%	50%

Spanish Immersion & World Language 5 Year Plan

Early Elem	Elementary	Middle School	High School	FTE needs
<p>1 Spanish Immersion kindergarten Ford ELC</p> <p>Need 1 FTE SI Teachers</p>	<p>4th grade 5th grade Spanish & Cultural Studies</p> <p>Erickson Holmes Estabrook</p> <p>Program offered by Spanish for Kids</p>	<p>6th grade Spanish 7th grade Spanish 8th grade Spanish</p> <p>YCMS</p> <p>Need 2.0 FTE Teacher</p>	<p>Spanish 1, 2, 3</p> <p>YCHS</p> <p>Need .5 FTE Teacher</p>	<p>Total FTE: 3.5</p>

Year 1

2021-22

Spanish Immersion & World Language 5 Year Plan

Early Elem	Elementary	Middle School	High School	FTE needs
<p>1 Spanish Immersion kindergarten Ford ELC</p> <p>1 Spanish Immersion 1st grade Ford ELC</p> <p>Need 2 FTE SI Teacher</p>	<p>3rd - 5th grade Spanish & Cultural Studies</p> <p>Erickson Holmes Estabrook</p> <p>Program offered by Spanish for Kids</p>	<p>6th grade Spanish</p> <p>7th grade Spanish</p> <p>8th grade Spanish</p> <p>YCMS</p> <p>Need 2 FTE</p>	<p>Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4</p> <p>Arabic 1 ASL online</p> <p>YCHS</p> <p>1 FTE Spanish .5 FTE Arabic</p>	<p>Total FTE: 5.5</p>

Year 2

2022-23

Spanish Immersion & World Language 5 Year Plan

Year 3

2023-24

Early Elem	Elementary	Middle School	High School	FTE needs
<p>1 Spanish Immersion kindergarten Ford ELC</p>	<p>2nd - 5th grade Spanish & Cultural Studies</p> <p>Erickson Holmes Estabrook</p> <p>Program offered by Spanish for Kids</p>	<p>6th grade Spanish</p> <p>7th grade Spanish</p> <p>8th grade Spanish</p>	<p>Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4</p> <p>Arabic 1,2 ASL online</p>	
<p>1 Spanish Immersion 1st grade Ford ELC</p>	<p>1 Spanish Immersion 2nd grade Holmes</p>	<p>YCMS</p>	<p>YCHS</p>	
<p>2 SI FTE</p>	<p>1 SI FTE at Holmes 2nd grade</p>	<p>2 FTE Spanish at YCMS</p>	<p>1.5 FTE</p>	<p>Total FTE: 6.5</p>

Spanish Immersion & World Language 5 Year Plan

Early Elem	Elementary	Middle School	High School	FTE needs
<p>1 Spanish Immersion kindergarten Ford ELC</p> <p>1 Spanish Immersion 1st grade Ford ELC</p> <p>2 SI FTE</p>	<p>2nd - 5th grade Spanish & Cultural Studies Erickson Holmes Estabrook Program offered by Spanish for Kids</p> <p>Holmes: 1 Spanish Immersion 2nd grade 1 Spanish Immersion 3rd grade</p> <p>2 SI FTE At Holmes</p>	<p>6th grade Spanish 7th grade Spanish 8th grade Spanish</p> <p>YCMS</p> <p>2 FTE</p>	<p>Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 Arabic 1,2,3 ASL online</p> <p>YCHS</p> <p>1.5 FTE</p>	<p>Total FTE: 7.5</p>

Year 4

2024-25

Spanish Immersion & World Language 5 Year Plan

Early Elem	Elementary	Middle School	High School	FTE needs
<p>1 Spanish Immersion kindergarten Ford ELC</p> <p>1 Spanish Immersion 1st grade Ford ELC</p> <p>2 IS FTE</p>	<p>2nd - 5th grade Spanish & Cultural Studies Erickson Holmes Estabrook Spanish for Kids</p> <p>Holmes: 1 Spanish Immersion 2nd grade 1 Spanish Immersion 3rd grade 1 Spanish Immersion 4th grade</p> <p>3 IS FTE At Holmes</p>	<p>6th grade Spanish</p> <p>7th grade Spanish</p> <p>8th grade Spanish</p> <p>YCMS</p> <p>2 FTE</p>	<p>Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4</p> <p>Arabic 1 ASL online</p> <p>YCHS</p> <p>1.5 FTE</p>	<p>Total FTE: 8.5</p>

Year 5

2025-26

Unapologetic Acceleration for Excellence

The time is here to provide the academic acceleration our students deserve.

This is our call to action to open the doors for our children's future.

This YCS initiative supports the following:

- Cultivating the Genius in our Students
- Opening Doors for Our Students' Access to their Widest Career Path
- Leading the County in Innovation
- Elevating YCS to a Highly Competitive County Status
- Building Student Global Awareness
- Expanding Cultural Proficiency
- Strengthening and Celebrating Community Connections



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
- Sheet Collecting Attendance and Comments: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_PublicCommentsCollected

Dr. Hawkins read public comments:

1. britney leedy, 1316 stamford rd, ypsilanti mi 48198, are you going to get sign language interpreters so that your deaf viewers can understand what's happening in the meeting?

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Action (Consent), Minutes, Report:

A. Consent Agenda

Seeking Board approval of the presented meeting minutes and personnel matters; see attachments below. Click [here](#) to see minutes. Click [here](#) to see HR list.

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) April 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes 2) personnel matters as per the presented list dated 4/16/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements.

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

- 1) April 12, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
- 2) personnel matters as per the presented list dated 4/16/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

9. ACTION ITEM: Business and Finance

Action, Recognition: A. Donation - \$1500 Donation from Maggie Gibbons

Maggie Gibbons is a longtime fan of YCS students and teachers. Maggie wants students to find joy and strength in reading and has made a \$1500 donation to Erickson Elementary. \$1000 of the donation will go to the library and \$500 for staff appreciation.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a donation of \$1500 made to Erickson Elementary for the library and staff appreciation.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

10. ACTION ITEM: Other

Action: A. YCS Seal of Biliteracy Policy

The District is recommending the adoption of YCS Seal of Biliteracy Policy that will provide the opportunity for our world language proficient students to graduate from YCS. For qualifying students, the Seal of Biliteracy will be added to their high school diploma letting employers, colleges, and universities know their language proficiency skills. Click [here](#) to see the policy.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the resolution for the Seal of Biliteracy.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2: 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.

April 12, 2021 REGULAR MEETING Agenda | Electronic Meeting VIA Zoom; see "IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS MEETING" (Monday, April 12, 2021)

Generated by Julie Haines on Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Members absent

Sharon Lee, Gillian Gainsley

Meeting called to order at 6:32 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: **734-221-1204**

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:

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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 Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

5. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. Formal Recognition of the Modern Governance 100 for Community Boards - YCS Board of Education

We are recognizing today's modern leaders in community governance. Even in times of uncertainty, these individuals find opportunities for growth. Often working behind the scenes, modern governance leaders drive their organizations towards greater diversity, sustainable practices, and sharper insights for company leadership. Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education has received this honor.

Recognition: B. Formal Recognition of the Modern Governance 100 for Community Boards - Technology Department

We are recognizing today's modern leaders in community governance. Even in times of uncertainty, these individuals find opportunities for growth. Often working behind the scenes, modern governance leaders drive their organizations towards greater diversity, sustainable practices, and sharper insights for company leadership. Ypsilanti Community Schools Technology Department has been recognized. Members from the technology department present: Nik Jackson, Solomon Zheng, Clark Rodeffer, Jerilyn Lyn, Jaclyn Mullins, Kendra Wilson, Jacob Henriksen, Melissa Dubiel, Charles Stevenson

6. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. YCS Homeless Report 2021 by Marquan Jackson

YCS Homeless Liaison, Marquan Jackson, will share new resources and enhanced supports that have been established in efforts to support YCS homeless families during the pandemic. Jackson will also provide an update on the YCS Resiliency Center and share current homeless demographics. [Click here](#) to view presentation.

Dr. Hawkins - how are families made aware of these resources? **Mr. Jackson** - working closely with the Office of Community Economic Development as they are gearing up to push out the flier and campaign to get it to all our families, we need to cast a wide net and get it out to as many families as possible (48 to 53% of the families that YCS serves will be looking for that resource). **Dr. Hawkins** - how do we advertise, refer families to the Resiliency Center? **Mr. Jackson** - there is a link on the website that families can click on and make requests, then he sends the referral to the Resiliency Center so the order can be filled within 48 hours and then the coordinators reach out to let the families know when and how to pick up the order.

Presentation: B. Three Year Budget Projection by Priya Nayak

YCS Director of Business Services and Finance, Priya Nayak, will share the Budget Projection for the YCS from FY2021 through FY2024. [Click here](#) to view presentation.

Trustee Schindler - excellent presentation and helpful to know the clear logical thinking that is behind the numbers. **Dr. Hawkins** - thank you for this very digestible presentation.

Presentation: C. Planning for ESSER II Funds and Summer Programs by Priya Nayak and Mark Coscarella

YCS Director of Business Services and Finance, Priya Nayak, and YCS Director of State and Federal Programs, Mark Coscarella, will share the Planning of ESSER II fund allocation for YCS and 8-9 weeks Summer programs that will be offered by YCS during summer school. District's ESSER II spending plan for YCS must be established and submitted to MDE no later than April 15, 2021. [Click here](#) to view presentation.

Dr. Hawkins - loves this approach to summer school. With literacy and math as a focus, how might the data influence the offerings as we try to recover from the learning loss that many of our students have had? **Superintendent Zachery-Ross** - MICIP has administration and staff not only looking at the data but asking why is the data this way. They have been using this and the EAB research to see what is needed which is high dosage tutoring because it is what is working. Don't do remediation for high school but do acceleration and high dosage tutoring. **Dr. Lopez** - summer literacy component for K-3, the programs that they are doing is mirroring what we are working on with MICIP. Instead of looking at it through the lens of learning loss, looking at it as Learning Just Is. Looking at our students from an assets base and removing the labels, finding out what they know and don't know to get them the services they need. Making sure our approach is research aligned. Combining science and social studies with literacy. Helping the students with their social skills and how do we embed it in the program in a safe way. Commend Mr. Coscarella for the vision to help our students. **Mr. Coscarella** - using a wide variety of data to make sure we are meeting our students needs. How will we evaluate in the end so we are gathering the data from the beginning.

Trustee Goodrich - Thank you for making summer school engaging and fun, for sustained engagement and for doing project based learning opportunities.

Dr. Hawkins - I saw that some of the funding will be going to bridging the gap between middle school and high school. Unapologetic acceleration.

Presentation: D. Class Size Report by Sue McCarty

YCS HR Director, Sue McCarty, will share the 2021-22 Staffing Plan. The Staffing Plan is an annual process that allows the administration to conduct a thorough audit of our student enrollment and align it to the staffing projections that will impact academic and non-academic success for our students. [Click here](#) to view presentation.

Dr. Hawkins - thank you.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS #1: Electronic Participation

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol

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Virtual Public Comment Information:

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- They can also call in to speak during public comments time at **734-221-1204**

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Dr. Hawkins read the public comments:

1. Judith Blomquist, I live within the boundaries of the Ypsilanti Community Schools, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the director of the Centers for Disease Control today, said about the rapidly rising COVID rates in Michigan and I quote: "The answer to that is to really close things down, to go back to our basics, to go back to where we were last spring, last summer, and to shut things down, to flatten the curve, to decrease contact with one another, to test to the extent that we have available to contact trace."

Since the decision as to keep Elementary schools seems to directly contradict the advice from their director, could you comment as to what specific metrics the Board is basing this decision on? What watermarks, if any, would be used to determine that Elementary schools should be shut down?.

2. Anonymous, With numbers rising and schools having to make classes online due to rising numbers, when is the district going to go remote again? I understand the governor suggested that high school go remote, but some of those high school students have younger siblings. With numbers rising, I find it very unacceptable that the district keeps pushing for in person.

3. Debra Stevens, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, Summer Program sounds great and exciting! I don't think we need to be afraid of using the word "Camp" when promoting it. That term might convey a more positive reaction to attending "summer school". Just because you're having fun doesn't mean you are not learning! We need to encourage as many families as possible to participate.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) March 22, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes 2) personnel matters as per the presented list dated 4/12/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements.

Seeking Board approval of the presented meeting minutes and personnel matters.

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

1) March 22, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes,

[View Minutes for Mar 22, 2021 - March 22, 2021 REGULAR MEETING Agenda | Electronic](#)

2) personnel matters as per the presented list dated 4/12/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements. [Click here to see document.](#)

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

9. ACTION ITEMS: Other

Action: A. Ypsilanti District Library Resolution

Seeking the Board of Education approval to approve the YCS Resolution of support for the Ypsilanti District Library's new building in Superior Township, as presented. [Click here to see the resolution.](#)

Superintendent Zachery-Ross - YDL has been an exceptional partner. People are looking forward to this new facility. Lisa Hoenig, director of YDL joined the meeting. **Ms. Hoenig** - this new library will put everyone in the district within a ten-minute drive to a full service library. We are excited for the resolution because it will show funders that the school district supports us. Thank you.

Dr. Hawkins - Trustee Gainsley was instrumental in putting this resolution together.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the YCS Resolution of support for the Ypsilanti District Library's new building in Superior Township.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

10. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Powerschool Renewal

This is the renewal of the Powerschool license. It is the database that the YCS uses as a student information system. Annually we need to renew the license for PowerSchool SIS Maintenance and Support for 4,228 students at a cost of \$24,480.12. [Click here to see the renewal.](#)

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the annual renewal for Powerschool at the cost of \$24,480.12.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Action, Recognition: B. A Book Donation from Give My Books Worth Approximately \$50,000.00

Ypsilanti Community Schools is grateful for the donation of the books which were graciously shared by a service called Give My Books. Part of their mission is to make sure books get back into the community. The books are intended for the students to utilize in their homes and are theirs to keep. This is an ongoing effort. This community service has been in effect since 2008.

Give My Books previously held in-person book sales in order to get books into the community but because of COVID they've had to cancel those. Photos from past book sales can be seen here: <https://www.jlcbooksale.com/about> (also click on the photo gallery for other pictures) They are currently looking for different ways of getting books into the community. One of those ways is by giving books directly to schools to give to students to keep.

They are giving YCS just under 6,800 books. Buying these books brand new would easily cost close to \$50,000 at an average of \$7 a book. There are all types of books for the students. These books are awesome! YCS is grateful for the support of Give My Books.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a donation of 6,800 books worth about \$50,000.00 from Give My Books service to give to the YCS students to take home with them.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2: Electronic Participation

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

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- 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
- Sheet Collecting Attendance and Comments: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_PublicCommentsCollected

No public comments or calls.

12. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Fields - the ground-breaking for the library was great. Excited about the new library because it is in her neighborhood and she looks forward to going when it opens.

Trustee Goodrich - grateful to the principals to be able to attend some of the meetings that the schools had virtually and being able to be part of the March Literacy Event. Thank you to the WISD for holding the antigen testing event to help keep the community safe.

Superintendent Zachery-Ross - the antigen testing event was a joint district event and each district had to have a representative there. She appreciates the concerns regarding returning back to school and we look at several things: numbers in the county, the athletic antigen testing numbers, and the number of people who are quarantined and positive cases (many people traveled out of the country that were not vaccinated and they would have had to be quarantined). Washtenaw County is at 7.3% so for every 100 people there are 7 who test positive for Covid. A number of counties with higher numbers are still in school (Macomb at 23.7%, Oakland County at 16.5%, Livingston County at 16.8%). The health department is helping us make this determination. We paused for prevention but to also ensure that we have the number of staff we need - it's not just the educators, we have to make sure there

is food service, transportation, and custodial services - that we have enough to safely operate school. We continued with athletics because the sports are outdoors and we are doing antigen testing on all athletes. The numbers didn't justify stopping them but safety is a priority not sports and if the numbers start going up we will pause sports. We will always work with the health department. She and Ms. McCarty spend their days contact tracing. Kindergarten Round-up is starting. April is Arab American Heritage Month, Ramadan starts tonight.

Dr. Hawkins - Thank you for the explanation regarding the decisions about keeping the schools open, shutting them down. The superintendent is an exceptional leader and she has an exceptional team that is behind her and this board supports and trusts every decision she makes. We know she has incredible thought partners around her, that she uses data not only locally but within our schools guided from the governor working with the health department and that she is engaged in these meetings weekly and that the decisions that she has to make are not taken lightly but there is a lot that goes into it. We trust and support the process that the board is engaged in, we are informed every step of the way as it relates to us being remote, in-person and say thank you. We appreciate the comments and we know people are really concerned but that additional data just breaking it down where we are as a state, we know the numbers are high. We see the news but when we look at that comparison by county, we look at the data within the 48197/48198 zip codes and in our schools we have a more comprehensive picture and helps us to understand where we are and what drives the decisions the superintendent makes. Thank you for keeping us informed, for being transparent, and engaging us in the process that everyone can be part of.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Board of Education

Name	Location	Position	New Position Replacement
New Hire			
Harris, Faith	Holmes	Paraprofessional	
Mitchell, Denise	Holmes	Paraprofessional	
Resignations			
		Prepared by Lois Nowling	
		4/16/2021	

Note this list is subject to change. If there are any changes, an updated version will be shared before the board meeting.

Book	Policy Manual
Section	5000 Students
Title	SEAL OF BILITERACY - GRADUATION
Code	po5465
Status	Draft
Adopted	April 26, 2021
Last Revised	

Section A – Purpose

The *Michigan Seal of Biliteracy* was created to recognize high school graduates who exhibit language proficiency in and at least one additional world language. The *Michigan Seal of Biliteracy* may be awarded to any student receiving a high school diploma, a high school certificate of completion or a high school equivalency certificate and who has demonstrated Intermediate High proficiency on acceptable world language assessments. The purpose of the *Michigan Seal of Biliteracy* are as follows:

- To encourage students to study world languages.
- To certify attainment of biliteracy.
- To provide employers with a method of identifying candidates with language and biliteracy skills.
- To provide universities with an additional method to recognize applicants seeking admission.
- To prepare students with 21st century skills.
- To recognize the value of world language and native language instruction in public schools.
- To strengthen intergroup relationships, affirm the value of diversity, and honor the multiple cultures and languages of a community.

Further, the *Michigan Seal of Biliteracy* certifies attainment of a high level of proficiency, sufficient for meaningful use in college and career, by graduating public high school students in one or more languages in addition to English. As a result the Ypsilanti Community Schools shall present the *Michigan Seal of Biliteracy* to each graduating high school student who has attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English.

Section B – Recognition of Achievement

The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy will be affixed to the student’s transcript and diploma.

Section C - Cost of Proficiency Exam

The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy is an optional credential. YCS students who attend YCHS or ACCE will not be responsible for paying the fee for the proficiency exam. These students will have their fees waived.

Virtual Public Comment Information:

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No public comments.

12. OTHER**YCS Subcommittee Meetings**

Dr. Hawkins: Our board of education subcommittee reports and we will have several board members who will be presenting summaries of their subcommittee work and if the board doesn't mind I'll go ahead and kick us off. First I'll read from the policy subcommittee and as I said earlier Trustee Schindler is the chair of that committee and Trustee Champagne and I also sit on that committee and the summary of the work is as follows for what we've been doing and these are notes from the chair Trustee Schindler: The policy committee has been privileged to work with a committed and creative group of YCS teachers and administrators to bring the Seal of Biliteracy to our students who qualify. The Seal of Biliteracy recognizes facility in two or more languages and we'll go hand in hand with a new world language teaching initiative that is going to be phased in it YCS as that happens though the working group will be asking the board to pass the policy which we just did to be placed on the diploma of qualifying students as early as this year. Ypsilanti is an international community and this seal is a fantastic way to recognize the dedication and intelligence of our multilingual students. The policy committee supports this work and we are glad to see this Seal of Biliteracy come to our community. Next another report from Trustee Schindler who serves on the Sex Education Advisory Board shared that the Sex Education Advisory Board is going to present at one of the boards May meetings to ask the board to approve a slate of updated sex education curriculum materials and to give us an update on the YCS sex and program. The committee is composed of health professionals, parents, clergy, YCS teachers and administrators, and board of education member and it is a very dedicated and knowledgeable group. The materials have been reviewed by the committee and are informational, timely, and in compliance with state law. And lastly the other committee that Trustee Schindler serves on is the Coordinated School Health Team committee and the health team hasn't met lately she shares that she's aware of and the last time they met was in January. Next I will share the work of the District Turnaround Network Committee also known as MICIP this as of this year and this committee the focus of this particular year what we do as far as the DTN is really to help the administration to assist the board with its responsibilities for the organization's mission, vision, and strategic direction by analyzing the internal and external environments. The DTN helps the board identify risk, challenges, and opportunities and as board members who serve on this committee our role is really to listen, provide input, and engage in two-way communication to advance the educational goals of Ypsilanti Community Schools. So this past Wednesday on April 21st we met as they as a group to hear about the MICIP and the SEL process and really the meeting was just to get the group familiarized with the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process which is what MICIP stands for to dive a little bit deeper into the data and to inform the work of our District Network team as we develop our plan for continuous improvement. We will meet quite a few times between now and June as a group and we want to make sure that everything that we discuss we document and it can be shared with the MICIP leadership team so that we can ensure that all voices are heard and that everything we share and discuss is embedded into the district Social Emotional Learning (SEL) plan MICIP work that will be submitted ultimately on June 30th, 2021. The committee is comprised of students, parents, YCS staff, and board of education members. We will meet five times this year from April to June 2021. Some of our norms and protocols as far as the meeting goes Dr. Lopez's instrumental in making sure that we have the agenda, presentation materials, and expectations are clear for what our role is as board members as part of our work on this subcommittee and I just want to note that our role is not to make decisions but to engage in dialogue on matters for the committee to consider that will inform the work of the district and just to also note that MICIP represents a mindset, a process, and a platform so that's really what is going to kind of drive our work and really looking at student outcomes and assessing the whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funds and then lastly the top priority focus for this year is really to substantially improve the quality of teaching and learning of both the teacher and the student thereby significantly advancing the learning for all YCS students and this was shared by Dr. Lopez and our goal is to create and cultivate culturally responsive and intellectually safe classrooms that humanize learning for all students by bringing learning to life using minds on strategies like daily dialogue, inquiry, and respect for students' minds which cultivates the genius within each student through the right level of rigor and support. We meet again this Wednesday on the 28th, we meet on May 12th, May 19th, and June 2nd.

Trustee Goodrich: I just have a couple of reports to share from earlier this year just to get caught up. As a delegate to the Legislative Relations Network I just wanted to briefly catch everyone up on Vice President Lee and I were able to attend the legislative coffee but took place back on January 25th and of the state and federal legislators representing constituents at our district congresswoman Debbie Dingle and state senator Jeff Irwin participated. Most of the discussion at that time was around vaccination and dispersive models for COVID funds. Much has happened since then and Superintendent Zachary-Ross keeps us well updated on the legislative progress both at the State and national levels but I wanted to highlighted the next legislative coffee is scheduled for May 17th 7:30 a.m. so of course everyone is welcome to attend that but I also just wanted to say I would welcome any feedback from any of the board on questions and issues that you'd like addressed or the kinds of information you would like to get back from these sessions. The second report I wanted to make was from the communication subcommittee and again this one is from a while ago but on January 28th Trustee Fields, Trustee Gainsley, and I attended the communications subcommittee meeting together with the core team of cabinet and administrators including it that meeting, Taryn Willis, Jerilyn Lynn, and Cory Gildersleeve. We discussed messaging and outreach efforts to ensure that our community is connected with all the things that are district has to offer and similar to the MICIP work, where they're really in a advisory role and to help facilitate two way communication. The efforts that we discussed include events like the April 21st town hall with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and other initiatives of the in progress Boots on the Ground campaign and just as an aside I wanted to say that I was privileged to be able to attend the Boots on the Ground community meeting.

Trustee Gainsley: I could offer a very brief update from the finance and operations committee. We met last month and the finance operations committee primarily talked about some of the effort funding that has come through the federal government through to the schools. This is going to be a large discussion that you're probably going to be hearing a lot about. I know I got text messages today from advocacy groups that had something to say about it. The state has is still in the process of the allocating a lot of those dollars and the federal government is also in the process particularly for the most recent bill is in the process of drafting the precise rules on how the funding is going to get allocated, what the restrictions are for using it but we do know is that there's quite a lot of money that's going to be coming into education. It's an incredible opportunity to make some important investments in our schools but there are limitations and how we use it and so we're waiting to hear exactly what those limitations are before forming a plan. The other important thing for the public to know is that particularly the largest allocation which is the most recent one does require a fairly robust public process and so we are going to be reaching out to the public talking about what kind of investments we want to make in our schools and so I just want to kind of give a heads up that is coming since you folks may be hearing about those funds in the news. We are going to be inviting the community in to have a conversation about what kind of investments they would like to see.

Vice President Lee: Regarding the preschool. Unfortunately I have not spoken with her since January but I did reach out and she did send me a report. Back in February, they were getting the preschoolers ready to return to in person so now she's reporting that Beatty has 80 in-person students and 42 students online. The online only students participate in a large group time with their in-person classmates each day. Beatty, Ford, and Perry are holding monthly parent meetings and they are held in all YCS preschool parent meeting each month. The next meeting is April 29th at 3:30 which I do plan on attending. For the YCS foundation, I wasn't able to make this month which was on the 13th but I do know they were in the process of creating an application for members to join. They're looking for members. I did reach out to Kathy Bill but she didn't respond and I was waiting for her to respond to see if they have any applicants yet. Cuz they are in the process of looking for applicants so I still don't know that much about that yet so I am planning on meeting with them next month. It is the first Tuesday of the month every month for their meetings.

13. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Dr. Hawkins: Thank you and congratulations, Superintendent Zachery-Ross

Superintendent Zachery-Ross: We are stronger together. We are here to support each other. Thank you for your support, well-wishes, patience, and encouragement.

14. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Adjourned at 8:01