

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, December 12, 2022)

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

Members absent

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

3. 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, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

4. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. Ypsilanti Community Middle School Points of Pride

The YCS Board of Education is excited to share wonderful things that are happening in our schools by reading our school's points of pride. Today's school is Ypsilanti Community Middle School.

Click [here](#) to view the points of pride.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS #1

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.

No public comments.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Seeking Board approval of the presented meeting minutes and personnel matters; see attachments below.

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) November 7, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes 2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 12/05/22; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements.

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

1) November 7, 2022, Regular Board Meeting [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 12/05/22; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

7. ACTION ITEM: Student Affairs

Action, Procedural: A. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: YCMS and YC2S 8th Grade Overnight Trip to Chicago IL.

This proposal comes from Turquoise Neal, YCMS Principal and Kier Ingraham, YC2S Principal. Students will have hands-on interaction with history, science & landmarks at the Field Museum of Natural History, Museum of Science & Industry, Willis Tower, Shedd Aquarium, Navy Pier, and Adler Planetarium.

Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

Vice President Lee: Will there be fundraisers?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Principal Ingraham wanted to know if the field trip would be approved so that they could start doing fundraisers.

Vice President Lee: If the student can't raise all the money, can they not go?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: They can pay on it through June. Not everyone will be able to go if they can't do the fundraising.

Dr. Hawkins: Will anything come back to the board asking to support the funds if they are close near the time of the trip?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: It is the same cost as previous 8th grade trips. There is financial aid. Not everyone will be able to go.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the overnight field trip of the Ypsilanti Community Middle School and Ypsilanti Community Connected School 8th graders to Chicago, IL. in May 2023.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

8. ACTION ITEM: Business and Finance

Action: A. Acceptance of the Cat Paw School of Grappling at Chapelle Lease

The Cat Paw School of Grappling would like to become a tenant at Chapelle.

Click [here](#) to view the lease.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the Cat Paw School of Grappling at Chapelle Lease

Motion by Meredith Schindler, second by Maria Goodrich.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

9. ACTION ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Approval of Communication and Marketing Coordinator Contract

The presented Communication and Marketing Coordinator Contract is provided for Board review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Leslie Davis.

Trustee Goodrich: Thank you for the opportunity to be on the interviewing committee and I am very excited for the outcome of the process.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Communication and Marketing Coordinator Contract of Leslie Davis with the commencement date of November 28, 2022.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Maria Goodrich.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

Leslie Davis: Thank you for the kind words and I look forward to getting to work.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol | [Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 0167.3](#)

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

No public comments.

11. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. Request for Closed Session: Section 8(a) OMA, Personnel Evaluation of Superintendent

Mary Kerwin, Facilitator, Senior Consultant, Michigan Association of School Boards will conduct an evaluation in closed session of the Superintendent.

...MOVE that the Board of Education convene in closed session under Section 8(a) of the OMA to consider a personnel evaluation of the Superintendent.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

The board went into closed session at 6:53 p.m.

12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Procedural: A. Reconvene to Open Session

The board returned to open session at 8:17 p.m.

13. ACTION ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Adoption of Superintendent's Evaluation

The Board of Education conducts an evaluation of the superintendent every year and will discuss the outcome

Move that Board of Education adopt the annual evaluation of Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross.

...MOVE that the Board of Education adopt the personnel evaluation of Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

14. STRATEGIC PLANNING/MONITORING/EVALUATING: Mary Kerwin, Facilitator | Senior Consultant, Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB)

Discussion: A. Board Self Evaluation/Superintendent Progress Monitoring

The YCS Board of Education engages quarterly in progress monitoring of the Superintendent. They also provide an opportunity to self-assess. The Board, facilitated by MASB Consultant, Mary Kerwin, will participate in a progress monitoring and self-evaluation workshop.

- Mary Kerwin:**
1. The board uses a two-way communication process with the superintendent whereby neither the board nor the Superintendent is surprised at meetings. - 4
 2. The board ensures that a systematic program is maintained by the staff to orient newly elected or appointed board members to their duties and responsibilities as well as to acquaint them with Board policies and operation procedures. - 4
 3. The board operates according to written policies that are updated on a regular basis. - 4
 4. When policy is adopted, both Board and staff adhere to it. - 4
 5. The board acts as a policy-making and governance body. The Superintendent is held responsible for administration and evaluation of school programs. - 4
 6. Before making a decision on any matter (other than the Superintendent's contract), the Board allows the Superintendent ample opportunity to develop staff recommendations for action. - 4
 7. The board does not respond to emotional pressure and does not write "instant policy." It provides the Superintendent with an opportunity develop policy proposals. - 4
 8. The board understands and uses rules of order to conduct its meetings. - 4
 9. Board members arrive at meetings prepared to contribute to discussions and do not waste valuable meeting time requesting information that has already been provided. - 4
 10. Board members are representatives of the entire community, not just of special interest groups, and are committed to public school welfare. - 3.5 (Lee says a 3 because of the resolution on transportation mileage)
 11. When citizen and special interest group recommendations are considered, the Board explains its position and the reasons which may prevent it from implementing all recommendations. - 4
 12. The Board and Superintendent work well together in a spirit of mutual confidence. The Board respects the daily executive responsibility of the Superintendent and the Superintendent respects the governance responsibility of the Board. - 4
 13. In cooperation with the Superintendent, the Board has received a set of criteria in goals, which are monitored for progress during the course of the year. - 4
 14. Fairness and diligence are used by the Board in the Superintendent evaluation process. - 4
 15. Official actions of Board members concern the welfare of the school system only. No Board member uses her office for patronage, personal profit, or advancement. - 4
 16. Only the entire Board can decide a course of action. Board members are careful to speak publicly on issues only as individuals. - 4
 17. Major responsibilities of the Board include establishing priorities and ensuring SMART goals are in place so that the priorities are clear and tracked. - 4
- The board discussed what the board does well. The board discussed areas of improvement.

Discussion: B. Pre-Organizational Meeting Discussion

In the January meeting, three members will take the oath of office. The meeting is also the time to elect officers. To avoid surprises, a discussion of interest in offices was held.

Treasurer: Dr. Hawkins will check with Trustee Gainsley

Secretary: Trustee Goodrich would like to continue.

Vice President: Trustee Lee would like to continue.

President: Dr. Hawkins would like to continue.

The board had a discussion about things they were grateful for from this past year and things they are looking forward to in this upcoming year.

15. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Townsend: Thank you to everyone who helped with the election. Glad to have been able to make the journey with Trustee Schindler and Trustee Lee. Thank you to ACCE for the wonderful Thanksgiving luncheon and to the ACCE student and high school student who came out on election day and handed out literature. Attended the groundbreaking for the housing development that will be coming to the city. Attended a JV and Varsity girls' basketball game and am very excited about the YCS athletic department. Excited that there is forward movement on creating a PTO at the middle school. The initial meeting will be on December 14th.

Trustee Goodrich: Excited about the PTO at the middle school. Thank you to everyone who participated in the MASB Priority setting survey. We can't let our legislators forget.

Dr. Hawkins: An honor to support the Esatbrook Friendsgiving. Excited that Pretty Brown Girls has launched at Estabrook, Holmes, and the middle school. There will be a tribute held for Mayor Lois Richardson for all she has done in the community on Thursday, December 15 from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Thompsons and Co. I hope everyone has a wonderful, restful, and joyous holiday.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Thank you for all your support and comments, Board, and for everything during the evaluation. Mary, thank you for your support. I always learn from you. Thank you, Julie, during the process. You being the executive assistant is very important. Thank you, team. Erickson Junior Robotics team for winning the gigawatt award. They won first place in Canton. ACCE recorded a podcast for Elevation Youth Corp. RCTC is going above and beyond and still taking holiday orders. Please support them. We wish you happy holiday. You will be amazed at everything that is happening at all the buildings. There's a concert coming up. There are some fun things going on. We want you to join us. Please have a safe holiday. If you are sick, please stay home. We want everyone to be safe. Read and practice math. Learn something new.

16. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.