

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, October 10, 2022)

Members present

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

Meeting called to order at 6:33 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 Meredith Schindler, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

4. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. Holmes Elementary 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 Holmes Elementary School.

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

Principal Greg Anglin, staff - Jamie LaGoe and Debbie Swanson, and 3 students - 4th grader Kathy Runt, 5th grader Oryah Carter and 5th grader Paris Lewis read the points of pride.

Recognition: B. 2022-23 Member of the Michigan Teacher Leadership Collaborative

Michigan Teacher Leadership Collaborative Names 20 Highly Effective, Equity-Focused Educators From Across the State to its 2022-23 Cohort and Ypsilanti Community Schools is the home of one of those teachers, Rhoshawda Miller of Perry Early Learning Center & Erickson Elementary. The Education Trust-Midwest and Teach Plus have named twenty equity-focused educators from around Michigan as members of its highly selective teacher leadership collaborative where educators will share their expertise around equity-focused instructional practices, deepen their knowledge of education policy, and gain a voice in decisions that affect historically underserved students and the teaching profession.

Congratulations to Ms. Miller for this distinguished honor. You make Ypsilanti Community Schools and Perry Early Learning Center and Erickson Elementary School proud!

Recognition: C. National Custodial Day - October 2nd

National Custodian Day is commemorated every year on October 2nd.

Custodians are the people who keep schools and workplaces clean and running smoothly, and they work very hard to do so, so they certainly deserve a day in their honor. Custodial work can be a tireless and thankless job, leading to custodians often being overlooked and not getting the recognition they deserve.

The origins of this unofficial holiday are unknown, although the day was added to The Chase Calendar of Events in 1995/96, but has become more widely recognized and celebrated in recent years. Someone recognized the need to create a day that celebrates the work of custodians, who keep buildings, businesses, and schools well maintained, often working long night shifts and performing physically demanding tasks. Since we don't always see them at work, it is easy to forget that real people are keeping our workspace clean when we're not there. This day serves as a reminder to everyone that custodians everywhere need to be appreciated.

2019 saw the start of the global coronavirus pandemic, COVID-19. Custodians' jobs became more important than ever at this point, needing to be extra diligent in keeping public spaces safely sanitized. This only highlighted how essential custodians are in our day-to-day lives.

Custodians might also be known to many as Janitors or Caretakers, particularly in schools. Their role is diverse and they do so much more than just clean, they also perform building maintenance and fix anything that is broken. Without them, buildings would fall in disarray, people wouldn't be able to do their jobs and students wouldn't have a good, safe, and clean learning environment.

Custodial work is often looked down on, but they are the oil that keeps the machine running.

To show appreciation for the custodians at work or school, make sure that you are tidy and keep your workplace as clean as possible, to make the custodians' job no harder than it has to be. Let National Custodian Day be a reminder to pay more attention to the little details around, the well-stocked bathroom and organized break room cupboards, and remember someone has done that for you.

At Ypsilanti Community Schools we honor, respect, and value our custodial staff. Thank you for all that you do for our students, staff, and community!

Recognition: D. National School Bus Safety Week - October 17-21

National School Bus Safety Week is October 17 - 21.

Held during the third full week of October each year, National School Bus Safety Week is an active and evolving public education program and an excellent way for parents, students, teachers, motorists, school bus operators, school administrators, and other interested parties - to join forces and address the importance of school bus safety. Designed to promote school bus safety, school districts throughout the country observe School Bus Safety Week.

At Ypsilanti Community Schools we honor, respect, and value our transportation staff. Thank you for all that you do for our students, staff, and community!

Recognition: E. October is Recognized as National Principals Month
Celebrating the principalship nationwide

National Principals Month Each October, National Principals Month recognizes the essential role that principals play in making a school great.

Principals are among the hardest working, yet often least recognized individuals in education. Principals set the academic tone for their schools, and it is their vision, dedication, and determination that provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success. Each October, NASSP, NAESP, and AFSA seek to honor these unsung heroes for their tireless efforts in pursuit of excellence in education.

National Principals Month is a widely recognized celebration of the principalship, marked by national and state resolutions supporting the event, as well as acknowledgments from U.S. Senators and Representatives, and top government officials. However, the most important National Principals Month celebrations are the ones that take place in schools and communities across the country.

At Ypsilanti Community Schools we honor, respect, and value our Building Administrators. Thank you for all that you do for our students, staff, and community!

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

5. ACTION ITEM: OTHER

Action: A. Acceptance of National Principals Month Resolution

Seeking the Board of Education approval to approve the National Principals Month Resolution, as presented.

Trustee Townsend read the resolution.

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the National Principals Month Resolution as presented.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

6. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Presentation of 2021-22 Financial Audit Report: Yeo and Yeo

Ypsilanti Community Schools Director of Business Services and Finance, Priya Nayak, has been working with the District's auditors to complete the 2021-22 Financial Audit. Members from Yeo and Yeo will give an overview presentation to the Board.

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

Timothy Crosson, Jr. from Yeo and Yeo made a presentation to the board.

Presentation: B. 98c Learning Loss Prevention Plan

The Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Carlos Lopez, will present on the district's 98c Learning Loss Prevention Plan.

[Click here](#) to view the learning loss plan.

[Click here](#) to view the learning loss presentation.

Presentation: C. Annual 2022 Facilities Update

This is the Annual 2022 Facilities Update presentation presented by Ypsilanti Community Schools' Director of District Operations, Mr. Aaron Rose.

[Click here](#) to view the facilities presentation.

Trustee Gainsley: Pool timeline? **Rose:** Demolish starts on October 17th with a three-week demo. After that, we will start reconstruction so we are hoping for the spring of 2023.

Trustee Townsend: Can the sinking fund be renewed? **Rose:** Yes. We have a plan to go back to the voters after the 10 years to hopefully renew it. **Trustee Townsend:** There are before and after photos of all the project? **Rose:** Absolutely. They are all captured in our shared document to add to the campaign.

Trustee Fields: What do the different colors indict? **Rose:** Some of the 22 buildings that the district owes do not have any instruction going on in them so we need to decide what to do with them.

Dr. Hawkins: Is the work order system working well? **Rose:** Yes. Very well. Thank you.

7. 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.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

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

1) September 26, 2022, Regular Board Meeting [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 10/6/22; New Hires and Resignations.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

9. DISCUSSIONS

Discussion: A. Board of Education Meeting Calendar Discussion

The October 24th meeting would be canceled. There would be one board meeting in November and one in December (that would be the superintendent and board of education evaluations).

Trustee Schindler: The December 5th meeting would move to December 12th.

Trustee Lee: Would the meeting on December 12th be at 5:30 p.m.?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Mary Kerwin just wants the meeting to be the evaluations and no mixing of topics.

Dr. Hawkins: If the board approves the changes, we will look at the topics and move some of them around to other meetings.

Trustee Lee: I'm in agreement.

Dr. Hawkins: We looked at October 24th and realized it was a lot for many of the board to come back from the conference that was all weekend.

All agreed.

Dr. Hawkins: In summary: the October 24th meeting is canceled, the November meeting will be held on November 7th and the December meeting will be held on December 12th which will be the superintendent evaluation and the board self-assessment.

10. ACTION ITEM: Business and Finance

Action, Report: A. 2021-22 Annual Financial Audit Report: Priya Nayak, Director of Business and Finance

Yeo and Yeo, an independent accounting firm has audited our financial statements for the fiscal year 2021-22. The audited financial statements and single audit act compliance report for the year-end June 30, 2022, can be found under our October 10th Regular meeting link on our website after this Board meeting.

Click [here](#) for the Yeo and Yeo letter.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, as audited by an independent firm, Yeo and Yeo.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

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

No public comments.

12. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Fields: Homecoming was nice. Ann Arbor MLive puts out a list for player of the week. This week there is a player from Ypsilanti and you can vote as many times as you want so please vote for our football player, Jeremiah Woods.

Trustee Goodrich: Trustee Townsend and I attended the MASB Region 7 priority-setting legislature meeting on October 3rd at the WISD. Devos backed Let MI Kids Learn initiative is being talked about and they are trying to make legislators and districts aware of the impact it could have. Equity funding, competition between districts for staff and how disruptive that is and how to work to solve it with more equitable pay and increasing the pipeline.

Trustee Townsend: Washtenaw Area School Board executive meeting on October 6th at the WISD. Discussed being proactive regarding what all of the districts need. PDs on advocacy training. Calendar for legislative breakfasts, working on by-laws. Advocate for teacher shortages throughout the county, enrollment, and proper equity of funding. Homecoming was great. Also, celebrated my 30th reunion all weekend long.

Trustee Schindler: Since we don't have another meeting before the election, is the district planning on putting something on social media about the ballot initiative for the mileage? **Trustee Townsend:** It is in the newsletter. **Dr. Zachery-Ross:** We will put a post on social media.

Trustee Gainsley: Thank you to Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Zachery-Ross for having the students from Holmes here at the meeting today.

Dr. Hawkins: Incident scholars are at EMU tomorrow, a program where students can apply for scholarships and college on the spot, Washtenaw County Commissioners forum being held from 6-8 p.m. at LRC building on Thursday, Townhall for candidates at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow night, Homecoming and the football game were great.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Whole new staff (including a new AD and new band director) at the high school, with homecoming and all the things they had to do and they pulled it off. Spirit week was all week in all the buildings. We helped with the library book move supporting the libraries with our transportation and facilities departments. Ypsilanti Youth Orchestra membership has increased by 900% increase. Cognia will present the award on November 7th at the board meeting.

Dr. Hawkins: A beloved secretary, Sandy Wilkinson, at the WISD has passed and there are opportunities to express your sympathy to her family and the WISD family. Dr. Harris-Hugan lost two very important people in her life over the week. Thank you for considering the calendar changes.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.