

This meeting was held via remote/electronic participation in accordance with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-15 (COVID-19). The Technology Department navigated Public Comments by a phone line and a Google Doc; instructions were included in the Board packet.

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, March 23, 2020

The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Celeste Hawkins at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by President Hawkins.

President Hawkins stated "all meeting votes" would be called by "roll call".

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT

President Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Vice-President Brenda Meadows, Secretary Sharon Lee, Treasurer Gillian Gainsley, Trustee Ellen Champagne, Trustee Meredith Schindler, Trustee Maria Sheler-Edwards

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT: None

ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Michigan Association of School Boards recently acknowledged the accomplishments of the following Board of Education members: 1) Sharon Lee, Secretary: Achieving the Advocacy Skills Specialty; 2) Brenda Meadows, Vice-President: Achieving the Award of Distinction, and; 3) Maria Sheler-Edwards, Trustee: Achieving the Master Board Member Award. We thank these Board members for use of their valuable time to improve their leadership effectiveness by completing Board development courses.

ACCEPTANCE OF "AMENDED" AGENDA: Accepted as Amended, including amended Human Resources list (new list is "Rev 3/23/20"; see Consent Agenda below).

Motion by Schindler, supported by Lee

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

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

PRESENTATIONS

Wireless Network Equipment Bid | E-Rate: Director of Technology Nik Jackson presented information on shared information on the wireless network equipment bid, which is aligned to the Sinking Fund plan. This project is intended to replace the aging wireless infrastructure in the District and will allow for greater bandwidth and wireless coverage for our classrooms in support of teaching/learning. After conducting thorough evaluation of bids received and District needs, a recommendation was made that the purchase be awarded to Sentinel Technologies Inc. for the amount of \$322,215.35.

PUBLIC COMMENTS #1:

Liz Dale commented on the March 10, 2020 primary election held on a school day.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION TO approve the: 1) March 9, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes; 2) March 9, 2020 Closed Session Meeting Minutes, #1; 3) March 9, 2020 Closed Session Minutes #2, and; 4)

personnel matters as per the AMENDED attached list dated March 23, 2020: New Hire & Resignations.

Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

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

ACTION ITEMS, Student Affairs

Grant Award/MOU | YCHS Boys Track & Field: American Dairy Association of Michigan, DBA UDIM (Chocolate Milk: Nature's Sports Drink Grant/MOU)

MOTION TO accept a \$2,000 grant award, approving the MOU regarding the same from the American Dairy Association of Michigan DBA: UDIM, on behalf of Ypsilanti Community High School Boys Track & Field, for the "Chocolate Milk: Nature's Sports Drink Grant".

Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

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

Topics Included: Conversation on "chocolate" milk and/or purchasing a refrigerator.

ACTION ITEMS, Business/Finance

RFP Recommendation: Wireless Network Equipment Bid | E-Rate

MOTION TO award, as presented, the conditional purchase agreement with Sentinel Technologies Inc. to purchase up to \$322,216 of wireless network equipment, contingent upon E-Rate funding.

Motion by Lee, supported by Meadows

Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS #2:

Ryan McCarty commented on the primary election while classes were held. *Michelle Shier* commented on distribution and access of devices to students and support for students who may not be able to participate online.

OTHER | BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

- Update: Food Distribution
- *Schindler* and *Champagne* spoke of the November election and a possibility of closing schools.
- *Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross* responded to *Schindler's* inquiry: the March election was missed by the calendar committee; this year, we were unable to change the calendar. Typically in November there is no school.
- *Schindler* spoke of collective bargaining and not scheduling school on election days.
- *Zachery-Ross* spoke of Board approval and planning for the future. Comments on having "all eyes on" when a calendar is being planned.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:09 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by: Paula Gutzman

Date Approved: 5.4.2020



Sharon Lee, Secretary
Board of Education
Ypsilanti Community Schools