

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, January 23, 2023)

Members present

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

Meeting called to order at 6:36 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. ACHIEVEMENT, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Procedural: A. Honorary Swearing in of Board Members

The Ypsilanti Board of Education is honored to have the Honorable Judge Erane Washington preside over the honorary swearing-in ceremony for our trustees who were voted into office in November. The trustees are: Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, and Jeanice Townsend.

Presentation, Recognition: B. January is Board Appreciation Month

YCS would like to recognize January School Board Member Appreciation month. Thank you school board members for serving the children in our community!

Click [here](#) to view the YCS Board Recognition Month resolution.

Dr. Zachery-Ross read the resolution and gifts were presented to the board members.

Presentation: C. YCS MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of YCS is to develop mindful, engaged students with the skill set, work ethic, and attitude to contribute to a community that honors diversity, equality and justice.

Dr. Zachery-Ross read the mission statement and let the public know that the board has been working with MASB to update it.

Recognition: D. ACCE Points of Pride

The YCS Board of Education is excited to share wonderful things that are happening in our schools by inviting our schools to share their points of pride. Today's school is ACCE. Welcome, ACCE students!

Click [here](#) to view A.C.C.E. points of pride.

Principal Davis and a number of A.C.C.E. students presented their points of pride. There were many A.C.C.E. students, staff, and parents in the audience.

4. PRESENTATION

Presentation: CTE and SkillsUSA Presentation

Makyla Bevele in an outstanding student, young professional and SkillsUSA Michigan State Officer. Madam Historian Bevele was elected by hundreds of SkillsUSA Michigan students last April at the SkillsUSA Michigan Leadership and Skills Conference. She traveled to Washington DC in September to participate in the SkillsUSA Washington Leadership and Training Institute along with the 6 other state officers from Michigan.

-SkillsUSA offers advanced training for students that focuses on professionalism, communication and leadership skills. This training allows members the opportunity to share their SkillsUSA and career and technical experiences with elected officials. WLTI activities included:

- Congressional visits. Madam Historian Bevele and her state officer team met directly with Sen Debbie Stabenow and other house and senate staff.

- Toured Washington D.C., including monuments.

- Laid of a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Makyla Bevele presented.

Bill Burnette acknowledged the work that Chef Aaron Gaertner is doing with and for the students. February is CTE (Career Technical Education) month. We are trying to get a cosmetology program next year. 86 students who attend these programs, 35 in auto mechanics, 24 in collision, and 27 in culinary. We also have students from Lincoln.

5. 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 Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

6. 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.

Charlotte Tiller: The Union appreciates the board. Gave gifts to the board.

Tad Wysor: president of Ypsilanti Township, MOU about Cheney School property, the community/rec. center discussion

Michael McVey: president of the Saline Area Schools Board of Education, **Christian Free,** Milan School Board members, Washtenaw Association of School Boards, their annual meeting in March, the legislative coffee three times a year. Trustee Townsend is an officer on the board and Trustee Goodrich makes the coffees frequently.

Greg Dill: Washtenaw County administrator, Cheney site, the discussion will include the community, their board has committed \$7 million for this project. Debbie Dingall, through her efforts has made another \$3 million available through the federal government - very committed to the 48198 zip code. Thank you, Dr. Hawkins and Dr. Zachery-Ross for being great partners. **Carolyn Sanders,** vice president of their board, - help YCS with historic debt by purchasing this property, this dream has been languishing for a long time, we are ready to do the work.

7. ELECTION OF ACTING CHAIRPERSON & APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY SECRETARY

Action, Discussion, Procedural: A. Acting Chairperson Nomination

... MOVE TO nominate Dr. Zachery-Ross to serve as acting chairperson for this Organizational Meeting.

Motion by Dr Celeste Hawkins, 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

Procedural: B. Temporary Secretary Appointment

Appointed Julie Haines as acting secretary.

8. BOARD ORGANIZATION

Action, Discussion, Procedural: A. Nomination & Election of BOARD OFFICERS

Verbal nominations for candidates for each of the four offices will be solicited one at a time. Nominations for office do not require seconds. Once all officers have been elected, the newly elected president should preside over the meeting.

If more than one person is nominated for single office, a majority vote should be used to identify the majority candidate for that position. If only one Board member is nominated for an office, the president or person presiding over the meeting shall seek a motion to elect that member by acclamation. The election of officers shall proceed in sequence until all officers are elected.

#1: President

#2: Vice-President

#3: Secretary

#4: Treasurer

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

The following Board members expressed interest in serving as President:

Dr. Celeste Hawkins

MOTION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT: I nominate Dr. Celeste Hawkins to serve as president until the 2024 Organizational Meeting

Motion by Trustee Goodrich, supported by Trustee Schindler

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend

VICE-PRESIDENT

The following Board members expressed interest in serving as Vice-President:

Trustee Sharon Lee

MOTION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT: I nominate Trustee Lee to serve as vice president until the 2024 Organizational Meeting

Motion by Trustee Gainsley, supported by Trustee Fields

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

SECRETARY

The following Board members expressed interest in serving as Secretary:

Trustee Maria Goodrich

MOTION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SECRETARY: I nominate Trustee Goodrich to serve as secretary until the 2024 Organizational Meeting

Motion by Dr. Hawkins, supported by Trustee Townsend

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Jeanice Townsend

TREASURER

The following Board members expressed interest in serving as Treasurer:

Trustee Gillian Gainsley

MOTION OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF Treasurer: I nominate Trustee Gainsley to serve at treasurer until the 2024 Organizational Meeting

Motion by Vice President Lee, supported by Trustee Goodrich

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Action: B. Appointments of BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS & LIAISONS

Resolution: ...THAT the following appointments of Board representatives be approved and in effect until the next Organizational Meeting in January 2024.

#1: Parliamentarian: Trustee Lee

#2: Head Start Policy Committee: Trustee Lee

#3: Legislative Relations Network (LRN) Designee: Trustee Goodrich

#4: Washtenaw Association of School Boards (WASB) Representative: Trustee Townsend

#6: Ypsilanti Foundation Board Liaison: Trustee Gainsley

#7: Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Convention Delegate & Alternate:

A. Delegate Trustee Fields

B. Alternate Trustee Townsend

#8: Coordinated School Health Team: Trustee Schindler

#9: Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB): Trustee Schindler

The following subcommittees may include 1-3 members, unless noted otherwise:

#1: Policy Subcommittee: Trustee #1 & Chair Trustee Schindler

Trustee #2: Trustee Goodrich

Trustee #3: Trustee Hawkins

#2: Financial & Operational Planning Subcommittee: Trustee #1 & Chair Trustee Gainsley

Trustee #2: Trustee Townsend

Trustee #3: Trustee Hawkins

#3: Strategic & Educational Performance (DTN) Subcommittee: Trustee #1 & Chair Trustee Hawkins

Trustee #2: Trustee Goodrich

Trustee #3: Trustee Lee

#4: Community Relations Subcommittee: Trustee #1 & Chair Trustee Fields

Trustee #2: Trustee Townsend

Trustee #3: Trustee Goodrich

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

9. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) December 12, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes 2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 1/17/23; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements.

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

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

1) December 12, 2022, Regular Board Meeting [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 1/17/23; New Hires, Resignations, and Retirements

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, 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

10. ACTION ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Approval of Director of Finance Contract

The presented Director of Finance Contract is provided for Board review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Damien Butler.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Director of Finance Contract of Damien Butler with the commencement date of January 30, 2023.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, second by Maria Goodrich.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

11. ACTION ITEMS: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MATTERS

Action, Procedural: A. District Compliance Officers Appointment

... MOVE TO designate the following staff to serve as District Compliance Officers:

1) the Assistant Superintendent as 504 Compliance Officer, and;

2) the Director of Human Resources as District Compliance Officer and ADA Coordinator (in compliance with Policy #s 2260.01 & 4123).

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Discussion: B. Board of Education Meeting Schedule Adoption

... TO ADOPT the Board of Education meeting schedule for January 23, 2023 - January 22, 2024.

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

12. ACTION ITEMS: ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: Business Items Review & Approval

Action, Procedural: A. Use of Facsimile Signature Authorization

.... MOVE TO authorize the Director of Business and Finance to file the necessary forms with the appropriately designated banks to use the facsimile signature of the School District Superintendent on check draws of the General Fund, Food Service Fund, Debt Retirement Fund, Payroll Account, Student Activities Fund and Trust Fund.

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

Action, Procedural: B. Execute Contracts and Sign Documents on Behalf of the District Authorization

.... MOVE TO designate, and limit thereto, the following administrators to sign contract and other documents on behalf of the District: Superintendent, or designee, and Director of Business and Finance.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Procedural: C. Bank Account Signatories Authorization

... MOVE TO approve the Board President, Superintendent, Board Treasurer, Director of Business/Finance, and, Finance/Accounting Supervisor as official signatories of bank accounts for the District.

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

Action, Procedural: D. Depository for School District Funds Designation

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education utilize the following financial institutions as depositories for the following funds:

NORMAL OPERATIONS DEPOSITS & WITHDRAWALS:

- 1) Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus (MILAF+),
- 2) Bank of Ann Arbor, and
- 3) Fifth Third Bank

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS PAYING AGENTS:

- 1) Bank of New York,
- 2) Huntington National Bank,
- 3) U.S. Bank, and
- 4) Pacific Western

Motion by Maria Goodrich, 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

Action, Procedural: E. Electronic Transfer Officer (ETO) Designation

... MOVE THAT the Board Treasurer or Director of Business and Finance be appointed as Electronic Transfer Officer (ETO) in accordance with Policy #6144.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Procedural: F. Audit Firm Designation

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education designate Yeo and Yeo as its auditor for the year ending June 30, 2023.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Procedural: G. Legal Counsel Designation

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education authorize the following law firms as legal counsel for the District:

- 1) Thrun Law Firm, PC (retainer), and
- 2) Collins & Blaha PC

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Maria Goodrich.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Procedural: H. Newspaper for Bid Notices & Other Legal Postings Designation

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education designate The Ann Arbor News for bid notices and other legal postings.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Meredith Schindler.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action, Procedural: I. Meeting Posting Responsibilities Designation

... MOVE THAT the Superintendent, or designee, will designate an appropriate, available person to post notices of public meetings.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, 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

13. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Acceptance of Renewal of the iObservation System

iObservation is a web based platform that enhances the teacher and administrator evaluation system paid through the Supporting Educator Excellence and Knowledge (SEEK) grant. This is a renewal as the system has been in place since March of 2022.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accepts the attached quote for renewing the iObservation system.

Motion by Sharon Lee, 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

Action: B. Donation: Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

The Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. have donated approximately 200 coats and boots valued at approximately \$12000 to the Resiliency Center. Thank you, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., from all the students that you are impacting with this donation!

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation from the Men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for approximately \$12000 in winter coats and boots.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: C. Donation: Blue Cross Complete

Blue Cross Complete has donated \$2000 to the Resiliency Center for their holiday celebration. Thank you, Blue Cross Complete, from all the students that you are impacting with this donation!

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation from Blue Cross Complete for \$2000 for the Resiliency Center Holiday Celebration.

Motion by Sharon Lee, 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

Action (Consent): D. Donations: For YCS Events

Seeking Board approval for donations made to Ypsilanti Community Schools for the F.A.C.E. Conference, Back-to-School Bash, and Jazz in the Parking Lot from

- 1.) Chartwells for \$5000
- 2.) McDonald's for \$5000
- 3.) Old National Bank for \$5000
- 4.) Kustom for \$2500
- 5.) Puffer Reds for \$2500
- 6.) DTE for \$1500
- 7.) Washtenaw Community College for \$1500
- 8.) Ann Arbor Transit Authority for \$1000
- 9.) Engage @ EMU for \$1000
- 10.) Honeywell International Inc. for \$1000
- 11.) UM Ginsberg Center for \$1000

Thank you, YCS Supporters, from all the students that you are impacting with this donation!

Resolution: MOVE THAT the Board of Education accepts donations from 1.) Chartwells for \$5000 2.) McDonald's for \$5000 3.) Old National Bank for \$5000 4.) Kustom for \$2500 5.) Puffer Reds for \$2500 6.) DTE for \$1500 7.) Washtenaw Community College for \$1500 8.) Ann Arbor Transit Authority for \$1000 9.) Engage @ EMU for \$1000 10.) Honeywell International Inc. for \$1000 11.) UM Ginsberg Center for \$1000 for YCS Events.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: E. Grant: Ann Area Area Community Foundation Grant

The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation is pleased to present Ypsilanti Community Schools with this grant in the amount of \$55,000.00 in support of Young Men of Purpose for 6th-8th grade young Black males in partnership with Mentor2Youth, WMBK,

WCC, and CLFMI. Thank you, Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation for this very generous gift!

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

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a grant from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation in the amount of \$55,000.00 to support Young Men of Purpose.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

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.

Amanda Smith: Thank you for your service! Thank you, Trustee Gainsley, for your service to YCF.

Taryn Willis: Congratulations to all the reinducted board members. Excited to hear about what is happening with Cheney. Black History Month - Rotary Scholarships, Just a Kid from Ypsilanti event, You Don't Know My Story event. Thank you to everyone that donated to the event series.

15. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Gainsley: Had a meeting of the Finance and Operation Subcommittee to discuss the building usage and compacity and the long-term vision for our buildings.

Trustee Goodrich: Let MI Kids Learn has withdrawn their initiative so that will not be moving forward. Great to see the movement on our priorities.

Vice President Lee: Parents have stepped up to lead the Head Start meetings and they are now running the meeting. The masking requirement has been removed for the Head Start program.

16. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Goodrich: Thank you for the gifts. Wearing the name tags will help increase our visibility.

Trustee Gainsley: It was great to hear from A.C.C.E. Pleased and proud of all the funds Taryn raised. Thank you to the staff, especially the Resiliency Center.

Trustee Townsend: Thank you for the support. Thank you, Taryn Willis, for all the work she has done for Black History Month.

Thank you to Dr. Coscarella. He hustles behind the scenes, pool passes, etc. Thank you to the superintendent and to Julie.

Appreciate teacher's union. Look forward to going to MASB with my new jacket. They know Ypsilanti is in the house.

Trustee Fields: Thank you for the gifts and for being recognized.

Trustee Hawkins: Thank you for all the support. Thank you to the students.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: The gifts means something. This is the board that we wanted. The board has been intentional. The board was recognized through the whole organization - the administration, the union, the students, the staff - the whole organization.

Commend your efforts - congratulate you. It's an honor to serve with you. Look for the whole week of February 13th. Get involved in NAACIP. Make sure you have your emergency information updated on PowerSchool. Make sure we have your active phone number on file. There is supposed to be bad weather on Wednesday and Thursday. Superintendent Norman and I presented on the inequities in the district at the Pres. church on Sun. Thank you so much.

17. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.