

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, October 16, 2023)

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley (arrived at 6:36 p.m.), Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler (arrived between 8:00 p.m.), Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

Meeting called to order at 6:30 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 Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

4. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. Erickson Elementary 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 Erickson Elementary. Click [here](#) to view the presentation.

Recognition: B. 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, and they needed 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: C. National School Bus Safety Week - October 16-20

National School Bus Safety Week is October 16 - 20.

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: D. October is Recognized as National Principal's Month
Celebrating the principalship nationwide



GREAT SCHOOLS HAVE GREAT PRINCIPALS

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 Principal's 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!

5. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Lambert Presentation

Joe DiBenedetto, Megan Wolowiec, and Sierra Steele with Lambert will provide an overview of communications activities taking place throughout the district to help keep the community informed.

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

Presentation: B. Talent Management - Class Sizes, Staffing, and Enrollment - Sue McCarty

YCS Human Resource Director Sue McCarty will present student enrollment and staffing updates to the board.

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

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.

Sarah Condry: issues with transportation and communication about transportation

7. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. Request for Closed Session- Pursuant to Sections 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute

The Board of Education will go into closed session pursuant Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education go into closed session pursuant Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Went into closed session at 7:47 p.m.

8. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Procedural: A. Reconvene to Open Session

The Board of Education will return to Open Session.

Came back into open session at 8:54 p.m.

9. 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) September 11, 2023, Special Board Meeting Minutes 2)

Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 10/10/23; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

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

1) September 11, 2023, Special Board Meeting Minutes

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 10/10/23; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

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

10. ACTION ITEM: Student Affairs

Action: A. Approval for HMH Read 180 Universal Professional Services Proposal

Seeking Board approval of the HMH Read 180 Universal Professional Services proposal for \$34,800.00. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt will provide professional learning for YCS teachers that are using Read 180 and System 44. Read 180 and System 44 are literacy intervention programs designed to support some of our students that need a reading boost. The intervention program is for the YCMS ELA curriculum.

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve, as presented, the HMH Read 180 Universal Professional Services proposal for training for YCMS ELA curriculum for \$34,800.00.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, 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 ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Personnel Matter

The Board will consider a personnel matter.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the employee separation agreement as presented.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Gillian Ream Gainsley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: B. Personnel Matter

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education waive the investigator-client privilege as to the investigation report prepared for the Board by Rehmann Corporate Investigations. The Board's waiver of the investigator-client privilege is strictly limited to the investigation report and its exhibits and does not apply to any other document or circumstance.

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 ITEM: Business and Finance

Action: A. RESOLUTION, School Bond Qualification and Loan Program: Damien Butler, Director of Business/Finance

School districts that participate in the State's school bond loan fund are required to annually determine if they are levying sufficient debt millage to repay the school bond loan program by their final mandatory repayment date. Submission of the enclosed resolution for the former Willow Run Community Schools is required by the Michigan Department of Treasury. Click [here](#) to view the application.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopt the presented resolution to authorize the Annual Loan/Repayment Activity Application for the former Willow Run Community Schools.

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

13. ACTION ITEM: Other

Action: A. Acceptance of National Principal's Month Resolution

Seeking the Board of Education approval to approve the National Principal's Month Resolution, as presented.

Click here to view the resolution.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the National Principal's Month Resolution as presented.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, 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

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.

No comments.

15. DISCUSSIONS

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Goodrich: Legislative Breakfast, she and President Hawkins attended online and Dr. Zachery-Ross and Trustee Townsend attended in person. The promises of debt relief, sharing real numbers, and letting them know how we want them to support us. The next one is January 22nd.

Trustee Fields: a Community Relations Subcommittee meeting - when it is?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Tomorrow.

Vice President Lee: Head Start meeting is tomorrow.

Trustee Gainsley: Financial and Operational Subcommittee met, and we talked about the purchase agreement for the Cheney property, enthusiasm to move forward, there are just a couple questions about some oversights that the team is correcting. A recurring conversation about some of our properties, vacant properties, and the future of some of our buildings, the administration will probably be coming forward with a proposal for this coming up year and for future years. It is mini-grant season for the YC Foundation. Mini-grant applications are being accepted.

16. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Townsend: Thank you for the opportunity to attend the CUBE Conference. It went well. Attended the Billion Dollar Bake Sale to continue to advocate for the debt. Attended the ribbon cutting for the YMCA evening childcare program. Looking forward to attending the MASB conference. And Homecoming is this past weekend.

Dr. Hawkins: The CUBE Conference was a huge conference. Showcased all the great stuff that is happening at YCS.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Excited about the YMCA Grand Opening and our collaboration with them. MASB Board Members are presenting. Homecoming was a great success. This Friday is the Toyota game, it is the Lincoln game. At 6:00 p.m. there will be STEM tables so students can do activities. It is Senior night. Each school will perform. We got the Magnet Grant. It will impact four schools, Ford, Holmes, Middle School, and High School. Federal grant for five years at \$3,000,000 per year. Staff and students to grow.

17. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.