YPSILANTI
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
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*YCS Administration Building, Professional Development Room * 1885 Packard Rd.; Ypsilanti, MI 48197*

MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING/WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, September 20, 2016

The ***Special Meeting*** of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education was called to order by Vice-President Celeste Hawkins at 6:34 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT
Meredith Schindler *(7:10 arrival)*, Maria Sheler-Edwards, Sharon Lee, Celeste Hawkins, Ellen Champagne, Brenda Meadows *(6:51 arrival)*

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT
Sharon Irvine

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Accepted as Presented
Motion by Trustee Sheler-Edwards, supported by Trustee Lee

PUBLIC COMMENTS #1: *None*

CULTURAL PROFICIENCY: Dr. Shayla R. Griffin, Director - The People's Dialogue Project and Rev. Lois Parr, The People's Dialogue Project, facilitated this session: Creating Culturally Proficient Communities - The Ypsilanti Community Schools (YCS) Racial and Economic Justice Project. Conversation included a district-wide intervention as an effort to improve cultural proficiency in YCS, specifically around issues of race and class. Information was presented on Year 4 (2016/17) of the project, including goals.

The work of this "justice and equity" session included discussion on racism and classism, especially within schools. The work of this project is for those who are committed to social justice and particularly those who care about educating the next generation of citizens. Reasons this work is important include: 1) addressing gaps in achievement/discipline that fall along lines of race/class, 2) preparing students to be productive citizens in a diverse, multicultural world, and; 3) interrupting cycles of bias, prejudice, discrimination and inequality.

PUBLIC COMMENTS #2: *None*

BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS
- Vice-President Hawkins commented on having this conversation and starting a dialogue.
- Trustee Meadows commented on injustice.

Board Meeting Adjournment: 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Lee

Sharon Lee, Secretary
Board of Education
Ypsilanti Community Schools

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