

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, February 12, 2024)**Members present**

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

Members absent

Meredith Schindler

Meeting called to order at 6:34 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, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

4. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition: A. Ypsilanti Community Middle 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 Ypsilanti Community Middle School.

Click [here](#) to view the YCMS Points of Pride.

Principal Charles Davis presented with his staff, Nina Harris, Patricia Stevenson-McGee, Christina Warren, Lavell Blanchard, Cheree' Stevenson, Allison DeHaan, Jennifer Bashara, and student Ava.

Vice President Lee: We need to get at the Fun Fridays.

Trustee Townsend: Excited to see what is happening in the middle school. Culture and climate is important. Glad for standards and that the students are meeting them. Applauding everyone at the middle school for overcoming, and it looks like a wonderful place to be. Excited for next year. The work is not in vain.

Dr. Hawkins: A joy to feel the energy and know that is permeating the community, and we are telling our own story. Overjoyed with all that is going on at the middle school and it is a testament to the leadership and all the great teachers that have always been at the middle school.

5. ACTION ITEM: Student Affairs

Action, Procedural: A. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: YCHS/RCTC Culinary, April 12 - 14, 2024 (Grand Rapids)

This proposal comes from Chef Aaron Gaertner, CTE Instructor & ProStart Instructor. Participation in SkillsUSA is mandated by all Michigan Department of Education for all RCTC programs. Students will compete against peers from the State of Michigan and have the opportunity to win prizes and scholarships.

Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the overnight field trip of the Ypsilanti Community High School/Culinary program to Grand Rapids on April 12 - 14, 2024.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: B. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: Ypsilanti Community Middle School, March 20 - 24, 2024 (Atlanta, GA)

Ypsilanti Community Middle School Principal, Charles Davis, submitted a proposal for a class trip to Atlanta, GA for the 50th Annual National Society of Black Engineers completion.

Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the field trip of the Ypsilanti Community Middle School to Atlanta, GA on March 20 - 24, 2024.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

6. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Dual Enrollment Updates Presentation - Dr. Chelsea Harris-Hugan

Ypsilanti Community High School's Career and Technical Education current updates with future planning, grant awards, and partnerships.

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

Dr. Harris-Hugan presented.

Vice President Lee: Do we cover license fees, certificates, etc.?

Dr. Harris-Hugan: For auto repair and collision - yes. Cosmetology - we give them a certificate saying they did the course work and then they take the state test.

Vice President Lee: The money for that test comes out of the student's pocket.

Dr. Harris-Hugan: Yes, but it is our first year.

Trustee Townsend: D3C3, trying to get 100?

Dr. Harris-Hugan: Yes. 100 from our side.

Trustee Townsend: Are we trying to get 15 per semester?

Dr. Harris-Hugan: 15 next semester, 15 or more next semester so we can max out our 100 slots.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: The 200 parents become involved working with Mr. Hugan and Dr. Krah.

Trustee Gainsley: Congratulations on the CTE for the radio and tv broadcasting and I would love to work with the program for interns.

Dr. Hawkins: Doing great things in the high school. Thank you for all the hard work you are doing and the staff and parents.

Presentation: B. Section 98b Presentation - Dr. Carlos Lopez

Dr. Carlos Lopez will present on the Section 98b report to report on midyear student growth and achievements.

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

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

Dr. Lopez presented.

Trustee Townsend: Do we have any data from Concentric?

Dr. Lopez: They have done training and found out how our current community liaisons conduct their visits.

Trustee Townsend: Wants data from Concentric.

Dr. Lopez: I will get that information for you.

Vice President Lee: Reading and math goals? Improve by what percentage?

Dr. Lopez: It is by school. We are working with MDE to reach the goals. We have secured grants and are working to hire staff but it has not been easy to find people.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Each building has its own MICIP plan. They measure it by looking at are they are grade level.

Trustee Goodrich: Absenteeism is a problem, and we are still dealing with a lot of sickness so getting kids in school and keeping everyone safe is a needle we have to thread. Love to get deeper in the data.

Dr. Lopez: We are applying for grants to motivate people to get their students to school. The youngest can't get themselves to school.

Dr. Hawkins: Thank you for this information and it is important to remember in education there is no magic bullet. Have our eyes on the outliers and we will make steady progress.

Dr. Lopez: Thank you to the teachers and the administrators. It is an honor to work here.

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.

Brenda Stumbo: Debt relief has finally been signed. 10 years ago they had truancy issues too and the government put into effect an ordinance and got the sheriff involved, not to punish people but to get the kids back in school. Washtenaw County is the eight most economically segregated community in the country. Residents are asking about relief.

Veronica Bodary: Her son was hit by a car just outside Estabrook. He received follow-up phone calls from staff but never from a social worker and he is special ed. He never got a call from the social worker. Her concern is also safety. There are a lot of walkers and when they are walking it is dark out. Please consider having more crossing guards. Maybe find people who need to get volunteer hours to be crossing guards. A program to keep the babies safe and also to help for mental health for situations like this, reaching out, even if the kids are off (maybe a volunteer). She knows the social workers are over worked, but she asks we just consider what she has said.

Dr. Hawkins: Safety is a top priority for the board and the administration.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) January 22, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes 2)

Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 2/6/24; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

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

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

1) January 22, 2024, Regular Board Meeting [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 2/6/24; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Gillian Ream Gainsley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

9. ACTION ITEMS: Human Resources

Action: A. Approval of Director of Facilities Contract: Sue McCarty, Director of Human Resources

The presented Director of Facilities Contract is provided for Board review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Jonathon Burchwell.

Click [here](#) to view the resume for Mr. Burchwell.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Director of Facilities Contract of Jonathon Burchwell with the commencement date of February 16, 2024.

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

Action: B. Approval of Beatty Early Learning Center Principal Employee Contract: Sue McCarty, Director of Human Resources

The presented Beatty Early Learning Center Principal Employee Contract is provided for the position of the Beatty Early Learning Center Principal for Board review. It is recommended that the Board approve the employment contract of Keynon Atchison.

Click [here](#) to view the resume for Mr. Atchison.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Beatty Early Learning Center Principal Contract of Keynon Atchison with the commencement date of March 4, 2024.

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

10. 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 for the amount of \$27,500.00.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: B. Acceptance of Renewal of the SAM's Project

The National SAMs project is designed to assist our school administrators in scheduling efficiency allowing them to spend more time being instructional leaders. The SAMs project uses a TimeTrack* system to organize an administrator's day. It also provides training to front-line school staff like secretaries to either answer questions or schedule time with the principal. It also covers the cost for building administrators to attend the SAM's national conference. This quote is for the remainder of this school year and the 2024/2025 school year. It covers all building administrators and is paid for through our SEEK grant.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accepts the attached quote for renewing the SAM's Project for the amount of \$96,325.00.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

11. ACTION ITEM: Other

Action: A. Acceptance of Vote for Sharon Lee to the MASB Board of Directors

Sharon Lee is interested in joining the MASB Association's governance board by serving on the Board of Directors. She qualifies for the position because she is a qualified trustee of an Active board of education for at least one year and has completed the Fundamentals of School Board Service course (CBA 101).

We will be voting in this election.

Good luck, Vice President Lee!

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the vote for Sharon Lee to the MASB Board of Directors.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Gillian Ream Gainsley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

12. 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.

13. DISCUSSIONS

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Fields: Working on getting something scheduled for the Community Relations Subcommittee.

Discussion: B. Second Reading of Neola/Thrun Policy Updates - Special Update - November 2023

Re: NEOLA/Thrun of Michigan Local Templates/Policy Updates - Special Update - November 2023

The Board of Education shall adopt bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of this Board and the District. The Policy subcommittee has recently reviewed the following, and has now submitted these to begin the approval process.

14. ACTION ITEM: Neola Policy Updates

Action: A. Adoption of the Thrun Policy Updates

Re: Thrun of Michigan Local Templates/Policy Updates - Special Updates - November 2023

The Board of Education shall adopt bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of this Board and the District. The Policy subcommittee reviewed the Thrun policies and the Board had its first reading at its previous board meeting. The second reading occurred earlier in the meeting, and pending no additional changes or discussion required, the board will consider adopting the policies.

...MOVE THAT the board of education adopt the Thrun policy updates, as presented: Special Update - November 2023.

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

15. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Townsend: Calendar invitations from the WASB: March 14th is the annual meeting at 6:00 p.m. for PD and updates on PARA law changes and AI, it may be at Honeycreek facilities and we will vote in new officers at this meeting. Board of Directors meeting is June 13th. Legislative Coffee is May 20th at 7:30 a.m. in person but also online (will always push for hybrid option) when they will be handing out the MASB awards. Annual budget meeting will be on Zoom on April 18th at 6:00 p.m. Literacy Coalition of Washtenaw County will be hosting a campaign kickoff on March 10th from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. and WCC is the sponsor. Dr. Lopez will be on the panel. Getting our leaders out and partners in the community, trying to increase volunteerism with tutoring etc. to push literacy.

Trustee Fields: Like the videos that Lambert and Dr. Zachery-Ross are creating

Trustee Gainsley: Heartbreaking when students are injured and hurt especially by cars because they are preventable. A dedication to finding ways to prevent those kinds of accidents. Ways to prevent these kinds of accidents is by changing the infrastructure so we could partner with the township to reduce speeds on some of the roads and make physical improvement to those roads. Love to see more crossing guards. Safe Routes to School is a great program. There are grants that people can apply for because it is an important issue.

Trustee Fields: To piggy back off of that, there are other road concerns.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: They are doing a study on crossing guards because we have so few walkers and they are looking at moving the crossing guard on Mansfield but we said no. They have the numbers on the walkers. We advocated for the crossing guard to stay there but we were not aware of the hours which is why we appreciate public comments because it gives us insight. The person who was driving was very remorseful. Even at 25 mph it is a safety issue and we have to keep our students safe.

Trustee Gainsley: No sidewalks in front of WIMA/WIHI on Congress so students are walking in the streets especially with snow. Opportunities to partner with WIMA/WIHI to look at possibilities for that situation.

Dr. Hawkins: Ways, as a board, that we can advocate for more safety. Congrats to Dr. Zachery-Ross on her award. NAAPID day - visited some of the schools. Divine Nine today. Am excited about Black History Month.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: NAAPID Day, schools did different things. Thank you to everyone who came out and to the staff. Thank you for the Divine Nine support. All the students are very excited. We dedicated the playgrounds today. Thank you, Director Rose, for getting the playgrounds in place. The students are so excited. Thank you to all the parents who came out, to the WISD and the Michigan Department of Head Start for the funds to get those playgrounds done. Tomorrow is "Just a Kid from Ypsi" program is happening at the high school so we have a lot of alumni coming out and participating. We are excited about it. So thank you to all involved. Happy Valentine's Day on February 14th and it's Count Day so please come to school. Friday, February 16th is a half day and no school on Monday, February 19th for Winter Break.

Dr. Hawkins: Happy birthday to Vice President Lee.

Vice President Lee: Thank you for your vote.

16. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.