



**WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in Washtenaw ISD's Teaching and Learning Center Board Room at 1819 South Wagner Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Diane Hockett

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

Diane Hockett, President
Mary Jane Tramontin, Vice President
Theresa Saunders, Secretary
Sarena Shivers, Treasurer

The following member was absent:

Steve Olsen, Trustee

Quorum was met.

Also present:

Naomi Norman, Superintendent
Cherie Vannatter, Deputy Superintendent
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent
Edward Manuszak, Executive Director for Early Childhood
Tanner Rowe, Director of Operations
Matthew Cook, Assistant Director of Technology & Data Services
Victoria Westmoreland, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Diane Hockett, seconded by Mary Jane Tramontin, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Theresa Saunders, Sarena Shivers.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There was no public participation.

EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIALOGUE: Superintendent Naomi Norman addressed the Board to introduce Progress Park School's "Portrait of a Learner" project. Superintendent Norman spoke on how the project at hand is supplemental to the school's new vision and mission. Superintendent Norman then asked the Board to weigh in on the project, inquiring about what knowledge, skills, and dispositions they hope Progress Park can instill in students before they return to their local districts. Each Board member that was present gave input and a detailed discussion ensued. After the discussion,

Superintendent Norman announced that Ypsilanti Community Schools Superintendent, Alenna Zachery-Ross, is the recipient of the AASA, The School Superintendents Association’s “Dr. Effie H. Jones Humanitarian Award,” and will be recognized at this year’s national conference. The Board expressed sincere congratulations to Superintendent Zachery-Ross.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Associate Superintendent, Brian Marcel addressed the Board, presenting the November 2023 Financial Report. Associate Superintendent Marcel fielded questions from the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Theresa Saunders, seconded by Mary Jane Tramontin, that the Board of Education approve the minutes and Superintendent’s recommendations in the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Voting yes: Sarena Shivers, Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin, Diane Hockett.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the December 12, 2023 regular and closed session meetings.

054-23-24

The Board approved the following employment recommendations:

- Matthew Cook as the Assistant Director of Technology & Data Services.

055-23-24

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Ashley Kryscynski, Communications & Public Relations Specialist, Salary: Grade 11, Step 7, to Communications & Public Relations Specialist, Salary Grade 12, Step 5.
- Melissa Krzysik, Teacher Assistant ASD, Salary \$30,492.00, to Behavior Teacher Assistant, Salary: \$30,492.00 + 25%.
- Diane Dingman, Teacher Consultant – WAVE, to Teacher Consultant for Visually Impaired Students.
- Robert Plumer, Teacher – YA Carpenter to Teacher Consultant – Jail and Adult Education.
- Kimberly Whiren, Early Childhood Specialist, Salary \$71,340.00, to Early Childhood Coordinator, Salary \$102,277.00.
- Jamall Bufford, Washtenaw MBK Program Specialist, Salary: NA Grade 6, Step 6, to Washtenaw MBK Program Manager, Salary: NA Grade 9, Step 1.
- D’air Mays, Behavior Teacher Assistant to Floater Behavior Teacher Assistant.
- Austin Edwards, Teaching Assistant, Salary: \$39,492.00, Unit I bargaining, to Behavior Specialist-ABT, Salary: \$59, 313.00, Unit II bargaining.
- Kristen DiBlassio, Teacher Assistant at Eberwhite, Salary \$37,166.00, to Behavior Teacher Assistant at Eberwhite, \$37,166.00 + 25%.
- Lauren Zimmerman, Staff Speech and Language Pathologist, 0.5 FTE, 92.5 workdays, to Staff Speech and Language Pathologist, 0.6 FTE, 111 workdays.

056-23-24

The Board approved the following staff resignations:

- Candice Jobe, effective December 8, 2023.

057-23-24

The Board approved the following new position requests:

- CIY General Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Worksite: Youth Detention Center – 4125 Washtenaw Ave. Ann Arbor, MI 48104, Unit II bargaining.
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Data Entry & Reporting Specialist, 1.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Worksite: TLC Building, Non-Affiliated bargaining.
- Orientation and Mobility Specialist, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Worksite: TBD, Unit II bargaining.
- Washtenaw MBK Program Manager, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Worksite: Other, Non-Affiliated bargaining.
- Washtenaw MBK Project Assistant, 1.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Worksite: TLC Building, Non-Affiliated bargaining.

058-23-24

The Board approved the capital funds furniture purchase for the Washtenaw Community College Young Adult program, for a cost not to exceed \$10,639.00, as presented.

059-23-24

The Board approved the capital funds purchase of technology upgrades from TEL Systems in the amount of \$27,687.00, and an additional purchase from another vendor in the amount of \$6,000, for a total cost not to exceed \$33,687.00, as presented.

NEW BUSINESS – Emergency Approval of Beatty Refrigerator and Freezer Repairs: Prior to Board action, Executive Director for Early Childhood Edward Manuszak addressed the Board, providing a background on the repair process and the integral role that these repairs have played in the Beatty Early Learning Center’s functionality.

Motion by Mary Jane Tramontin, seconded by Sarena Shivers, that the Board of Education authorize the emergency repair to the Beatty Early Learning Center Walk-In Cooler and Freezer by Altech for a cost not to exceed \$24,492.68, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Sarena Shivers, Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – High Point Solar Proposal: Prior to Board action, Director of Operations Tanner Rowe addressed the Board, sharing information pertaining to project funding and the district’s history with CMTA as a contractor for the first phase of the High Point solar installation. Mr. Rowe discussed the future energy savings that the investment in a renewable resource will yield. Mr. Rowe fielded questions from the Board.

Motion by Sarena Shivers, seconded by Theresa Saunders, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to utilize 2019 Bond Funds to contract with CMTA for professional electrical engineering services for a cost not to exceed \$41,600.00.

Voting yes: Mary Jane Tramontin, Diane Hockett, Sarena Shivers, Theresa Saunders.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Authorization of Closed Session: The Board of Education requested a closed session under Section 8(a) for the purpose of conducting the Superintendent’s quarterly evaluation.

Motion by Mary Jane Tramontin, seconded by Theresa Saunders, that the Board of Education authorize a closed session under Section 8(a) for the purpose of conducting the Superintendent’s evaluation.

Voting yes: Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin, Diane Hockett, Sarena Shivers.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS: Board of Education President Diane Hockett spoke about the following topics:

- Setting a Date for the Head Start Board Interview.
- Board Member attendance at district-wide and local district events.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – Superintendent’s Report:

Superintendent Naomi Norman spoke about the following:

- Talent Together is officially a consortium and all fifty-six ISDs have chosen to participate.
- A Millage timeline has been developed, along with draft polling questions. Superintendent Norman spoke about the next steps and potential Board member involvement in coming discussions.
- A Washtenaw County Literacy Coalition has been formed, coordinated by Katherine Wyatt of the Washtenaw County Sherriff’s Office. Superintendent Norman pondered about how WISD can be effectively engaged moving forward.
- The Washtenaw My Brother’s Keeper (WMBK) Planning Committee, Director of Instruction, Jennifer Banks, EISJ Specialist, Greg Myers, and Superintendent Norman met to discuss the WMBK vision and how grant funding could be allocated to accelerate the growth of programming.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into recess for closed session at 6:33 p.m. pursuant to Section 8(a) – for the purpose of conducting the Superintendent’s evaluation.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened to open session at 8:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Saunders, Secretary
Washtenaw ISD Board of Education