

This meeting was held via remote/electronic participation in accordance with Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-48 (COVID-19). The Technology Department navigated Public Comments by a phone line and a Google Doc; instructions were included in the Board packet. All meeting votes were called by "roll call".

## **YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

*Administration Building, Professional Development Room \* 1885 Packard Rd.; Ypsilanti, MI 48197*

### **MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Monday, May 4, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by President Dr. Celeste Hawkins at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by President Hawkins.

Please refer to Board packet for details on: A) Electronic Meeting (via Google Hangouts) In Accordance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-48 (COVID-19), and; B) Electronic Meeting Guidelines.

#### **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PRESENT:** Call to Order (All Members Present)

President Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Vice-President Brenda Meadows, Secretary Sharon Lee, Treasurer Gillian Gainsley, Trustee Ellen Champagne, Trustee Meredith Schindler, Trustee Maria Sheler-Edwards

#### **MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ABSENT:** *None*

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**

Congratulations to our Ypsilanti Community High School (YCHS) 11<sup>th</sup> grade student who won the high school category for the 2020 PDNedu Student Photo Contest, a nationwide competition. The photo will be seen on a national platform. YCHS photography teacher Nick Azzaro had submitted the student's photo to the competition. We are Grizzly PROUD!

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF "AMENDED" AGENDA:** The "amended" agenda was accepted as presented.

*Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**CONTINUITY OF LEARNING (COL) PLAN & COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN:** Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carlos Lopez gave an overview of this plan for Board feedback. An approval of this plan is not needed by the Board. Executive Orders (EO) from Gov. Whitmer issued last week require modifications to the current COL. Superintendent Alena Zachery-Ross spoke of specifically, EO 2020-65 requires a modification to the plan to include changes in the Great Start Readiness Program. This plan was a collaborative effort. Moving forward, we will continue to add details over the course of our implementation as we collaborate with staff.

#### **ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICIES & RESOLUTION TO GRANT EMERGENCY POWERS TO SUPERINTENDENT (COVID-19) | Family & Medical Leaves of Absence (FMLA); Resolution to Grant Emergency Powers to Superintendent to Comply with Executive Order 2020-35;**

Superintendent Zachery-Ross shared information on: 1) a legal alert regarding EO 2020-35; 2) a Resolution to Grant Emergency Powers to the Superintendent to Comply with EO 2020-35, and; 3) draft policies #3430.02/Professional Staff Family & Medical Leaves of Absence (EPSLA) and #4430.02 Support Staff Family & Medical Leaves of Absence (EPSLA). Executive Order(s) cause these policies to be amended. The policy committee met with Superintendent Zachery-Ross and

Director of Human Resources Sue McCarty to review and make recommendations. Ms. McCarty clarified the difference between the FMLA & EPSLA.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Annual Audit Services RFP | Bids Received for Services: Director of Business/Finance Priya Nayak provided an overview on the bids and proposals received. April 15, 2020 was the deadline for proposals; four staff members attended the opening of the bids on this date.

Washtenaw ISD Budget Resolution / Support for Budget 2020/21: Director of Business/Finance Priya Nayak shared an overview of this proposed General Fund budget for the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD). Both Superintendent Zachery-Ross and Ms. Nayak attended a WISD presentation on this. A resolution is adopted annually.

Performance Contract Phase 2 Alternate Bid, HVAC: Director of Operations Aaron Rose presented Mr. Rose presented RFP alternates to the Board in March. At that time, he was granted approval to move forward. An approval is being requested so this work can be done concurrently with other projects. These projects are Sinking Fund eligible.

Roofing Project Proposal: Director of Operations Aaron Rose presented information on this next roofing project. A review of bids was done, with consideration including price and warranty. It is recommended to approve the proposal with Tremco for a roofing section at Perry Early Learning Center.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS #1:** *None*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION TO approve the: 1) March 23, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, and: 2) personnel matters as per the attached list.

*Motion by Lee, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/Yes; 0/No*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

### **ACTION ITEMS, Business/Finance**

#### **Grant Award: Washtenaw County Administrator & Board of County Commissioners**

MOTION TO accept a \$30,000 grant from the Washtenaw County Administrator and Board of County Commissioners to support YCS students and families with expanding internet access and other student needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Lee*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

Topics Included: Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carlos Lopez wrote this grant.

#### **Grant Award: Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, James R. & Anita Horne Jenkins Fund**

MOTION TO accept a \$10,000 grant award from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, James R. & Anita Horne Jenkins Fund to support YCS students and families with the purchase of "at home" school supplies for students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

#### **Grant Award: Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation**

MOTION TO accept a \$15,000 grant from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation to support YCS students and families with broadband access and to support the University of Michigan project during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Gainsley, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

Topics Included: This grant will support a U-M project with the Dean of Engineering.

**Donation: Game Above**

MOTION TO accept a \$10,000 donation from donor Game Above to support YCS students and families with providing internet access during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

Topics Included: Game Above is a group of alumni from Eastern Michigan University.

**Donation: Bethel African American Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor**

MOTION TO accept a \$2,000 donation from Bethel African American Episcopal Church, Ann Arbor to support YCS students and families with the purchase of "at home" school supplies, toys, activity books, etc. during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

Topics Included: The church Pastor reached out to YCS, asking what was needed.

**Donation to YCS Foundation: Kana Osaki Greenawalt**

MOTION TO acknowledge a donation from Kana Osaki-Greenawalt in the amount of \$10,000 paid to the Ypsilanti Community Schools Foundation to support YCS students and families with the purchase of Chromebooks and internet access during the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Motion by Sheler-Edwards, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**Donation: Ann Arbor Symphony**

MOTION TO accept a donation of books from the Ann Arbor Symphony, with an estimated value in excess of \$1,000.

*Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**RFP/Bid Recommendation for Annual Audit Services**

MOTION TO award the bid proposal for Annual Audit Services, as presented, to Yeo and Yeo for an amount of \$35,100.

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Gainsley*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**Washtenaw ISD Budget Resolution / Support for Budget, 2020/21**

MOTION TO adopt the "ISD Budget Resolution" | Support for Budget regarding the intermediate school district General Fund budget.

*Motion by Lee, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**Performance Contract Phase 2 Alternate Bid HVAC**

MOTION TO approve all HVAC energy purchase alternatives to Honeywell Inc., as listed as follows: #1: The administrative recommendation is for the Board of Education to award Honeywell Inc. a contract award for Alternate 2 of the YCS Performance Contract Phase 2 for the summer of 2020 in the amount of \$560,000, and; #2: The administrative recommendation is for the Board of Education to award Honeywell Inc. a contract award for Alternate 4 of the YCS Performance Contract Phase 2 for the summer of 2020 in the amount of \$60,000, and; #3: The administrative recommendation is for the Board of Education to award Honeywell Inc. a performance contract for Phase 3 for the summer of 2021 in the amount of \$1,180,000 for a guaranteed annual savings of \$106,330 and a one-time utility rebate savings of \$9,302.

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Lee*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**Roofing Project Proposal**

MOTION TO approve the proposal from Tremco for a 30-year polyurethane restoration of the existing EPDM Perry roofing section, for an amount of \$200,000.

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**ACTION ITEMS, Human Resources**

**RESOLUTION: Staff Appreciation 2020 (amended)**

MOTION TO adopt the Resolution of Recognition proclaiming May 1, 2020 to be School Principal Day and School Lunch Hero Day, May 4-8, 2020 to be Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, and, May 6-12, 2020 to be School Nurse Appreciation Week.

*Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**ACTION ITEMS, Other**

**Board Policy #3430.02 Professional Staff Family & Medical Leaves of Absence**

MOTION TO adopt Board Policy #3430.02, Professional Staff Family & Medical Leaves of Absence ("FMLA"), as presented

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Schindler*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**Board Policy #4430.02 Support Staff Family and Medical Leaves of Absence**

MOTION TO adopt Board Policy #4430.02, Support Staff Family & Medical Leaves of Absence ("FMLA"), as presented

*Motion by Schindler, supported by Meadows*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**RESOLUTION: Grant Emergency Powers to the Superintendent to Comply with Executive Order 2020-35**

MOTION TO adopt the Resolution to Grant Emergency Powers to the Superintendent to Comply with Executive Order 2020-35, as presented

*Motion by Meadows, supported by Lee*

*Roll Call Vote: 7/0 Yes*

*Yes: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins*

**DISCUSSION | District Technology and EBT Card Update:** Superintendent Zachery-Ross and Director of Technology Nik Jackson gave an overview of the District technology rollout. At this time, all buildings had an opportunity to pick up devices. To date, approximately 48% of the population has received a device. Discussion included student login with YCS email accounts; this login provides YCS safety protections.

Superintendent Zachery-Ross provided information on the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) card. This program assists in buying groceries for YCS families who normally received free/reduced lunch at school. YCS students, district-wide, are eligible to receive. Cards are issued by the State; YCS provides updates of student addresses to the State.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS #2/Electronic Participation**

*Maria Goodrich's* comment on the Continuity of Instruction remote online learning rollout was shared aloud.

**OTHER:** *None*

**BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS**

- *Meadows* acknowledged Zachery-Ross for “e-learning”, and, an appreciation of staff.
- *Schindler* acknowledged Zachery-Ross, administrative staff and all staff for contributions during this extraordinary time.
- *Hawkins* extended thanks to staff and administration. Comments on: 1) 1:1 technology District; 2) success of students, 3) COL development plan including “social/emotional”; 4) generous donors; 5) Food Service team; 6) Mothers’ Day; 7) a stronger community, and; 8) birthdays of Gainsley, Zachery-Ross and Champagne.
- *Zachery-Ross* comments: 1) Food Service staff t-shirts; 2) summer planning; 3) Food Service Director Tiffany Houston applications for other programs; 4) start up of District hotlines, and; 5) partnering with Packard Health (COVID testing at Perry ELC).
- *Hawkins* commented on email sent, encouraging review of the document.

*Meeting Adjourned: 9:06 p.m.*

**Attachments:**

- 1) *RESOLUTION: Grant Emergency Powers to Superintendent to Comply w/Exec. Order 2020-35*
- 2) *RESOLUTION: Washtenaw ISD Budget Resolution/Support for Budget 2020/21*
- 3) *RESOLUTION: Staff Appreciation 2020*

*Minutes Prepared by: Paula Gutzman*



Sharon Lee, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Ypsilanti Community Schools



## RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

*School Principal Day: Friday, May 1, 2020*  
*School Lunch Hero Day: Friday, May 1, 2020*  
*Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: May 4 - 8, 2020*  
*School Nurse Appreciation Week: May 6 - 12, 2020*

*Ypsilanti Community Schools (MI)*

A meeting of the Board of Education of the District was held virtually/electronically due to COVID-19 for the Ypsilanti Community Schools located in Ypsilanti, MI 48197, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President.

The following Resolution was offered by Member Meredith Schindler and supported by Member Brenda Meadows.

### WHEREAS,

1. During this unprecedented time, Ypsilanti Community Schools teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals continue to change the lives of children every day. Their immense work and impact moves us beyond words; and
2. With the abrupt end to the physical school year because of a world pandemic/health crisis, tirelessly, YCS teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals have done even more to continue education with virtual classrooms and "learning at home" lessons; all to ensure every student has the tools they need to reach their full potential; and
3. YCS teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals fill many roles as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators and mentors; and
4. YCS teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals continue to influence us long after our school days are only memories; and
5. The teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals of Ypsilanti Community Schools spend countless hours preparing lessons, supporting and guiding staff, preparing healthy meals, evaluating progress, counseling and coaching students and performing community service; and
6. Our school district recognizes and supports its teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals in educating the children of this great learning community.

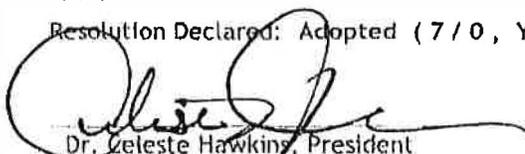
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education proclaims May 1, 2020 to be SCHOOL PRINCIPAL DAY and SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY, May 4-8, 2020 to be TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK, and, May 6-12, 2020 to be SCHOOL NURSE APPRECIATION WEEK; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education strongly encourages all members of our community to join in personally expressing appreciation to our teachers/staff/school nurses/school lunch staff/principals for their dedication and devotion to their work.

**AYE:** Brenda Meadows, Gillian Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Maria Sheler-Edwards, Sharon Lee, Dr. Celeste Hawkins

**NAY:** None

Resolution Declared: Adopted ( 7 / 0 , Yes)

  
Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President  
Board of Education  
Ypsilanti Community Schools

  
Alena Zachery-Ross  
Superintendent  
Ypsilanti Community Schools

**ISD BUDGET RESOLUTION**  
Ypsilanti Community Schools/Washtenaw County, Michigan (the "District")

A meeting of the board of education of the district was held in the Administration Building/PD Room in the District, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. o'clock.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President.

Present: Members Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Brenda Meadows, Sharon Lee, Gillian Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Maria Sheler-Edwards

Absent: Members, None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Sharon Lee and supported by Member Meredith Schindler.

**WHEREAS:**

1. Section 624 of the Revised School Code, as amended, requires the intermediate school board to submit its proposed general fund budget not later than May 1 of each year to the board of each constituent district for review; and
2. Not later than June 1 of each year, the board of each constituent district shall review the proposed intermediate school district general fund budget, shall adopt a board resolution expressing its support for or disapproval of the proposed intermediate school district general fund budget, and shall submit to the intermediate school district board any specific objections and proposed changes the constituent district board has to the general fund budget.

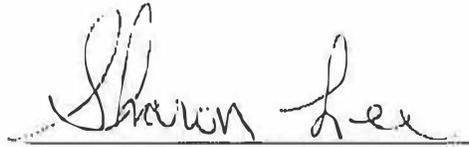
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The board of education has received and reviewed the proposed intermediate school district general fund budget in accordance with Section 624 of the Revised School Code, as amended, and by the adoption of this resolution, expresses its support for the proposed intermediate school district general fund budget.
2. The secretary of the board of education or his/her designee shall forward a copy of this resolution to the intermediate school board or its superintendent no later than June 1, 2020.
3. All resolutions insofar as they conflict with this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

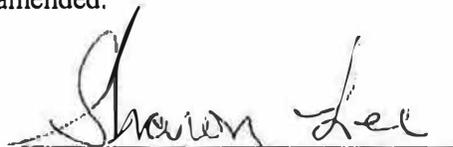
110 Ayes: Members Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Brenda Meadows, Sharon Lee, Gillian Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Meredith Schindler, Maria Sheler-Edwards

Nays: Members, None

Resolution declared adopted.

  
Sharon Lee  
Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Ypsilanti Community Schools/Washtenaw County, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education at a regular meeting held on May 4, 2020, the original of which resolution is a part of the Board's minutes, and further certifies that the notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

  
Sharon Lee  
Secretary, Board of Education

Ypsilanti Community Schools  
Washtenaw County, Michigan

Resolution to Grant Emergency Powers to the Superintendent To Comply with Executive Order 2020-35

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the District was held virtually/electronically due to COVID-19 for the Ypsilanti Community Schools located in Ypsilanti, MI 48197, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President.

The following Resolution was offered by Member Brenda Mearlows and supported by Member Sharon Lee.

**Whereas**, on April 2, 2020, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-35 requiring, among other things, the continued closure of all Michigan public and private school buildings for educational purposes as a safeguard against the further spread of COVID-19 and requiring each public school to develop a plan for continued instruction through alternative means to be implemented by no later than April 28, 2020; and

**Whereas**, Executive Order 2020-35 also temporarily suspends numerous provisions of the Revised School Code and the State School Aid Act and, therefore, changes the legal requirements relating to certain Board policies, including but not limited to, attendance, curriculum, graduation requirements, assessments, teacher and administrator evaluations, school calendar, and grading; and

**Whereas**, the Board intends to comply with Executive Order 2020-35 and, accordingly, temporarily suspend or alter affected policies and otherwise take required actions consistent with the Executive Order; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Education finds that the current state of emergency requires that the Superintendent be granted greater flexibility to respond quickly and appropriately to the evolving crisis, including complying with Executive Order 2020-35; and

**Whereas**, under board Bylaw 0131.1, the operation of any section or sections of Board policies not established by law or contract may be suspended temporarily by a majority vote of Board members at a public meeting held in compliance with law and Board policy;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education grants to the Superintendent the following temporary powers to address the COVID-19 emergency, including ensuring compliance with Executive Order 2020-35:

Authority to temporarily waive, alter or suspend such Board policies or provisions of Board policies as the Superintendent shall deem necessary to comply with Executive Order 2020-35.

Authority to take any lawful actions necessary to comply with Executive Order 2020-35, including, but not limited to, development and implementation of a plan to provide alternative instruction. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: adjustments to the curriculum and the provision of alternative educational program options; adjustments to the calendar; adjustments to employee work schedules and assignments; limitations on access to property owned or controlled by the Ypsilanti Community Schools; and hiring of providers and/or partnering with other districts or ISDs.

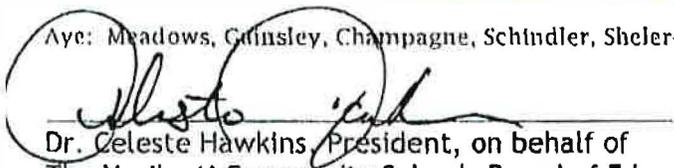
**NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Superintendent is directed to keep the Board of Education informed of any actions taken under this emergency authority as soon as is practicable in light of the circumstances.

**NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the temporary powers authorized by this Resolution are in effect for the duration identified in Executive Order 2020-35 and any subsequent extension of that order, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by the Board upon majority vote.

**NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that execution of this Resolution is conclusive evidence of the Board of Education's approval of this action and of the authority granted herein.

Adopted and approved this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

Aye: Meadows, Gainsley, Champagne, Schindler, Sheler-Edwards, Lee, Hawkins; Nay: None. Resolution Adopted, 7/0 Yes

  
Dr. Celeste Hawkins, President, on behalf of  
The Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education

5/14/20  
Date