

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, March 14, 2022)

Generated by Julie Haines on Thursday, March 17, 2022

Members present

Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, 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. CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. Request for Closed Session- Pursuant to Sections 8(f) of the Open Meetings Act to review and consider the content of an application for employment

The Board of Education will be going into closed session pursuant to Section 8(f) of the Open Meetings Act to review and consider the content of an application for employment.

The Board of Education went into closed session at 6:33 p.m.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education go into closed session pursuant to Section 8(f) of the Open Meetings Act to review and consider the content of an application for employment.

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

4. OPEN SESSION

Procedural: A. Reconvene to Open Session

The Board of Education will return to Open Session.

The Board of Education reconvened at 6:49 p.m.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Action: A. Acceptance of Agenda

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the agenda, as presented.

Motion by Meredith Schindler, 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

6. PRESENTATION

Presentation: A. MICIP Presentation - Dr. Carlos Lopez

YCS Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carlos Lopez will provide an update and overview of YCS's MICIP Plan.

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

Presentation: B. Budget Amendment Presentation - Priya Nayak

Business and Finance Director, Priya Nayak will present a budget amendment to the Board of Education for consideration.

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

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.

Rebekah Schersten: As a parent in the district I'm here tonight to ask that YCS make masks optional for all students and staff.

Last Friday, March 10, the Washtenaw County Health Department announced the county Covid-19 Community level is low and that, as quoted from the website "at this level masking in indoor public locations is no longer broadly recommended according to the CDC." The CDC as well as the Michigan Department of Health have both removed the recommendations for universal masking in schools. In addition to Washtenaw County Health Department's school mask mandate expired last month. YCS remains one of only two districts in the entire county that has yet to make masks optional. I know the district conducted a survey and is looking to make a decision following spring break, but I ask that this change take place immediately. Our children have done enough. They have done more than they should ever be asked of them. Two years of their childhood has been disrupted. I ask and plead to give them back the sense of normalcy. Thank you.

Lavada Weathers: I was at the board meeting the last time and I was thinking about the two public comments that were brought up and one of them was the masking. I'd like to suggest, on behalf of students that are not well, particularly special needs students and any staff, any other students that may have some health conflicts, that you stick with your schedule and if you change the mask mandate, do it as you have already plan and not any earlier. It says the cases are lower. They don't say we don't have any, they're just low. I also want to make the comment again that please find the pictures from Willow Run and Ypsi and see that you get them posted somewhere. And thanks, because I could see the screen.

Robyn McCoy: Good evening everyone. My name is Attorney Robyn McCoy. So I've been practicing for 20 years in this area. I was born and raised in this area and I'm actually running for state rep in the 32nd district. I attended BCDC and Cheney Elementary School. I went to Catholic school in this area and I was inspired to become a lawyer at 14 to help people in need. I was Congressional Page at 16 and so I went to DC and I was able to have firsthand exposure to the legislative process and the course of my work as an attorney I've been an educational advocate. I've been partnering with schools to make sure that kids get all the support that they need for special ed, get testing. I actually have a client right now that was shot and I'm trying to make sure that he gets all the support because I've worked with children and worked as a lawyer guardian ad litem so I've worked 12 and a half years with Michigan Children's Law Center working with children that were exposed to trauma to make sure that they get all the support they need with special ed, general ed. I have literature here and I applaud you for all that you do. I had parents that helped nurture me and support me to have educational excellence going to the University of Chicago, the University of Michigan Law School and I just think it's important that we do that for our kids. In the course of my college, I was able to connect with Michelle Obama. She helped me with my law school application and I continue to do that. I'm an educator as well. I teach EMU. My assistant, Dr. Evans, is also a professor at EMU and I just think it's important that we educate our kids and I know with Covid there were some kids that were able to be successful doing things online. Some kids not so much. I started teaching in-person, and then it went virtual. And I just know that we've got a lot to do as far as helping our kids to catch up and I think it's important that the village come to the aid of the kids and do all that we need to do. Thank you.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) February 28, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes 2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 3/7/22; New Hires and Resignations.

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

1) February 28, 2022, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 3/7/22; New Hires and Resignations.

Motion by Sharon Lee, 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

9. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. First Reading of Neola Policy Updates

Re: NEOLA of Michigan Local Templates/Policy Updates - Vol. 36, No. 1 - September 2021

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.

Discussion: B. Covid-19 Mask Survey Discussion

The Ypsilanti Community Schools' Board of Education with review and discuss the survey results from the recent masking survey that was sent to staff, secondary students, and parents on March 5th with the survey ending at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 10th. [Click here to view the presentation.](#)

10. ACTION ITEM: Human Resources

Action: A. Potential New Hire: Approval of Employment

The YCS Board of Education met in closed session to consider an employment request from District Administration. The Board will consider the request and determine the employment opportunity.

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the district's employment request.

Motion by Gillian Ream Gainsley, 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: Student Affairs

Action, Procedural: A. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: YCHS/RCTC Culinary, April 2022 (Grand Rapids)

This proposal comes from Chef Aaron Gaertner, CTE Instructor & ProStart Instructor. Students will compete against their peers from all over the state and with hard work win prizes and scholarships and the chance to represent Michigan at the national championships. Skills USA is the mandated CTSO for all RCTC CTE classes.

[Click here to see 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 in March 2022 for the Skills USA State Leadership and Skills Conference.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, 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

12. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Approval of Kramer Technology Contract

The CTE programs in the YCS District request that the YCS Board of Education accept a bid from Kramer Technologies for an alignment rack replacement in the amount of \$35,211.12.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept, as presented, the Kramer Technologies bid for the CTE Automotive Lift in the amount of \$35,211.12

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, 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

Action: B. Acceptance of the National SAMs Innovation Project Quote

The National SAMs Innovation 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. This quote is for the remainder of this school year and the 2022/2023 school year. It covers all directors and administrators.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept, as presented, the National SAMs Innovation Project quote in the amount of \$90,900.

Motion by Sharon Lee, 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

Action: C. Acceptance of the 2022-2027 WISD Fiber Consortium Agreement

The Ypsilanti Community Schools fiber network is owned and operated by WISD on behalf of all constituent districts. This agreement covers the actual fiber optic cable, equipment to manage the network, and a portion of staff costs. The network is also connected to the Statewide Educational Network (SEN) which is a statewide private network that allows the reduction of Internet costs in addition to transport for other statewide services. The current agreement ends June 30, 2022. The Fiber consortium subcommittee met to draft an updated agreement for the next five years. This agreement has been presented to the Washtenaw Superintendents Association (WSA) for review and approval of costs. Each participating district will need to gain board approval for renewal of the Fiber Consortium Agreement.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Washtenaw County Schools Fiber Consortium Agreement, as presented.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, 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

Action: D. Approval and Adoption of the Amended Budget

Priya Nayak, Director of Business and Finance presented earlier in the meeting the recommended amended budget to the Board of Education. District Administration is requesting the Board approve and adopt the amended budget.

[Click here to view the amended budget.](#)

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve and adopt the Amended Budget as presented.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, 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: E. Acceptance of the District Audio Upgrade Project

Classroom audio systems have been breaking across the district even before the pandemic. The current systems are aging and do not provide sufficient reach to really make a teacher's voice accessible in classrooms. In addition, our buildings have aging PA systems that are not centralized nor standardized. This has become problematic recently due to lack of documentation from the original vendors making troubleshooting difficult across the district. Finally, bell systems also reside on their own separate system as well. The combination of three different systems run by three different backend vendors has made audio systems very difficult to support and maintain.

To address all of these concerns we want to replace our bell, PA, and in-class audio system with EPIC from Audio Enhancement. This is a network driven system that will power each classroom independently. Each room will have four speakers installed to provide complete coverage for all students. The PA will be controlled through a kiosk or through any web browser with the right credentials. The system allows a user to control bells, make announcements, or even launch pre-recorded content. A simple button in each classroom allows staff to page the main office and speak into the air to communicate with staff.

This would completely replace all in-class audio and standardize all PA and bell systems across the district.

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

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept, as presented, the Audio Enhancement quote for EPIC in the amount of \$1,538,284.00.

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

Action: F. Donation: Books For Kids and Ms. Jordan Else Donation for Erickson Elementary School

On behalf of Books For Kids and Ms. Jordan Else, we would like to donate new diverse books, bookmarks, notebooks and pencils for each student at Erickson; the amount totaling \$1,000 is from kind donations from the community. We believe in uplifting literacy by giving kids choices and books to call their own without concern to cost. Please accept our donation and continued support for YCS and your vision for community literacy. Thank you, Books for Kids and Ms. Jordan Else for this very generous gift!

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept a donation from Books For Kids and Ms. Jordan Else of new diverse books, bookmarks, notebooks, and pencils for each student at Erickson Elementary School in the amount totaling \$1,000.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, 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

13. ACTION ITEM: Other

Action: A. Adoption of the Resolution in Support of the IDEA Full Funding Act

Ypsilanti Community Schools, along with many other districts across the United States educate students who are identified as having a multitude of disabilities. This resolution is intended to urge Congress to pass the IDEA Full Funding Act as currently, the federal investment in IDEA is less than 14 percent.

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

....MOVE that the Board of Education adopt the Resolution in Support of the IDEA Full Funding Act as presented.

Motion by Meredith Schindler, 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

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Michael Schersten: I'm requesting the immediate and permanent end to the universal masking and all of the Covid measures at the school district level. I understand that there may be legal mandates in the future from the county, state, and federal level that the district must follow but the district is in no position to make medical or public health decisions of its own. The current mandate has been maintained beyond the legal requirement of the Washtenaw County Department of Health based on various recommendations. On February 11th, we were informed that despite the mask requirement for the county expiring, the district had decided to maintain all existing county protocols which included that universal masking in schools remains strongly recommended. This seems to no longer be in effect, is not present on the county website, and yet the district mandate has remained. On February 25, WIHI and WIMA informed us that masking would remain while we were at high risk level according to the Michigan Safe Start Map based on CDC metrics. That same day, the CDC abandoned those metrics that had been based on pre omicron case levels and replaced them with Covid-19 Community levels. According to those, we're at the lowest risk level with no mask recommendation for the general public at all and yet our local district mandates remain. As mask requirements have been removed around the country, there have been conflicting recommendations on the federal, state, and county level. The only consistency in district decision making during this time has been to rely on any recommendation that justifies continuing the mandate. When the county recommendation was to continue masking, that was sighted, when the CDC recommendation was to given to continue masking, that was sighted. No mention was made when those recommendations expired and the only recommendation that supports your position is the Michigan Safe Start Map which is acknowledged by the state to be out of date, no longer based on CDC guidelines and pending update. The mask requirement has been maintained without any current public health recommendation at any level of government, and you have expressed your willingness to continue to do so until at least April or the end of the school year or possibly indefinitely. While the requirement previously was said to be based on public health recommendations, it is clear now that the district simply wishes to continue the requirement as long as possible. In Washtenaw County, weekly new cases of drop consistently for more than two months down 95% from the peak of more than 5000 on January 8th to 225 the week ending March 5, lower than any week since July 31, 2021. Weekly hospital admissions in the county are at the lowest level since September. These are the best numbers we could possibly expect and yet the best offer from the district was to continue the requirement against public health advice for at least another month. The Board of Education is not a public health agency and has no expertise to make public health decisions. It is one thing to defer to a public health recommendation as justification for a mandate but an entirely different matter to maintain the mandate in the absence of any recommendation. At your last meeting I advise that you are not obligated to maintain the mandate even with the county recommendation. Now, my position is that you must rescind the mandate considering it is not recommended by any public health agency at any level. Thank you.

Amanda Smith: Well, I appreciate his passion, the passion of the other commenter, I really appreciate the compassion this group has shown toward our Community, the opportunity to teach my daughter compassion by putting a small piece of fabric on her face. Thank you for listening to what the Community needs. I am personally immunocompromised and I live in a household with a health care worker. We don't need any additional risk and we don't need to spread any additional risk other people. I recently sat in a meeting with three brilliant women of color who are strong, fantastic leaders and the topic of vaccination came up and these three women schooled me on how my experience of healthcare is different than theirs. Our population at YCS is different than the rest of Washtenaw County. The data that we use needs to be dependent on our own population and not some state mandate beyond us. So, I'm very appreciative of everything that you continue to do to help keep my child and my family, the rest of our Community healthy and to teach her and the rest of the children in our Community how to be good people. Thank you.

15. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Gainsley: The YCSF meeting did happen, it was relatively brief, and I did share that the scholarship application form is now public and I did share it by email with all of the board members earlier today and so we would love for you to go ahead and share that out. Encourage our graduating seniors to apply for those scholarships. Thank you.

16. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Townsend: I do want to just remind everyone here that the district, we are having our virtual Annual Realtors Breakfast this Friday at 9 a.m. via zoom and should be aired live via Facebook and that will be on Friday, March 18 at 9 a.m. What is important about this realtors' breakfast is it is open to the public, even though it says realtors' breakfast, it is a good resource for our Community and what I would like to also emphasize is that we will be having special guest speakers talking about the resources that are here in Washtenaw County in funding for new homeownership and that is Flagstar Bank, Bad Credit is Childish, Ann Arbor

Housing Commission, Habitat for Humanity, Old National Bank, and Realty Experts. What's important for people in the public to know about this event is one of the things, when we talk about the whole child, is housing is very important. We know we have a large population of students that are considered homeless or have a major barrier with housing, and so what is good about YCS is that we acknowledge that when you talk about the whole child, we need to talk about those things and I know my experience as a child growing up in affordable housing, we moved around a lot, however, when I was able to secure housing, I noticed that there was a change in my performance as a student and that was because I had the security of having consistent housing. So this is something that I definitely would encourage board members to attend and please share with your network. And just try to invite as many families, even students can attend as well to learn about these things. Everybody on this list is a partner with the school district, I want to emphasize that as well. We know we just had Bad Credit is Childish with Michael Vick come out and talk about financial literacy a few months ago and so, if we began to teach our children the importance of \$1 that will change the trajectory of their lives on how they spend money, how they make money (a resource for them), and how they continue to invest that money not only to help their families, but also help the Community. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all.

Trustee Goodrich: I just have a really quick one. Last Thursday, I, along with Trustee Townsend and Vice President Lee were able to attend the WASB Social-Emotional Learning workshop. That was a great event and I appreciate that we had the opportunity to take part in there together. I also want to lift up some things that came out in the small group that Trustee Townsend and I were in and the appreciation we heard from outside of our district for the kinds of events and partnerships and just the ways that our district is there for our Community. It's just one small way on top of many of the big ways that this district's assets and achievements are being highlighted and recognized from outside of our Community. It was really great to hear and great to have a chance to celebrate the work that you all are doing.

Trustee Gainsley: I have three things. First, I want to really express my gratitude to Ms. Searcy and the transportation team, to Solomon and the IT team. Our bus app is working again. It was down for three weeks. But really for anyone who's got their child taking the bus, it is a game changer. So, having it back and having it functioning again is really exciting to me and my family and probably to a lot of other folks so thank you everyone, anyone who was involved in getting that working again. My other two very small meeting issues: one is that when I first joined the board, we had actually moved the field trips up in the agenda so that they were right after the consent agenda and prior to our discussion items and I should have noticed it before. I was wondering if we might make that part of our regular policy again when we know that we're going to have a guest to just to bump them up right before the consent agenda. And then, my second question is a question I guess for the IT team. I greatly appreciate how much better this zoom experience is. I appreciate the audio and how we're getting better every single meeting at making these meetings accessible to the public who can't attend in person. So, my one request is, I wonder if we might be able to share the PowerPoints actually to screen share them to the actual meeting so that folks who are watching at home might see those PowerPoints a little more clearly. So just small things to continue to make us better, but really appreciate everyone who's worked on making these meetings virtual. Thank you.

Dr. Hawkins: Thank you and I'll just make a quick comment about the field trips. You are absolutely right. Our policy was to make sure that we didn't have our guests waiting until the end of the meeting for field trips to be approved. We will make sure that we are mindful and keep those at the top of our agenda, so thank you, Trustee Gainsley, for bringing that to our attention and I'll defer to Dr. Zachery-Ross about the IT because that is really nowhere near my expertise, so I have no idea if we can do that.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: I'm seeing affirmations for that so yes. Also this time it was a little different because there was a field trip but there was also the grant action item so it was kind of tricky to know for sure where to put items. Thank you for that reminder.

Dr. Hawkins: I think I'll just mention that I am so appreciative of being able to have this space, so this is a shout out to technology for making it happen at five o'clock so that we can all gather and watch the NAAPIC at Night presentation. So thank you IT for making that happen for us. And just a huge congratulations to all of our students, our winners, our presenters, Shoshana de Maria, for always graciously taking on this role of making sure that NAAPIC at Night continues to be held up in our Community, to our families and all of our teachers and our staff, everyone, who contributed to making this event possible and our superintendent, of course, and to the mistress of ceremonies, my daughter, Miss Kayden Hawkins. She did a wonderful job as well as the master of ceremony, Zion.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: This is women's history month and as I was reflecting, I was like "Look at these women." It's women's history month and so often we go outside, but we don't look in the mirror. We've got so many history makers. It might be because of all these wonderful things in the Community that you do. You might have been the first in your family with certain things. You might be the first in your Community. You have always throughout life when I've talked to each one of you, you've broken down barriers and made room for others. I think that our students should look at this seven-member women lead board. I think that our community should look at these individuals, not just the board as a whole, but each one of you. I wanted to say that I'm just proud to serve next to you, alongside you, because it's just truly a time during women's history month to think about the history makers on our board. So thank you for your service. I'm just want to congratulate Trustee Townsend, and I was so excited and congratulate Trustee Fields for leading with her group the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club for the women's history month. One of the panelists and honorees was our very own Trustee Townsend and she did amazing. It's the example because our students, our families, and our parents see our board members in the Community and it's not just sitting here. You all are there at so many things and I just wanted to give an example of this women's history month. And the example of this board coming and sitting and watching and supporting NAAPID at Night right here in this room bringing your own dinners and participating. So thank you for that support of NAAPID at Night. I know that this district has supported the program since its inception and again I know that our board President mentioned it but to Kayden and Zion for being master and mistress of ceremony. They're training them, given the example early not just having adults lead the way but truly allowing our students to lead us. I think Ms. de Maria and committee and congratulations to Mr. Alvarado, assistant principal at the high school, Ms. Jerilyn Lynn, who does our instructional technology, and Ms. Kier Ingraham, our Ypsilanti Connected principal for being honored tonight. I truly want to thank the students, the staff, and the community for completing a survey. I hope that you heard about other examples today that people read the responses and we didn't just look at the numbers. I can tell you I went and talked to the student Council last week before it was due and I said, "tell your friends, tell them to complete the survey." So we didn't just send it out. We did ask the students. We reminded them. Personally, I asked them, "can you please as the leadership team, can you tell your other students to complete the survey." We just we're just happy for the response. It might seem low outside but, as you know, when they send out a large survey, the response to surveys aren't always large and so for the number of persons we have, I was very proud of that. We want to congratulate again seniors, Nyla Hood and Alexis Cooper. They celebrated their senior night at their last basketball game. We wanted to make sure to lift them up. They won that game against Adrian on February 24. Alexis plans to attend Florida A&M and Nyla is undecided by her top three choices are Kettering, University of Michigan, and the University of Pittsburgh. We are thankful that it is scholarship season and there are a lot of scholarships that our students are eligible for. I'm excited to know that we have the support from our partners and the Community for our students. Thank you, families for applying for scholarships. So if there's helped needed, we've got counselors and success coaches and college coaches at the high school that will help them through. We just want

to apply for those dollars. Congratulations also to Ypsilanti Community High School students, Renee Lett and Katie Salazar for passing their CNA state exam! We know those exams are difficult and we know that again that's part of our hope, not just to give you a high school diploma but preparing you for life. They're able to go out and do so much with that, so congratulations. Also, as we heard today that the RCTC Culinary Arts and Bakery Science NASA Hunch Culinary Challenge Team has been named top 10 in the United States. They will be traveling to Houston, Texas and that's the field trip request (as long as you approve it) to the Johnson Space Center to prepare a meal for astronauts and the Johnson Space Center Food Lab Team. The other nine teams competing are from all around the country. This is not a shabby thing and we're very, very proud of them. The winning team will receive a full ride scholarship to Sullivan University, the National Center for Hospitality Studies in Louisville, Kentucky and we know that will be a game changer. So congratulations to Chef Gaertner and students. We're so proud of them. And last but not least, congratulations to Ms. Ott's class at Erickson Elementary. They won an MVP award from Imagine Nation's Literacy Bowl. We hear about Imagine Learning serves thousands of classrooms and millions of students every day with imagine learning and literacy and her classroom ranked top 30 in the country, so congratulations.

Trustee Fields: When you were talking about the scholarship, are there links on the website to go to all the different ones?

Dr. Zachery-Ross: I'm not sure. I'll check on that and get back to you. I know they do have it somewhere in the high school for the students but I'll find out about the links.

Trustee Fields: Some parents may not want to come to the high school but if they can just click on different links on the site that could help.

17. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.