

REGULAR MEETING (Monday, August 4, 2025)**Members present**

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Meeting called to order at 6:37 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 AMENDED AGENDA

Action: A. Acceptance of Amended Agenda

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

Motion by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, second by Dawn Espy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS #1

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

No public comments

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) July 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes 2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 7/30/25; New Hires and Resignations.

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

1) July 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 7/30/25; New Hires and Resignations.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

6. ACTION ITEMS: Human Resources

Action: A. Approval of Principal at Ypsilanti International Elementary School Contract

Sue McCarty presented.

Tim Authier spoke.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Principal at Ypsilanti International Elementary School Contract of Timothy Authier with the commencement date of August 4, 2025.

Motion by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action: B. Approval of Principal at Ypsilanti Puentes Multilingual School Contract

Sue McCarty presented.

Celeste Green spoke.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Principal at Ypsilanti Puentes Multilingual School Contract of Celeste Henderson-Green with the commencement date of August 4, 2025.

Motion by Dawn Espy, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action: C. Approval of Assistant Principal at Ypsilanti Community High School Contract

Sue McCarty presented.

Zuqueta Brown spoke.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Assistant Principal at Ypsilanti Community High School Contract of Zuqueta Brown with the commencement date of August 4, 2025.

Motion by Dawn Espy, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action: D. Consideration of Superintendent Contract

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the superintendent's contract.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Dawn Espy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

7. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Acceptance of the Visible Learning Certification Contract

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the Visible Learning Certification contract with Corwin for \$75,038.75.

Motion by Yvonne Fields, second by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Jeremy Haley: Population decline, concerned that we are seeing students as money

Dr. Hawkins: We never see the students as anything but scholars

Dr. Zachery-Ross: We welcome all our scholars.

9. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

Action: A. Request for Closed Session: Section 8(a) OMA, Personnel Evaluation of Superintendent

The board moved into closed session at 8:10 p.m.

...MOVE that the Board of Education convene in closed session under Section 8(a) of the OMA to consider a personnel evaluation of the Superintendent.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Dawn Espy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

10. OPEN SESSION

Procedural: A. Reconvene to Open Session

The board returned to open session at 9:29 p.m.

11. DISCUSSIONS

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

Trustee Townsend: For the Finance and Operational Planning committee - Landscaping is being done, our MakerSpaces are coming together at the Middle School. Very excited about what is going on.

Vice President Lee: All the subcommittees are on vacation until October.

12. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Discussion: A. Board/Superintendent Comments

Trustee Sutton-Kennedy: Thank you to everyone for their support.

Trustee Espy: Excited to see all the engagement that the scholars have been involved in over the summer. The three-on-three basketball was well attended.

Trustee Townsend: Special shout out that the inflatables were from a Ypsilanti graduate. The summer activities have been well attended.

Vice President Lee: Son is on the list for the double lung transplant. Be on stand by for her and pray.

Dr. Hawkins: Everything looks great. Back-to-School Bash was amazing. It was packed and outstanding. Board Retreat is next week. Thank you for all the work you are doing with the kids, Trustee Townsend.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Thank you for the contract renewal. Thank you for approving the new administrators. Here is the draft board retreat agenda. Here is the calendar for the administrators. August 11th is the start of the new teacher boot camp. Cohort 4 for the Rising Leaders is starting on August 11th. Ribbon cutting on August 18th for Puentes. Opening Day with Tom Burton. He aligns his work with Visible Learning. August 20th there is the conference at the middle school. Mama Soul will be presenting. There are three conference classes. There are Welcoming Events for the middle school, YC2S, ELCs, and Elementaries We will have backpacks at the Welcome Nights. Then the AI Conference on August 22nd. The first day of school is August 25th. The Transportation Kick-Off is on August 22nd to build a sense of community. We will be reading [Fans First](#) because it is all about the community. The whole district will be working with this book.

Dr. Hawkins: Thank you to Mary Kerwin for being here today and guiding us.

13. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

