

SPECIAL MEETING (Monday, June 16, 2025)**Members present**

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy (arrived at 5:58 p.m.)

Meeting called to order at 5:38 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, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy

4. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Budget Hearing Presentation

YCS Director of Business Services and Finance, Damien Butler, will share the Budget Projection for the YCS for 2025-2026.

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

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

Vice President Lee: Transportation spending in April and June didn't increase, right?

Mr. Butler: The increase in spending for transportation happened from the beginning of the school year to the end of the school year.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: We are not over the 10% with changes for the audit. This is close as it can be as we wait for the rest of the invoices to come in.

Trustee Sutton-Kennedy: If an invoice comes in after July 1 is it considered an expense for this year or next year?

Mr. Butler: If it comes in after July 1st, it is an expense for next year. We have no new invoices but we will continue to pay the invoices.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Some of the summer school expenses go until September.

Mr. Butler: There is an overlap with federal grants.

Trustee Townsend: Plans for transportation?

Mr. Butler: We are looking to purchase some new buses. We are also looking at leasing some different buses. We are trying to find better ways to handle transportation for special needs and medical transportation, trying to find the best way to provide those services at a lower cost. We lease 17 diesel buses and own the 10 electric buses. Maintenance is a challenge but it is part of the agreement that we have with the leases.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Transportation is more expensive because before the pandemic the students went to a central school and then shuttled to the different schools. We didn't resume the shuttling. In order for the cost to go back down, we would have to go back to shuttling. The challenge with the electric buses is they have a problem in the winter. The diesel buses, the ones we lease, do really well. The electric buses aren't reliable.

Mr. Butler: The transportation director wants to make sure we are leasing the proper buses for our special needs and medically fragile students. The transportation budget is all of it, buses, personnel, training.

Dr. Hawkins: The electric buses are the ones we own? And how are them maintained? And does this projection include the new school?

Mr. Butler: Yes. We have ten of them and they are new. We have a contracted service to work with our electric buses. The projection does include the new school.

Trustee Goodrich: I would like to acknowledge how much uncertainty goes into planning the budget for next year. HB 4577 could radically change funding for districts like ours as well as uncertainty in federal funds also. We need to keep leaning on our legislators to have reasonable budgets to support our students and in a timely fashion because we need to know what funds we have because we have to turn in our budgets.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Advocating for YCS specifically this past Friday, showing how we are using the money to do the work. We are using the money the way we said we would. It is really important to use the money the way we said we would. This money is going to our students. We still need the money. All the money is important.

5. DISCUSSION

Presentation: A. Discussion of Name for New Dual Spanish Immersion School

A discussion will be led for the naming of the new Dual Spanish Immersion School using Think Collaboration.

Click [here](#) to view the thought exchange.

Dr. Zachery-Ross presented.

A spirited discussion ensued.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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.

Caroline Wojan and John Carlo Morales-Wojan (student in the program): Suggested a name for the new school: The Bilingual Speakers School

7. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.