

**REGULAR MEETING (Monday, May 12, 2025)****Members present**

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

**Members absent**

Maria Goodrich, Yvonne Fields

**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. 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 Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

**4. ACHIEVEMENTS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

Recognition: A. Ypsilanti Community High School Points of Pride

Dr. Harris-Hugan, staff, and students presented.

The YCS Board of Education is excited to share wonderful things that are happening in our schools by reading our school's points of pride. Today's school is Ypsilanti Community High School.

Here are the topics for YCHS 7 Points of Pride:

1. Highlights of the Freshman Academy
2. Multilingual Learner Program
3. Intervention and Enrichment
4. Celebration of CTE Excellence
5. STEMM & Robotics
6. AI - The YCHS Way
7. Senior Spotlight

Click [here](#) to view the Point of Pride.

Action: B. Adoption of the Resolution for Staff Appreciation 2025

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopt the Resolution of Recognition proclaiming May 1, 2025 to be School Principal Administrator Day, May 5-9, 2025 to be Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, May 2, 2025 to be School Lunch Hero Day, and May 7, 2025 to be School Nurse Day.

School Principal Day: May 1, 2025

Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: May 5 - 9, 2025

School Lunch Hero Day: May 2, 2025

School Nurse Day: May 7, 2025

School Principal Day is May 1, 2025. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week is May 5 - 9, 2025. School Lunch Hero Day is May 2, 2025. School Nurse Day is May 7, 2025. It is a time to honor administrators/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses, recognizing the contributions they make.

The success of our children and community is significantly influenced by exemplary Ypsilanti Community Schools staff who dedicate their talents of heart and mind to help ensure that our public schools and our young people excel. The knowledge, support, and skills YCS staff provide children will positively impact generations for years to come.

YCS administrators/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses are extraordinary. They inspire children daily. We express our sincere gratitude for those who enthusiastically dedicate themselves to our schools and children. We encourage the community to join in honoring administrators/teachers/staff/school lunch heroes/school nurses for their impact on our children and our learning community.

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Recognition: C. Recognition of 2024-2025 Seal of Biliteracy Recipients

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award of high distinction and the only award given by the Michigan Department of Education. The Seal of Biliteracy is a seal that is affixed to a student's high school diploma that validates the skill of bilingualism.

This is a tangible, verified, and valuable award that showcases the abilities that the recipient brings to a university, a place of employment, and their community. This global skill is highly sought after by any future endeavor a student chooses. YCS is proud to be able to celebrate this accomplishment of our outstanding scholars.

Student: Asma Abubakar  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Arabic

Student: Ahmed Abdulmonam Aladani  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Arabic

Student: Wilmer Leonardo Andino-Aguilar  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Yareslin Lucia Baltodano Montenegro  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Dencel Batista Almanza  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Lamine Camara  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: French

Student: Virmary Camelo Kanzler  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Dilcia Cardona Palacios  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Nanci Marilu Castro Hernandez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Mahmoud Samah Cherif  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: French

Student: Arvin Lee Chiguichon Quiche  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Gabriel Fernando Cruz Garcia  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Keyla Cecilia Elvir Cruz  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Kimberly Lucinia Elvir Cruz  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Sergio Alejandro Herazo Moreno  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Pamela Damaris Larreinaga Martinez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Olvin Alejandro Martinez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Gerson Jahir Moreno Funez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Suset Rachel Necuse Avila  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Heber Antonio Ortiz Perdomo  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Marvin Natanael Ovalle Cabrera  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Wendy Palma  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Ivana Pedro Orellana  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Ever Josue Ramirez Martinez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Miguel Fredy Raymundo Marcos  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Ana Patricia Sanchez Lopez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Roberto Carlos Saravia Aguilar  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Emilio Alfonso Varela Gomez  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

Student: Aicha Yara  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: French

Student: Luis Fernando Zuniga Meraz  
Seal of Biliteracy Language: Spanish

##### 5. ACTION ITEMS: Student Affairs

Action, Procedural: A. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: YCHS, May 16, 2025 (Cedar Point, OH)  
... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the field trip for YCHS to Cedar Point on May 16, 2025.  
Seeking board approval for a 12th-grade YCHS field trip to Cedar Point on May 16, 2025.  
Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Jeanice Townsend.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action, Procedural: B. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: ACCE, May 19, 2025 (Cedar Point, OH)  
... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the field trip for ACCE to Cedar Point on May 19, 2025.  
Seeking board approval for a 12th-grade ACCE field trip to Cedar Point on May 19, 2025.  
Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action, Procedural: C. Acceptance of Field Trip Request: YCHS Band Camp - Echo Grove Camp - August 4 - 9, 2025  
... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the week-long field trip of the Ypsilanti Community High School Marching Band program, August 4 - 9, 2025 to learn the 2025 marching band show.  
This proposal comes from the YCHS Band Director. Students will learn drills and music for four songs that will be performed during the 2025 Marching Band season. The camp is Echo Grove Camp located at 1101 Camp Rd., Leonard, MI 48367.  
Click [here](#) to view the field trip request.

Motion by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, second by Dawn Espy.  
Final Resolution: Motion Carries  
Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Sharon Lee, Jeanice Townsend, Talisha Sutton-Kennedy, Dawn Espy

Action: D. Approval for Annual Instructional Material and Contract Renewals  
... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the:

- 1.) Spanish for Kids Quote, for a purchase amount of \$237,920.00.
- 2.) HMH Performance Suite into Reading K-3 (3-year) Quote, for a purchase amount of \$400,588.58..
- 3.) HMH Performance Suite into Reading 4-5 (3-year) Quote, for a purchase amount of \$154,601.06.
- 4.) HMH Into Literature Writable Performance Suite 6-8 (3-year) Quote, for a purchase amount of \$103,500.26.
- 5.) HMH Into Literature 9-12 Writable (3-year) Quote, for the purchase amount of \$64,761.82.
- 6.) HMH Read 180 6-8 (3-year) Quote, for the purchase amount of \$169,880.89.
- 7.) HMH Professional Learning K-8 Quote, for the purchase amount of \$38,200.00.
- 8.) Pediatric Therapy Associates, LLC Quote, for \$33,396.00.

Seeking Board approval of the continued implementation for the programs associated with the invoices; see attachments below.

- 1.) [Spanish for Kids Quote](#), for a purchase amount of \$237,920.00.
- 2.) [HMH Performance Suite into Reading K-3 \(3-year\) Quote](#), for a purchase amount of \$400,588.58..
- 3.) [HMH Performance Suite into Reading 4-5 \(3-year\) Quote](#), for a purchase amount of \$154,601.06.
- 4.) [HMH Into Literature Writable Performance Suite 6-8 \(3-year\) Quote](#), for a purchase amount of \$103,500.26.
- 5.) [HMH Into Literature 9-12 Writable \(3-year\) Quote](#), for the purchase amount of \$64,761.82.
- 6.) [HMH Read 180 6-8 \(3-year\) Quote](#), for the purchase amount of \$169,880.89.
- 7.) [HMH Professional Learning K-8 Quote](#), for the purchase amount of \$38,200.00.

8.) [Pediatric Therapy Associates, LLC Quote](#), for \$33,396.00.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Talisha Sutton-Kennedy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## 6. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. FTE Staffing Projection and Talent Management Report - Sue McCarty

Sue McCarty presented

YCS Human Resources Director, Sue McCarty, will give a report on staffing projections.

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

Presentation: B. Spanish Immersion Presentation

Liz Sirman, Celeste Green, and Mary Ann Jaeger presented.

Liz Sirman, Celeste Green, and Marianne Jaeger will present on Spanish Immersion.

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

## 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.

**Sarah McNitt** - concern about using the old middle school for dual immersion program

**Karen Gregory** - child was assaulted at Ford, hasn't heard anything about the investigation, the person who was accused of the assault is still in the building

## 8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) April 28, 2025, Special Board Workshop Minutes 2) Personnel matters as per the presented list dated 5/7/25; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

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

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

1) April 28, 2025, Special Board Workshop [Minutes](#)

2) [Personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 5/7/25; New Hires, Resignations, and Terminations.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## 9. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. First Reading of ESTA Policies

Re: Thrun Policy Update - Michigan Earned Sick Time Act (ESTA) Policy

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 policies and is now submitting these to begin the approval process.

**Sue McCarty**: ESTA is applicable to only people not covered in the bargaining unit. You get a certain number of hours, we suggested front loading the hours.

## 10. ACTION ITEMS: Business and Finance

Action: A. Acceptance of the Filter First District Wide Drinking Fountain Bottle Filler Award

The filter first district wide drinking fountain bottle filler is state mandated for lead filtration for all consumptive water for students and staff. We recommend replacing 58 drinking fountain bottle fillers district wide, and to have this work done at night between 3 PM and 11 PM when necessary to enable work to be completed for next school year. The administration is recommending that the Board approve the Bid Award to Ken Cook for \$290,180.00.

Below is the bid tab summary for the Filter First project:

Company	AJ Miller	AJ Miller	Allied	Allied		Ken Cook	Ken Cook
	1st shift	2nd shift	1st shift	shift	2nd	1st shift	2nd shift

All buildings		no bid				
	\$270,208.00		\$325,024.00	\$370,024.00	\$268,450.00	<b>\$290,180.00</b>

**Vice President Lee:** I would like to see the breakdown of this money.

**Jon Burchwell:** Each building is unique. We have the bids and can show you.

**Trustee Townsend:** A large portion of this money is coming from a grant that Trustee Gainsley secured for the district. We will only need to actually pay about \$40,000.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the bid from Ken Cook in the amount of \$290,180.00 to replace the drinking fountain bottle fillers throughout the district.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: B. Acceptance of the Removal and Replacement of the Underground Storage Tanks Award

The exterior walls of the underground storage tanks at Sampson Bus Garage are compromised and need to be removed and replaced with above ground tanks. Below is a summary of the bids and a project cost breakdown. The total replacement cost is approximately \$387,216.00. Mercer was the low qualified bidder. This total project cost is already budgeted in the sinking fund. The administration is recommending that the Board approve the removal of the underground storage tanks and replacement with above ground storage tanks by Mercer.

Here is the bid tab summary for the removal underground storage tank and replacement with above ground tanks project:

#### **YCS UST BID TAB**

Company	Mercer	Oscar Larson	TSP
Sampson Bus Garage	\$387,216.00	\$395,950.00	No bid

**Vice President Lee:** I would like to see the bids.

**Trustee Townsend:** The bids are in BoardDocs and it sounds like you would like them printed out so you can see them.

**Vice President Lee:** Yes.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the bid from Mercer in the amount of \$387,216.00 to remove the underground storage tanks and replace with above ground storage tanks at Sampson Bus Garage.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Dawn Espy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: C. Acceptance of the Painting Initiative of All School Buildings Award

We recommend painting all school buildings, and to have this work done at night between 3 PM and 11 PM when necessary to enable work to be completed for next school year. Below, you will find a summary of the bids and a project cost breakdown. The total replacement cost is approximately \$1,169,985.00. Energy and Building Performance, KV Painting, JOAT, and Papas Painting are the low qualified bidders. The cost of this project would be paid for out of PA 321 debt forgiveness fund. The administration is recommending that the Board approve the district-wide painting award be given to the following companies: Energy and Building Performance, KV Painting, JOAT, and Papas Painting.

Below is the bid tab summary painting

Here is a Bid Award Summary based on the YCS bid tab, broken down by company and by lowest bid per category (Hallways, Classrooms, and Common Areas) across all buildings. This format allows a clear view of both company-wide pricing and lowest individual building-level bids.

Lowest Bids by Category & Building

Category	Building	Lowest Bid	Company
Hallways	ACCE	\$24,000	Energy and building performances
	Erickson	\$28,170	KV
	Estabrook	\$28,000	JOAT

	Ford STEAM	\$26,000	JOAT
	Holmes	\$23,015	KV
	Perry	\$23,200	KV
	YCMS (Prev)	\$40,540	KV
	YCMS	\$75,000	Papas
	YCHS	\$45,000	Papas
	YIES	\$8,935	KV
Classrooms	ACCE	\$24,600	Energy and building performances
	Erickson	\$21,300	Energy and building performances
	Estabrook	\$33,300	Energy and building performances
	Ford STEAM	\$23,100	Energy and building performances
	Holmes	\$20,100	Energy and building performances
	Perry	\$27,000	Energy and building performances
	YCMS (Prev)	\$62,000	JOAT
	YCMS	\$85,000	Papas
	YCHS	\$134,000	JOAT
	YIES	\$22,500	Energy and building performances
Common	ACCE	\$32,950	KV
	Erickson	\$19,990	KV
	Estabrook	\$27,015	KV
	Ford STEAM	\$18,000	KV
	Holmes	\$22,300	KV

Perry	\$28,800	KV
YCMS (Prev)	\$35,120	KV
YCMS	\$103,000	Papas
YCHS	\$83,000	Papas
YIES	\$25,050	KV

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the bid from Energy and Building Performance, KV Painting, JOAT, and Papas Painting in the amount of \$1,169,985.00 to paint all the school buildings in the district.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: D. Acceptance of the Decision to Move the Spanish Immersion Program to the 510 Emerick Building

The Board of Education will vote on whether to relocate the Spanish Immersion Program to the 510 Emerick Building.

...MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the decision to relocate the Spanish Immersion Program to the 510 Emerick Building.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: E. Washtenaw ISD Budget Resolution/Support for Budget, 2025/26

The WISD is requesting that the YCS board of education adopt their budget resolution in support of their proposed general fund budget.

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

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

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

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopt the WISD Budget Resolution.

Motion by Jeanice Townsend, second by Dawn Espy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: F. Adoption of Resolution Designating District's Election Representative

The WISD is requesting that the YCS Board of Education adopt a resolution to select the candidates it supports.

The election will take place on Monday, June 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Washtenaw Intermediate School District at 1819 South Wagner Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopts the Designated Representative and alternate who are directed to cast a vote on at least the first ballot on behalf of this Board for Diane Hockett and Mary Jane Tramontin for the six-year terms and Dorcas Musili for the two-year term.

Motion by Dr. Celeste Hawkins, second by Jeanice Townsend.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Action: G. CTE Millage Resolution

The WISD is requesting that the YCS board of education adopt this CTE millage resolution.

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

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education adopt the CTE Millage Resolution.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2

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.

**Jeremy Haley** - CTE millage, people are not less than if they don't have a degree, are you teaching students how to handle failure

## 12. DISCUSSION

Discussion: A. Board of Education Subcommittee Reports

**Trustee Sutton-Kennedy:** Next Monday, May 19th is the Legislative Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the WISD

**Vice President Lee:** Next Head Start policy meeting is May 22nd but that is also graduation. The Strategic Planning meeting has been rescheduled for May 20th and that conflicts with another event.

## 13. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

**Trustee Townsend:** Thank you for everyone who participated at the WASB Town Hall on funding. It was very informative.

Thank the board for the extraordinary year we have had. We know our students and community and what it needs and we are sticking to that. Excited for the upcoming year.

**Trustee Espy:** Attending the high school's transition day. Thank you for hosting that event. I appreciated the town hall. Looking forward to attending graduation and all the other May events including the Grizzly Awards.

**Trustee Sutton-Kennedy:** Went to Lansing to advocate for funding for special education. Attending the MASB Advocacy Skills Behind the Scenes at the Capitol workshop. Attended the high school and middle school choir event, so much talent. Great job at the town hall.

**Dr. Hawkins:** Shout out to Trustee Townsend for doing such a great job as the moderator at the town hall. Attended the MASB workshop in Mackinac with the keynote on AI. We are on the cutting edge of AI. We are risk takers. We offer many pathways for our students. Thank you to our educators. We are ending strong.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Grateful for the PA 321 funds. Thank you for your work on the dual immersion school with the facilities and now the group with the vision. Transitioning that building had already started with other projects from the sinking fund. Our teachers are accustomed to not having bathrooms in all the classrooms at that under age. The district has changed building over so this is nothing new. More spaces to collaborate both teachers and students. The building already has the technology. In dual immersion, there are a lot of family events and this will be conducive to that. We will make sure the communication piece is in place. They are working hand in hand with the families. The YCHS projects were amazing. The new Beatty playground was dedicated today. I appreciate the WISD's support with that new space. There is an opportunity to attend a lot of things this month. The third grade book release is happening. The biggest event is the Commencement on May 22nd. Thank you to our educators. Our scholars are going all over the place and there are lots of them who got scholarships. There are fields days. WIHI graduation is May 28th with the majority coming from Ypsilanti. The 8th grade ceremony, and the pre-school ceremony. We thank our scholars and our educators for all the work they have put in. We thank our parents and community.

**Dr. Hawkins:** Retreat in August and mid-term monitoring in early August. We as a board might consider participating in a workshop like True Colors personalities. This one is specific to boards and understanding leadership styles. We would have someone come if the board is interested. Thank Mr. Burchwell for your leadership because moving into a building is a lot and to the team who is working on this. We have a lot of exciting things happening. Proud of our scholars.

**Trustee Sutton-Kennedy:** A Spanish immersion parent meeting for tomorrow. Our first Spanish immersion parent group on May 27th.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.