

REGULAR MEETING Agenda | Electronic Meeting VIA Zoom; see "IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS MEETING" (Monday, May 10, 2021)

Generated by Julie Haines on Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Members present

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Meeting called to order at 5:33 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. IMPORTANT MESSAGE(S) REGARDING THIS ELECTRONIC MEETING

Information: A. Electronic Meeting (via Zoom) In Accordance with DHHS Emergency Order and PA 254 of 2020; COVID-19

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: This meeting of the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education will proceed electronically in accordance with DHHS Emergency Order and PA 254 of 2020.If participants do not have technology access, please contact our Director of Technology Nik Jackson for accommodation: techdirector@ycschools.us.**Public viewers please use the following link to watch the live stream: <https://www.facebook.com/ypsilantcommunityschools>****-or join directly on Zoom-**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83401100127>

The public can register their attendance at the following link. If they would like to ask a question or make a public comment to the Board, there is a place for that, as well:

- Live form: http://bit.ly/YCS_BOE_Comments
- Call in to speak during public comments time: **734-221-1204**

As public comments come in, they will be collected in the order received in the following spreadsheet. Board and Cabinet are the only ones with access:

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Information: B. Electronic Meeting Guidelines

ELECTRONIC MEETING GUIDELINES: Because electronic meetings are new to the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education, it is appropriate to outline those procedures which may vary from typical meeting procedures.

#1: Board members will be asked to state their name when making motions and seconds for the benefit of the audience.

#2: All votes are urged to be taken by roll call for clarity.

#3: The Chair will strive to recognize Board members by name before they speak. In the event this does not happen, trustees are encouraged to announce their own name or may be reminded to do so.

#4: Audience members will be muted until recognized by the Chair during public comment(s).

#5: People who speak during public comment time will be asked to state their name and topic before speaking.

#6: If there is a closed session in a meeting, it will take place in a separate Zoom session. The regular meeting will remain open until the Board returns from closed session.

#7: Board members must avoid using email, texting, instant messaging and other electronic forms to communicate with each other or with members of the public during the meeting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Board President

4. 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 Ellen Champagne.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

5. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Ypsi Connected Community School

In an effort to respond to the educational needs of our non-traditional students and families who are seeking an alternative to in-person schooling, YCS has created the YPSI Connected Community School. This Distance Learning school will offer students who have been successful in an online platform to engage in daily with our teachers and receive high quality instruction during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. taught by YCS certified teachers Monday through Friday. The YPSI Connected Community School is a perfect choice for homeschool students who wish to learn from home. Participating students will receive a rigorous and engaging

online curriculum, a free laptop, free internet access, materials, and supplies needed to be successful. Click [here](#) for the presentation presented to the board. Click [here](#) for the extended presentation.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS #1: Electronic Participation

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.

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Dr. Hawkins read the public comments:

Amanda Smith, Parent/523 Fairview Cir., Ypsilanti, MI 48197, "First, I want to express my delight in YCS's ability to be agile and innovative in the face of challenging times. I love that the district is taking on the creation of a language immersion school. I think this will be a fantastic addition to the program, and have already heard from friends who may be interested!

I also appreciate the fact that the district has listened to constituents in the need for an online learning option. I am curious how you will make the online option flexible and personalized to students who utilize this option. I'm also curious what audiences you hope to capture with this program. I noticed in reading through the presentation for the Ypsi Connected Community School that the online option will be very Zoom-heavy. In my small window of folks in the community, the ones I know who would have an interest in an online option would need lots of flexibility and opportunities for families to meet student needs in a different way - possibly with less screen time. I'd love to better understand your vision so I can continue to be a cheerleader for you in the community and connect this great program with an audience that makes sense."

7. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resolution: ... MOVE THAT the Board of Education approve the: 1) April 26, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes 2) personnel matters as per the presented list dated 4/16/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements. 3) April ECOL Report

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

- 1) April 26, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
- 2) [personnel matters](#) as per the presented list dated 4/16/21; New Hires, Termination, Resignations, and Retirements.
- 3) April ECOL Report

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

8. ACTION ITEM: Business and Finance

Action, Recognition: A. YCHS Pool Renovation Change Order for Honeywell

The Ypsilanti Community High School pool has been offline since late 2020 and requires significant restoration to restore safe operation and viability. Per the February 14, 2021 YCS Board Update, we published an RFP and received two bids, both from contractors currently managing projects within the district. Honeywell had the best qualifying bid and was also the lowest bid.

This project is sinking fund eligible, and we have purposefully preserved approximately 1 million for this work. Once we received bids, Honeywell's original scope of work came in at 2.84 million. We had this scope and project timeline revised to reflect our budget number and sinking fund accrual schedule. Honeywell broke out their original bid to reflect a phased approach to restoration. The proposal for the Pool Filter Room Upgrades, details included in the proposal, will bring about updated, modern mechanicals that will run more efficiently both economically and operationally. This updated system will become the foundation for the scope of work that will become the new modernized YCHS Natatorium.

As the Director of District Operation, Mr. Rose recommends that we accept the proposal from Honeywell for item L. Pool Filter Room Upgrades on the Pool Project Change Order #2 dated 4/26/21 for the sum of \$1,027,280.

Click [here](#) for the Change Order for Honeywell.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the YCHS Pool Renovation change order for Honeywell.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Gillian Ream Gainsley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Action: B. No Hungry Child Grant

No Kid Hungry Grant

As school districts face significant challenges maintaining and expanding meal programs in this uncertain environment, funds are intended to support school districts in having the adaptability to meet the changing needs of students and families. Grant funding is available for school districts to leverage a variety of strategies to increase meals served and support kids and families in this new operating environment, including:

Ensuring maximum student participation and improving meal quality in federal nutrition programs like School Breakfast, School Lunch, Afterschool Meals and Snacks, and the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program as well as the Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Option as needed during emergency school closures
Offering universal breakfast and lunch (served at no cost to all students), including Community Eligibility Provision implementation
Promoting awareness of meal availability to students and families, especially for free and reduced-price eligible students
Providing meals during weekends and out-of-school time through backpack programs and school pantries
Promoting SNAP, WIC and Pandemic-EBT programs and supporting enrollment

Ypsilanti Community Schools was awarded \$105,000 to support the foodservice department. The funds are being allocated for the following items....

-Personal Protective Equipment for staff (masks and sanitizer)
-Totes for meal delivery for service in the classroom
-refrigerated vehicle (delivery of meal items at proper temperatures, especially during the summer months)
-replacement 2 door refrigerator for Estabrook elementary
-gathering quotes for a ventless convection oven for an elementary school
*this oven would allow use to improve the quality of the food
*capabilities to cook everything from raw chicken to roasting fresh vegetable
Click here for the food truck quote.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the use of part of the No Kid Hungry grant to purchase a food truck for \$50,681.45.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Sharon Lee.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

Action: C. VSC Incorporated a Purchase for a new audio system with video recording included up to \$182,505.72

The district requested and received a quote to purchase audio equipment with PA and classroom video recording. Bid received from the vendor as follows:

VSC, INC. \$182,505.72

Since the fire from Ford, the building has sustained damage to many of the technology components housed within. We have requested a new classroom audio system installation through Audio Enhancement which will incorporate a cloud based public announcement (PA) system to include hallways and common areas, and have the ability to record teaching lessons in the classroom. This can be leveraged for hybrid teaching and peer-to-peer instruction.

This project is intended to replace the gutted and otherwise damaged audio infrastructure that was sustained during the fire. These systems will be installed and used in each classroom and common areas such as hallways, gym and media center. This will allow students that need audio assistance for hard of hearing, and save the instructors voice from having to elevate their voice volume throughout the day. This directly supports the teaching and learning environment in the district.
Click here for the slideshow. Click here for the technology needs.

.... MOVE THAT the Board of Education award, as presented, the purchase agreement with VSC Incorporated, to purchase up to \$182,505.72 for a new audio system with video recording included.

Motion by Maria Goodrich, second by Ellen Champagne.

Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Ellen Champagne, Sharon Lee, Meredith Schindler, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS #2: Electronic Participation

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

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No public comments.

10. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Trustee Gainsley: I think it's exciting that we're getting a food truck and I appreciate Butman Ford. They have been very involved in the community. We got our car at the library from them. They've been very generous and very helpful in a number of community organizations so I'm just pleased to see that we're able to work with that local business and wanted to take a moment to appreciate them.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: I know we at the last board meeting you acknowledged all of our exceptional educators for teachers and staff appreciation week and for nurses week and for Friday was superheroes week for our food service staff. On Friday, the Grizzly Awards were amazing and to have so many staff that were recognized that are so outstanding I just wanted to publicly again congratulate all of the nominees and winners of the Grizzly Awards. They are well deserved for each of them and just to hear about the excitement that people had with staff all across the district in every single unit was exciting and I just wanted to also thank the Sunshine committee, the exceptional chef Gaertner for the cheeseburger soup we made on Thursday night, and the board awards where they had the wonderful boards that they created. I know some of you were there watching. The whole week was exciting and I just thank the Sunshine Committee led by Kier Ingraham and Mr. Alvarado. We have such an amazing staff and we're very fortunate and our students are to be able to have these educators amongst us.

Dr. Hawkins: I didn't want to forget that the public education banner project reception was on Friday and it was rainy but wonderful all at the same time. We had Ms. Fisk who was the one who organized this event. Trustee Fields was there. We also had Mayor Richardson and Representative Debbie Dingell who said a few words. We were so proud of our parents and our students who were at that event and continue to be proud of them and their work is displayed throughout Ypsilanti and so that is such a point of pride for us here in this community. Although the students would have loved to have been in D.C., COVID changed all of that and Representative Dingell did say that she is going to try to figure out a way that those students can still be brought to D.C. We look forward to hearing more and just wanted to say a huge congratulations to all the staff at YCS to helped to lead this project from the beginning to the end.

Dr. Zachery-Ross: Today the health department called back and we're excited that so far we're the first district where the health department is looking to give vaccinations for 12 years old and up. They are doing a walk with Mr. Rose tomorrow. They're looking to do it this week. They know it's short notice for our community yet they want to offer it if they get the numbers. We know it's based off of how many vaccines they get every week so we have to be able to be flexible. At this point the opportunity is for anyone and they have taken students from wherever. They don't even need to be in our county as long as they register but they want to focus on YCS students and it is tentatively at our high school for students and their families if they are interested in vaccination on Friday, May 14th and then they'll have their second shots on June 4th. I will certainly keep you and our community informed yet we're really just excited to offer this service to our community members who are interested.

11. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING: 6:24 p.m.