



**WASHTENAW INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, in Washtenaw ISD's Teaching and Learning Center Board Room at 1819 South Wagner Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Diane Hockett

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

Diane Hockett, President
Mary Jane Tramontin, Vice President
Theresa Saunders, Secretary
Steve Olsen, Trustee

The following member was absent:

Sarena Shivers, Treasurer

Quorum was met.

Also present:

Naomi Norman, Superintendent
Cherie Vannatter, Deputy Superintendent
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent
Edward Manuszak, Executive Director for Early Childhood
Holly Heaviland, Executive Director of Community & School Partnerships
LaDawn White, Early Childhood Grant Manager
Victoria Westmoreland, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Steve Olsen, seconded by Mary Jane Tramontin, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: All.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel reviewed the financial reports for December 2023, noting that the report did not account for the most recent Budget Amendments approved at the February 13, 2024, Board of Education meeting. Early Childhood Grants Manager LaDawn White reviewed the January 2024 Head Start Financial Reports, noting that the summary page had been amended to include encumbrances, and that there was a printing error with pages 73-70. LaDawn fielded questions from the Board.

Motion by Theresa Saunders, seconded by Mary Jane Tramontin, that the Board of Education approve the January 2024 Head Start Financial Reports, as presented.

Voting yes: Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Diane Hockett.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE DIALOGUE: Superintendent Naomi Norman facilitated the Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (EISJ) discussion, sharing about the following:

- An opportunity for the Board to engage in professional learning that is in line with equity work being facilitated at WISD. This was followed by a brief discussion about scheduling sessions.
- The Family Literacy Initiative Campaign Kickoff will be hosted at the Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Building on Sunday, March 10, 2024, from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The event is intended to raise awareness surrounding the literacy crisis in Washtenaw County and its impact on the community, boost recruitment of volunteers and tutors to assist literacy partners, and engage in dialogue with federal, state, and local leaders who will be in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mary Jane Tramontin, seconded by Steve Olsen, that the Board of Education approve the minutes and Superintendent’s recommendations in the Consent Agenda, as presented.

Voting yes: Steve Olsen, Diane Hockett, Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the February 13, 2024, regular meeting.

074-23-24

The Board approved the following employment recommendations:

- Charlie Jones as a CTE Data Entry & Reporting Specialist.
- Kimberley Rock as a Teacher Consultant for WEOC/WAVE.
- Michael Schwartz as a Teaching Assistant.

075-23-24

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Joy Taylor, WAVE Teacher Consultant, 1.0 FTE, 185 Workdays, Unit II Bargaining, to Transition Teacher Consultant, 1.0 FTE, 185 Workdays, Unit II Bargaining.
- Vacant, Social Worker, Infant Mental Health Specialist, 0.6 FTE, 111 Workdays, Unit II Bargaining, to Social Worker, Infant Mental Health Specialist, 0.7 FTE, 129.5 Workdays, Unit II Bargaining.

076-22-23

The Board approved the following staff retirement:

- Richard Korth, effective August 31, 2024.

077-23-24

The Board approved the following termination:

- VerShawn Patrick, effective February 12, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS – Robert Half Contract Amendment: Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel addressed the Board, sharing background information pertaining to the Robert Half Contract Agreement on behalf of Assistant Director of Technology & Data Services Matthew Cook, who could not attend the meeting. Brian Marcel shared the original contract that was approved by the Board in August of 2023 must be extended to meet technology and data services’ pertinent staffing needs.

Motion by Steve Olsen, seconded by Theresa Saunders, that the Board authorize the administration to approve the amended contracted services agreement with Robert Half for LAN/WAN Support and Desktop Technical Support for a cost not to exceed \$134,00.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Diane Hockett, Theresa Saunders.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Universal Pre-K Selection Criteria 2024-2025: Executive Director for Early Childhood Edward Manuszak address the Board, first sharing that WISD’s selection criteria has been referenced as an exemplary model, then discussing the utilization and application of the Universal Pre-K Selection Criteria. Edward Manuszak fielded questions from the Board.

Motion by Steve Olsen, seconded by Mary Jane Tramontin, that the Board approve the 2024 Universal Preschool Selection Criteria for GSRP, Head Start, and Early Head Start services, as presented.

Voting yes: Theresa Saunders, Mary Jane Tramontin, Diane Hockett, Steve Olsen.

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS: Trustee Steve Olsen spoke about the following:

- Trustee Steve Olsen and Board President Diane Hockett have been working diligently with the Self-Assessment team. This process allows for the WISD to identify possible systemic issues. Mary Jane Tramontin and Theresa Saunders thanked both Steve Olsen and Daine Hockett for serving on this team and noted the impact of the team’s work.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS – Superintendent’s Report:

Superintendent Naomi Norman spoke about the following:

- The A2Y Early Edition breakfast on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 featured local black writers, Marsalis Higgs and Elle Wright and book store owner, Carlos Franklin. They discussed their experiences in field of writing and publishing.
- Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter shared information on the Honey Creek re-authorization process. The WISD board will need to evaluate the school and renew the charter contract by June 30, 2024. WISD is administering a culture survey to staff, parents, and students to use as part of the evaluation.
- Talent Together has been named one of the “Top 10 Education Innovations in the Country” by ASU+GSV.
- MAISA’s instruction committee switched to a new format with the goal of improving coordination among instruction efforts. The committee decided to come together and apply for a math grant at the state level. If the funding is granted, this money will be used to provide a Math Coordinator at every ISD within the state. Board President Diane Hockett remarked on the strength of coordinating among ISDs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Saunders, Secretary
Washtenaw ISD Board of Education