



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

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

The Washtenaw Intermediate School District Board of Education held a regular board meeting on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 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 5:01 PM by President Diane Hockett.

ATTENDANCE

The following members were present:

Diane Hockett, President
Mary Jane Tramontin, Vice President
Steve Olsen, Secretary
Sarena Shivers, Treasurer
Dorcas Musili, Trustee

The following member was absent:

Quorum was met.

Also present:

Naomi Norman, Superintendent (remote)
Brian Marcel, Associate Superintendent
Edward Manuszak, Executive Director of Early Childhood
Jennifer Banks, Director of Instruction
Tanner Rowe, Director of Operations
LaDawn White, Early Childhood Grant Manager
Althea Wilson, Early Child Family Services Coordinator
DarNesha Green, Mental Health Clinical Supervisor
Matthew Cook, Chief Information Officer
Tyler LaTendresse as the Assistant Director, Technology & Data Services
Dorma Sanders, Member of the Public
TJ Greggs, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Steve Olsen moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, to approve the agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Sarena Shivers, Dorcas Musili

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel met the requirements for renewing the Chief Financial Officer certification by completing 150 hours of professional development through the Michigan School Business Officials.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Dorma Sanders, resident of Washtenaw County, addressed the board.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Associate Superintendent Brian Marcel reviewed the financial reports for November 2024 and Grant Manager of Early Childhood LaDawn White reviewed the Head Start financial reports for November and December 2024.

Mary Jane Tramontin moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education approve the November and December 2024 Head Start financial report, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

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:

- Superintendent Naomi Norman shared about the meeting with Rebecca Olszewski, a lawyer from the Michigan Immigration Rights Center, and the Washtenaw Association of Superintendents to address implications of shifting immigration and border patrol regulations beginning next week.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the December 10, 2024, regular meeting.

065-24-25

The Board approved the following employment recommendations:

- Andrew Munson as a Communications Specialist III
- Eric Jackson as a Coordinator of Work Based Learning
- Jackson Greenstone as a Coordinator of CTE Special Populations
- Marshaun Brooks as a Coordinator of CTE
- Safia Mohammadi as a Home-Based Parent Educator (Early Head Start)
- Tyler LaTendresse as the Assistant Director, Technology & Data Services
- Connor McCall as a Student Worker for the dishwashing position at High Point

066-24-25

The Board approved the following reclassification requests:

- Carmen Grace, Ypsilanti Pilot Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit II to WEOC Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit II.
- Carla Green, TA Young Adult Virtual and Community Program - VCYATA, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I to TA YA Out-Center Floater, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit I.

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- Laura Kinney, Teacher VCYA Virtual & Community Young Adult Program, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit II to Teacher DT Ypsi Young Adult Program, 1.0 FTE, 185 workdays, Unit II.
- Eric Jackson, Coordinator of Work Based Learning, 1.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Non-Affiliated to Coordinator of Work Based Learning, 1.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Non-Affiliated.
- Marshaun Brooks, Coordinator of CTE, 1.0 FTE, 210 workdays, Non-Affiliated to Coordinator of CTE, 1.0 FTE, 230 workdays, Non-Affiliated.

067-24-25

The Board approved the following staff retirements:

- John Miller, effective March 7, 2025
- Lauren Traywick, effective January 31, 2025

068-24-25

The Board authorized administration to amend the Propio Language Services contract for a total amount not to exceed \$33,500.00, as presented.

069-24-25

The Board authorized administration to approve a stipend of \$5,000 to Bill Coury, Stephanie Gabriel, Mike Maisano, Nahal Meshinchi, and Alex Zapien, and a stipend of \$2,500 to Leslie Hite and Soloman Zheng, as presented.

070-24-25

The Board authorized administration to approve the contract with Forthright Advising in the amount of \$29,900.00, as presented.

071-24-25

The Board authorized administration to approve the contract with Rhodes Branding for CTE Branding, Marketing and Video Production in the amount of \$81,000.00, as presented.

NEW BUSINESS – Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MILEAP) Out of School Time (OST) Grant Award: Director of Instruction Dr. Jennifer Banks shared the Out of School Time (OST) grant the WISD was awarded with the Board.

Dorcas Musili moved, Steve Olsen seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to accept the awarded funds from the Out of School Time grant in the amount of \$1,497,760.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Abstained: Sarena Shivers

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Innovations Institute, University of Connecticut, School of Social Work, Workforce Development: Mental Health Clinical Supervisor DarNesha Green addressed the Board regarding the contract with the University of Connecticut, School of Social Work to provide coaching, certification, and capacity building for the WISD.

Sarena Shivers moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the approval of the attached contact with Innovations Institute, University of Connecticut, School of Social Work for a cost not to exceed \$260,000.00 per year, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Lease Recommendation – 4870 Clark Rd: Director of Operations Tanner Rowe addressed the Board about leasing the 4870 Clark Rd building for WISD use.

Steve Olsen moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to execute the lease agreement with MMB-RE LLC for two (2) suites located at 4870 Clark Rd. with rent totaling \$565,080 for the five-year term, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Approval of new GSRP 2024-2025 Contacts and Contract Amounts: Executive Director for Early Childhood Dr. Edward Manuszak addressed the Board about the additional funding for 59 children Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) slots for FY24-25.

Steve Olsen moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to approve the 2024-25 GRSP contract for the existing subrecipients in the amount of \$649,000.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Partitions for Classroom Bathrooms at Beatty ELC: Executive Director for Early Childhood Dr. Edward Manuszak addressed the Board about replacement of the Beatty Early Learning Center bathroom partitions.

Dorcas Musili moved, Mary Jane Tramontin seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to approve replacement of the classroom bathroom partitions for all classroom bathrooms at Beatty Early Learning Center for a cost not to exceed \$6,720.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – Blinds for Beatty Early Learning Center Executive Director for Early Childhood Dr. Edward Manuszak addressed the Board about replacement of the Beatty Early Learning Center blinds.

Steve Olsen moved, Dorcas Musili seconded, that the Board of Education authorize the administration to approve replacement of the classroom blinds for all classrooms at Beatty Early Learning Center in the amount of \$7,470.00, as presented.

Voting yes: Diane Hockett, Mary Jane Tramontin, Sarena Shivers, Steve Olsen, Dorcas Musili

Voting no: None.

Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS – Revisit Updated Vision Statement: The Board of Education discussed their thoughts on the Updated WISD Vision Statement.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORTS:

- Trustee Diane Hockett shared about the Open Meetings Act Training on January 30, 2025.
- Trustee Diane Hockett discussed holding the evaluation of Superintendent Naomi Norman on the January 28, 2025 Board meeting.
- Trustee Steve Olsen shared the Michigan Head Start Association winter assembly on January 16, 2025.
- Trustee Sarena Shivers shared she will be a keynote speaker the MLK celebration in Troy on January 20, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS - Superintendent's Report:

- Superintendent Naomi Norman, Deputy Superintendent Cherie Vannatter, and Trustee Sarena Shivers will be attending the MASA Mid-winter conference.
- The WISD will be hosting Board of Education Training from MASB on Saturday, January 18, 2025 at the TLC Building.
- The results of the of the Consensus Revenue estimating conference showed an increase in revenue for the School Aid Fund of over \$300M for this school year and over \$300M for next school year.
- PA 152 was revised based on votes of the House and Senate during lame duck. This bill addresses health insurance costs for school personnel. The current challenge is whether the House Bill will move forward to the governor's desk for approval.
- Update on bargaining negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Olsen, Secretary
Washtenaw ISD Board of Education