

School District of the City of Highland Park  
Highland Park Renaissance Academy - Commons  
15900 Woodward Avenue  
Highland Park, Michigan 48203

# **Schedule**

**Regular Board of Education Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2013**

**7:00 p.m.**

School District of the City of Highland Park  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Education**  
Highland Park Renaissance Academy - Commons  
15900 Woodward Avenue  
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7:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

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**I. Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Highland Park was called to order by Vice President Humphrey in the Highland Park Renaissance Academy, 15900 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan 48203, on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 7:11 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Board Members: Alma Greer, Debra Humphrey, Glenda McDonald, and Soyini Williams

Absent: Board Members: Robert Davis, John Holloway and Jamille Edwards

A quorum was present

Also present were: Dr. Donald Weatherspoon, Emergency Financial Manager, Vickie Gray, Executive Secretary, Staff and Citizens

**III. Approval of Board of Education Minutes**

Vice President Humphrey called for a motion for the approval of the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2012, the Annual Organizational Meeting of January 8, 2013, and the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2013 of the Board of Education.

Moved by: Board Member Greer

Supported by: Treasurer Williams

Ayes: Board Members: Greer, McDonald, Williams, and Humphrey

Nays: None

Absent: Board Members Davis, Holloway, and Edwards

**Suggested Motion**

That the Board of Education approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2012, the Annual Organizational Meeting of January 8, 2013, and the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2013.

**Motion carried**

**IV. Communications**

A. The City of Highland Park Election Coordination Committee Report dated January 25, 2013.

B. Federally Qualified Health Center correspondence submitted by Ms. Edith Hightower requesting the board and citizens with the zip code of 48203 to submit letters to Dr. Jean E. Davis in support of the health center.

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**V. Public Hearings**

Request for public hearings must be submitted in writing and must state purpose.

“Employees and employee groups are not authorized to appear before the Board of Education to discuss contract issues or negotiable items. **(See Board Policy #1360)**

No requests were submitted.

**VI. Citizen Participation**

- A. Mr. Martez Crutchfield, former student, is representing the Class of 2012 voiced a complaint regarding the Highland Park Community High School Class of 2012 Year Book.
- B. Ms. Lisa Herring, parent, expressed a complaint pertaining to the Highland Park Community High School Class of 2012 Year Book. Students were charged \$125 for the yearbook, but were not recognized in the yearbook. The yearbook did not contain the majority of the Class of 2012 or their accomplishments.

**VII. Consent Agenda**

None

**VIII. Educational Presentation**

- A. Board Member Greer presented the Presidential Inauguration 2013 Washington D.C. Trip sponsored by Detroit Unity Temple and the Legacy of Literacy Program. A student from George Washington Carver and a recipient of the essay contest read his essay to the Board.
- B. Dr. Denyse Jones presented the Southgate Adult Community Education Consortium Program with an invitation for former Highland Park adult education students to enroll into the program.

**IX. Old Business**

- A. Dr. Donald Weatherspoon requested that items IX.(A) (Item VI. Institutional Membership List for 2013 ) be moved to XI.(C).
- B. Dr. Donald Weatherspoon requested to strike Items IX.(B) (The sale and cost of surplus items from the Midwest Surplus), IX.(C) (The status of the 2012 Yearend Audit from Alan Young and Associates) and IX.(D) from the agenda.
- C. Dr. Donald Weatherspoon voiced that Alan Young and Associates are not prepared to present the Certified Audit Report to the Board. Mr. Paul Bryant will speak about the findings in preparation of the audit.

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**X. New Business**

None

**XI. Any Other Items that Might Properly Come Under the Heading of Old and New Business**

- A. The dues to Michigan Association of School Boards, Wayne County Association of School Boards and Michigan Middle Cities will be paid by the District.
  
- B. Sale of surplus items – Board Member Humphrey expressed concerns with the pricing of items being sold from 20 Bartlett. She also questioned the whereabouts of the money of the items being sold. Dr. Weatherspoon explained by law the money goes to the deficit of the District. He also noted the demise of the items at 20 Bartlett and the depreciated value. Secretary Glenda McDonald indicated that there are still teaching materials at Cortland School that may be sold as surplus.
  
- C. Mr. Paul Bryant, Alan Young and Associates, provided a preliminary update regarding various numbers for financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2012. The overall deficit is approximately \$12.2M for the year ending June 30, 2012. Secretary McDonald inquired as to will the debt continue to grow. Dr. Weatherspoon responded that there are some uncontrollable items; he has no control over litigation issues.

**XII. Administrative Information**

None

**XIII. Board of Education Affairs**

- A. Secretary McDonald requested that school district email addresses be assigned to board members allowing the community to communicate with board members through the District's website.
  
- B. Secretary McDonald requested that board members complete an emergency form for urgent situations.
  
- C. Item C has been addressed (The status of the 2012 year-end audit for Alan Young and Associates).
  
- D. Vice President Humphrey requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Dr. Arthur M. Carter, a former Superintendent, of the Highland Park School District. A resolution will be forthcoming.
  
- E. Board Member Greer requested the update on the ruling on the ACLU and Dr. Samuel Craig's lawsuits. Dr. Weatherspoon responded there has been no ruling on either lawsuit.

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- F. Secretary McDonald is requesting the presence of Ms. Pamela Williams, Superintendent of Highland Park Renaissance Academy for the Leona Group to be present at all Highland Park Board of Education meetings. Dr. Weatherspoon indicated that Ms. Williams will always be available, but she cannot be compelled to come and answer questions, it has to go through the Public School Academy Board. Secretary McDonald is also concerned about the distribution of the uniforms in the schools from the uniform drive.
- G. Vice President Humphrey inquired if the Board has legal counsel. Dr. Weatherspoon responded that Attorney George Butler is currently representing the District. Attorney Butler will attend board meetings when legal issues occur.
- H. Board Member Greer expressed a concern regarding 10 high school student IEPs (Individualized Educational Plan) being past due. Mr. Flinnoia Hall III, School Leader, for the Highland Park Renaissance Academy indicated that the IEP's are up to date. He also thanked Secretary McDonald for the uniform drive and that the uniforms were distributed throughout the three schools.

**XIV. Citizen Participation**

- A. Ms. Juanita Benson-Midds, citizen, wanted to know the difference the between the Public School Academy Board and the Leona Group governing Board. Dr. Weatherspoon explained the difference between the two boards. Ms. Midds also expressed concern for the District's use of the sinking fund.

**XV. Adjournment**

Moved by Board Member Greer and supported by Treasurer Williams to adjourn the Board of Education Meeting. Board Members Davis, Holloway, and Edwards are absent. Vice President Humphrey adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:20 p.m.

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Ms. Glenda McDonald, Secretary  
Board of Education

Minutes Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_