

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, January 8, 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  
Tuesday, January 8, 2013  
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 President Edwards in the Highland Park Renaissance Academy, 15900 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan 48203, on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 6:59 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Present: Board Members Jamille Edwards, John Holloway, Debra Humphrey, Glenda McDonald and Soyini Williams

Absent: Board Members Robert Davis and Alma Greer

A quorum was present

Also present were: Dr. Donald Weatherspoon, Emergency Financial Manager, Staff and Citizens

**III. Reading of the Public Notice**

Secretary McDonald read the Notice of the Regular Meeting

“Public Notice of the Regular Meeting of the Highland Park Board of Education”

By the action of the President of the Board of Education, The Board of Education of the School District of the City of Highland Park will hold its **Regular Meeting** on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.at the Highland Park Renaissance Academy, 15900 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan.

“This notice is given in compliance with Act 267, of the 1976 Public Act of the State of Michigan.

”/s Robert Davis, Secretary, Board of Education

“Posted Friday, January 4, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.”

**IV. Approval of Board of Education Minutes**

President Edwards requested a motion for the approval of the minutes for the December 11, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education.

Moved by: Treasurer Williams

Supported: Lack of Support

**Suggested Motion**

That the Board of Education delay the reading of the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2012.

**Motion Failed**

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**V. Communications**

- A. McDonald Phelps Foundation School Uniform Drive January 1-30, 2013.
- B. Wayne RESA Board of Education Local School District Board of Education Recognition Resolution.

**VI. 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 request were submitted.

**VII. Citizen Participation**

- A. Ms. Carolyn Brown, former employee, supports the new leadership of the board. Encouraged the Board of Education to look at the research out of Harvard regarding supply side economics. President Obama has been contacted regarding how charter schools have destroyed communities.
- B. President Edwards acknowledged Mr. Chris Woodard, Council President of the City of Highland Park.

**VIII. Educational Presentation**

None

**IX. Old Business**

- A. Highland Park School District year-end audit. Dr. Donald Weatherspoon informed the Board that the audit is complete, but is not prepared for presentation to the Board. Technical questions are being addressed and should be ready by the end of the month.
- B. Item IX F. Dr. Weatherspoon met with Mr. Sandy McDonald. A plan will be put in place in collaboration with the City of Highland Park for disposition of properties. Midland and Brighton properties will be transferred back to the school district

**X. New Business**

None

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

- A. A moment of silence was given for Mr. Jamie Abney, a former Highland Park Police Officer and Wayne County Sheriff and to any other Highland Parkers that have lost their lives.

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---

- B. Dr. Weatherspoon gave a partial response to President Edwards and Vice President Humphrey's requests. He indicated that the school district has zero dollars and remain in a deficit of \$3M.

**XII. Administrative Information**

- A. Dr. Donald Weatherspoon informed the Board of the effort to track student progress and data in all charter schools that the District authorizers. He invited the Board to an informational meeting conducted by Dr. Stephanie Barrage in Okemos, Michigan.

**XIII. Board of Education Affairs**

- A. Secretary McDonald requested a breakdown of the number of students residing in the Highland Park School District city limits from Ms. Pamela Williams, Superintendent of the Highland Park Renaissance Academy.
- B. Vice President Humphrey inquired as to where is Alan Young and Associates retrieving the audit information.
- C. Secretary McDonald requested clarification from Dr. Weatherspoon concerning the grading system through E2020 from Highland Park Renaissance Academy. Dr. Weatherspoon indicated E2020 payment terms are being negotiated.
- D. President Edwards inquired as to whether the leasing agency will come before the Board of Education. Dr. Weatherspoon indicated the Board will be provided with an explanation of the leasing arrangements.
- E. Secretary McDonald acknowledged the presence of Mr. Andre Windom, Mayor of the City of Highland Park.
- F. Secretary McDonald requested a copy of the contract entered into by the Leona Group. Dr. Weatherspoon indicated the contract will be available for review.
- G. Board Member Holloway referenced the sinking fund's sunset date and the amount of money it generates each year. Weatherspoon indicated it expires in 2016.
- H. Secretary McDonald requested the reason why the Leona Group was given \$400,000 of the sinking funds. Dr. Weatherspoon will provide the Board with the requested information.

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**XIV. Citizen Participation**

- A. Mrs. Michelle Johnson, citizen, voiced concerns regarding her son's graduation day and his high school transcript. She has an issue with grades given to her niece. Voiced concerns regarding payment to the E2020 Company and issues pertaining to the Leona Group.
  
- B. Ms. Juanita Benson-Midds, citizen, voiced concerns regarding the specialized service for special education students. The Leona Group's use of the school district's sinking funds.
  
- C. Mr. Nathan Harvey, Detroit Architecture, is requesting contact information for clients interested in purchasing school district property. One client is interested in providing a state funded automotive repair program to be housed at the high school or the Career Academy. The second client is interested in purchasing 20 Bartlett and transitioning the property into a parking lot.

**XV. Adjournment**

Moved by Vice President Humphrey and supported by Secretary McDonald to adjourn the Board of Education Meeting. Board Member Williams exited the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m. Board Members Davis and Greer are absent. President Edwards adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:38 p.m.

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Ms. Glenda McDonald, Secretary  
Board of Education

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