



REGULAR
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Barber Preparatory Academy
45 E. Buena Vista
highland Park, Michigan, 48203
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
6:00pm

APPROVED MINUTES

• **Call to Order-** Meeting was called to order by President Alexis Ramsey at 6:10pm.

Roll Call- Janet Spight White, Member / Linda G. Wheeler, Secretary // Eban Morales Member / Shamayim Harris Vice President/ Lorne McGee Member, Cheryl Sanford

Absent – Cheryl Sanford Treasurer

QUORUM

•**Moment of Silence**

•**Communication**

•**Citizens Participation (Agenda Items Only 2 minutes)**

•**Approval of the Board of Education Agenda**

President Ramsey entertained a motion requesting that New Business be moved ahead of Director of Operations. So moved by member Wheeler; second by member McGee. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

President Ramsey entertained a motion to approve the Board Agenda with the amendment. So moved by member White. Second by board member Wheeler. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

•**Approval of Minutes**

President Ramsey, entertained a motion to approve September 10th regular minutes. So moved by member White, second by Member Wheeler. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

•**New Business**

•**Motion to approve September Monthly Financial Report**

President Ramsey entertained a motion to approve the September monthly financial report. So moved by member Harris. Second by member White. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

•**Motion to approve Monthly Landscaping and cleanup of Ford property**

•Discussion; Vice President Harris addressed Mr. Sydney Spight regarding his invoice. President Ramsey asked Mr. Spight to approach the Board and explain his duties. Mr. Spight presented pictures and gave an account of all the work rendered on the property (Cutting the lawn, removed and dumped rubbish and garbage, chained gates, updated the property gates with privacy notice signs, removed large amounts of garbage and debris from the stairs connected to the school.)

President Ramsey entertained a motion to retroactively approve the 1 time engagement for Resurrection Landscaping to do landscaping and cleanup of Ford property. So moved by member White. Second by member Harris. All in favor: Janet Spight White **abstain**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

•**Motion to authorize RFP for Landscaping/Snow Removal**

President Ramsey entertained a motion for Mr. Smith to prepare an RFP for landscaping, cleanup and snow removal of Ford property. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

•**Motion to approve Paperless Option**

District Secretary Deborah Spencer presented paperless options which included a document showing 3 products; Fire 7 Tablet, Fire HD 10 Tablet and a Dell Chromebook for use in all Board meetings.

President Ramsey entertained a motion to purchase the Dell chromebook for all Board personal. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

MOTION PASSES.

President Ramsey spoke about information presented by member Morales regarding MASB. MASB are currently giving school Boards free classes within your District. Z. Gibson will provide perspective dates,

course subjects and more information by the next Board meeting. *No motion was taken.*

President Ramsey shared with the Board that ML. Elrick from Fox 2 news, has been harassing her, questioning her involvement with the choice to use Brian Banks to help Promise schools enrollment increase. Alexis stated *“I gave a name and that’s as far as my involvement in all of this has been, Promise actually did a contract with Mr. Banks.”* Danielle North from Promise schools stated *“Ms Ramsey did provide a recommendation which we took that recommendation and we took a contract with Mr. Banks to perform that work Ms North further explained that “We were not aware of his record when we took on that contract but again in our statement what we shared was that he wasn’t in contact with children”*

The Board agreed to unanimously support President Ramsey.

President Ramsey entertained a motion to authorize Kevin Smith to provide Mr. Elrick with an official letter in responds to the allegations surrounding Alexis and the Board in regards to Promise schools hiring of Brian Banks, with the Board statements as dictated. So moved by member. White. Second by member McGee. All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**, Alexis Ramsey **Yes**.

President Alexis Ramsey turned the meeting over to Vice President Shamiyim Harris and exited due to health issues at 6:49pm

Director of Operations Information

Enrollment – Danielle North Vice President

Danielle reported that 315 students were in attendance on count day October 2nd .

Mrs. North applauded the District and the Board for their support in helping gain enrollment. Stating “for us to be at 315 knowing where we were starting this school year is an amazing triumph”

Zakia stated that the front desk staff at BPA confirmed as of 10.8.19 the number of students in school were 319.

Danielle addressed the state of qualified teachers at BPA stating we have certified and qualified teachers which mean they’re qualified teachers took an alternative route and not the traditional 4 year study process. Promise will not be penalized for being out of compliance.

The extra curriculum classes offered at BPA include boys basketball grades 5-8, girls volley ball grades 6-8, flag football grades 5-8, cheer team, after school tutoring, boys and girls club, sewing club and arts K-8. In time this will evolve.

Strategic Education Plan Update:

Kevin presented the updated report prepared by Dr. Berry. In regard to the high school development, the idea is to have the school ready by Fall 2021. The numbers presented are just estimates, 500 students high school building. **Please see document attached for more information.** The goal is to attract national providers or providers who will help fund construction upfront.

Janet White asked about the demolition of Ford school. Kevin stated he approached the State asking if they would be willing to fund the demolition of Ford school, they responded asking that a letter be sent explaining the extenuating circumstances and a potential risks.

Adult Engagement Center, there are available location spaces, Janet White suggested that we look into owning a building, after further conversation the concentration will be on finding a location for the Adult Center that can possibly house the Board and district offices. Linda Wheeler stated we can revisit this after the Board is further into the adult education piece.

Upcoming Board Training

Member Harris, Sanford and White will be attending as members of the bylaws and policy subcommittee, the Board policy development retreat at GVSU Center in Detroit on October 19th from 9-3pm.

Harvestfest Update

- We raised \$2,000 for the coat, gloves and hat drive.
- 350 people participated
- 25 students received their immunization shots on site
- 5 additional applications for enrollment were submitted to BPA
- Received uniform vouchers from 91 Students
- CVS will send a donation as well. Amount will be presented once Zakia gets final confirmation.

•Motion to retroactively approve Harvestfest expenditures

Vice President Harris, entertained a motion that the Board ratify and approve the \$15,000 expenditures for the Harvestfest. So moved by member. Wheeler. Second by member McGee All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**.

Communications/marketing: Newsletter template

Board headshots and quotes needed. Currently Kevin is looking for the best efficient company to design and mail the newsletter and it will go out this month.

- **Board of Education Affairs**
- **Citizens Participation (3 minutes)**
- Doris Harris

• Adjournment

VP Harris, entertained a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. So moved by member Morales. Second by member White . All in favor: Janet Spight White **Yes**, Linda G. Wheeler **Yes**, Eban Morales **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**, Lorne McGee **Yes**.

Respectfully submitted: Deborah Spencer, District Secretary

School District of the City of Highland Park

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