



**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Zoom Phone Conference Tuesday
February 8, 2022 6:00pm

APPROVED MINUTES

• **CALL TO ORDER** –

Meeting was called to order by Shamayim Harris, Board President, 6:26 pm.

• **ROLL CALL** –

Present: Mark Ashley Price, Member / Anthony Askew, Member / Lorne McGee, Treasurer / Linda G. Wheeler, Member / Cheryl Sanford, Secretary (joined at 6:33 pm) / Janet Spight White, Vice President /, Shamayim Harris, President
Absent: None

QUORUM

• **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

President Harris gave message on children first.

• **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

• **APPROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA**

Motion to Approve the Meeting Agenda:

President Shamayim Harris entertained a motion to approve the Board of Education Agenda, so moved by Member McGee, seconded by member Askew.

Discussion: L. Wheeler, J. White, C. Sanford, A. Askew and M. Ashley-Price comments and discussion regarding proposed agenda items.

President Shamayim Harris requested roll call vote with requested amendments.

Roll call vote: Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Linda Wheeler – **No**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **No**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 4-3

• **PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes)**

Dr. Linda Lee Tarver, invited by Member Price. Presentation information on Senate Hearing on Education on in-person vs. virtual learning.

• **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES**

Motion to Approve December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes:

President Shamayim Harris entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes, so moved by Member Sanford, seconded by member Askew.

Discussion: None

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **Yes**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **Yes**, Shamayim Harris **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

• **DISTRICT DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Business Operations & Legal

Presentation by Luska German of district financial statements for December 2021 and January 2022, cash position and fund balances for period ending November 30, 2021. Discussion by K. Smith and L. German. Member White question regarding totals of Covid (ESSR) funding sent to Barber.

K. Smith presented revised Deficit Elimination Plan, read into record attached resolution approving adoption of Revised Deficit Elimination Plan and authorizing submission to Michigan Department of Treasury. L. German and K. Smith explained improved cash balance, reduced interest rates and earlier repayment plans for debt.

K. Smith presented on potential high school locations in city, and requested permission to sign Letter of Intent (LOI) with Mayor Yopp to evaluate the feasibility of 13233 Hamilton property, owned by the City, as future location for community high school. K. Smith read into record the Resolution to Authorize the LOI and expenditures not-to-exceed \$50,000 to commission due diligence reports, survey, appraisal, and feasibility reports for Hamilton property. (see attached). Board members commented on their support or lack of support for Hamilton property.

Z. Gibson reviewed proposed 9th grade plans at Barber fall 2022, and sample process checklist for opening new high school academy in state of michigan.

K. Smith requested BOE to complete filling of community seats on High School Advisory Committee and engage committee to get started.

Public Relations & Marketing

Lori Rishar presentation on HP School newsletter information featured in Highland Park Journal.

Education & Charter School Compliance

Zakia Gibson presented dedication of Resolution to recognize Ms. Dorothy Eaddy. Discussed purchase of laptops for BOE members and asked for motion to authorize laptops be added to New Business for vote. Z. Gibson answered questions regarding resignation of Jazema Gantz and status of search for replacement. Reviewed detail budget expenditures from BOD/HP Academy System.

Presentation by BOD President Jason Patton and answer questions concerning update on BOD/ Barber activities. L. Wheeler requested inventory list for property and equipment at Barber. Z. Gibson to work with Patton to retrieve from EpiCenter.

Pam Farris, ACCEL Schools (Barber management company) and Principal Tameka Brown presentation and answer BOE questions concerning accusations and response to bullying of student at Barber school. Presentation of ESSR funds expenditures, Z. Gibson to forward to Member Wheeler. BOD to present on 2021-22 education goals following next BOD meeting.

Discussed registration of BOE members to attend training and conferences (Washington D.C. and MASB). BOE members expressed interest in attending, and discussed budget/funding travel and attendance for all members at conferences during the calendar year.

• **BOARD OF EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

President Harris presented and read her recommended final list for BOE subcommittees. Attorney Smith recommended BOE vote to accept subcommittees as presented:

Finance Committee

Chair: Lorne McGee

Presented on surplus and early repayment of deficit elimination plan. Confirmed he has reviewed detail check registry; reviewed Sydney Spight payments, inquired about mediation; proposed increasing BOE budget for conferences and training for each member to receive at least 12 hours of training per year; discussed impact of additional revenues from adding more grades (9-12) high school; Requested Z. Gibson determine what is minimum enrollment number we need for budget to benefit.

High School Advisory Committee

Chair: Anthony Askew

Summarized meeting; read the list of recommended community members for committee to date; need help from Barber of identifying parents. Discussed proposed number of representatives from each demographic group; Requested BOE to approve.

Policy and Bylaws Committee

Chair: Janet Spite White

Summarized meeting; Winter Institute, Friday, 2/25/22 for review Bylaws; working on policies for bullying.

Fundraising Committee

Chair: Linda Wheeler

Summarized calendar of events: Legacy for Literature event in March 2022; looking for date for Black History presentation in school. Welcomed new event ideas on calendar.

• **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

• **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion to Approve December and January 2022 Financial Statements

President Harris entertained a motion to approve December 2021 through January 2022 financial statements, so moved by Member Sanford, supported by Member Askew.

No discussion.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **No**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **No**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 4-3

Motion to approve Resolution Approving The Deficit Elimination Plan

President Harris entertained a motion to approve the Resolution Approving Deficit Elimination Plan (attached), so moved by Member Sanford, supported by Member McGee.

No discussion.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **No**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **No**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 4-3

Motion to Approve HP Community High School Community Advisory Committee members

President Harris entertained a motion to approve HP Community High School Community Advisory Committee members; so moved by Member McGee, supported by Member Askew.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **No**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 5-2

Motion to approve Resolution Authorizing Letter of Intent (LOI) with City, Pre-Development Expenditures and Professional Services not-to-exceed \$50,000, for evaluation of 13233 Hamilton Property

President Harris entertained a motion to approve Resolution Authorizing LOI and professional services (attached); so moved by Member Askew, supported by Member Sanford.

Discussion: McGee asked if we can use money to evaluate Ford School and Hamilton Property. Member White proposed District review Ford School Property only with available funds; requested a separate motion for Ford school location at next meeting. K. Smith proposes to get a much done for both locations from authorized expenditures.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **No**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **No**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 4-3

Motion to approve renewal of General Agency Insurance Policy

President Harris entertained a motion to approve renewal of General Agency Insurance policy; so moved by Member Askew, supported by Member McGee.

Discussion: 1 year renewal for 2022-23 policy period.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **No**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **Yes**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 6-1

Motion to Approve Purchase of Laptops for BOE Members

President Harris entertained a motion to approve purchase of laptops for BOE members to conduct board business; so moved by Member Wheeler, supported by Member Askew.

Discussion: None

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **Yes**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **Yes**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

Motion to Approve Tribute Resolution Honoring Mrs. Dorothy D. Eaddy

President Harris entertained a motion to approve adoption of Tribute Resolution Honoring Mrs. Eaddy; so moved by Member Wheeler, supported by Member Askew.

Discussion: In response to Member Ashley-Price request to re-name media center after Mrs. Eaddy, President Harris proposed creation of a formal district policy to consider what are pre-requisites for naming rights for school buildings and rooms in buildings; invited Member Price to lead ad-hoc committee; Member Wheeler proposed Memorial Wall to honor former leaders.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **Yes**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **Yes**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

Additional Discussion: Member Price explained reason for proposal to re-name media center after Mrs. Eaddy. BOE members proposed establishing a process for determining naming right eligibility.

• **BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS**

BOE further comments on Hamilton property proposal.

Announcement of Avalon Village Homework House has approval and certificate of occupancy.

• **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

• **ADJOURNMENT** –

President Harris entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 PM, so moved by Member Askew, and supported by Member White.

Roll call vote: Mark Ashley Price – **Yes**, Anthony Askew – **Yes**, Linda Wheeler – **Yes**, Janet Spight White – **Yes**, Cheryl Sanford – **Yes**, Lorne McGee – **Yes**, Shamayim Harris – **Yes**

MOTION PASSES: 7-0

Respectfully submitted: Cheryl Sanford, Board Secretary.