



## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK REGULAR MEETING

### BOARD MEMBERS

Janet Spight-White  
President

Doris Harris  
Vice President

Linda Wheeler  
Secretary

Mark Ashley Price  
Sergeant-at-Arms

Lorne McGee  
Treasurer

Cheryl Sanford  
Trustee

Anthony Askew  
Trustee

Zakia Gibson, Ed.D.  
Chief Education Officer

Joseph Urban, Esq.  
Board Attorney

**Barber Preparatory Academy, Media Center  
45 E. Buena Vista  
Highland Park, MI 48203**

**March 19, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call**
- **Communications** – None
- **Approve Meeting Agenda**
- **Public Comments and Questions (Agenda Items 3 Minutes Only)**
- **Approve Meeting Minutes**
  - (1) Approve March 14, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes
- **District Department Reports and Information**
  - (1) **Finances**

Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.  
Alan C. Young, CPA  
(Presenter: Luska German, FCCA)

    - Q&A February 2023 Financials
- **Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** - None
- **Unfinished Business**
  - (1) HPSD BOE Meeting Calendar (revised); and
  - (2) MASB Board of Directors Election Results.
- **New Business**
  - (1) Motion to approve VP Harris' request to attend the NSBA Conference for the estimated total of \$3500.00;
  - (2) Motion to approve The Clairmount Group, LLC. Annual Audit Terms of Engagement;
  - (3) Professional pictures, ID, and lanyards for all board members;
  - (4) ICHAT or determination of who we use for clearance;

- (5) Board of Directors (BOD) application copies;
- (6) Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) classes on April 19, 2024;
- (7) Amendment to the budget;
- (8) Closed session under Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to review the written opinion of counsel;
- (9) National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference; and
- (10) All board members must attend all regular meetings to receive a full stipend unless an excuse in writing is provided to the board president and approved. Attendance at meetings is crucial for effective decision-making and collaboration within the board.

- **Board of Education Affairs & Comments**
- **Public Comments and Questions (3 Minutes Only)**
- **Confirmation of the Next Scheduled Meetings**  
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 @ 6:00PM
- **Adjournment**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda item.

The proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at The School District of the City of Highland Park Central Office, located at 12360 Woodward Avenue, Highland Park, MI 48203, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available on the District website within five (5) business days after the meeting at which at which they are approved.



**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Held at:** 45 East Buena Vista Street  
Highland Park, MI 48203-3322

Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
6:00PM

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Call to Order** –

Meeting was called to order by Janet Spight-White @ 6:10PM

**Roll Call** –

Present: Janet Spight-White, President/ Doris Harris, Vice-President/ Linda Wheeler, Secretary / Mark Ashley Price, Sergeant-at-Arms/ Lorne McGee, Treasurer, Cheryl Sanford, Member/ Anthony Askew, Member

**QUORUM**

**Communications** - None

**Approve Meeting Agenda**

**Motion to Approve the Amended Agenda to Combine the Motion to Approve VP Harris' Request to Attend the NSBA Conference for the Estimated Total of \$3500.00 and the Motion of the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference Motion Under New Business**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve the amended agenda to combine the motion to approve VP Harris' request to attend the NSBA Conference for the estimated total of \$3500.00 and the motion of the National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference motion under New Business, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Public Comments and Questions (Agenda Items 3 Minutes Only)**

None



**Approve Meeting Minutes**

**Motion to Approve the March 14, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve the March 14, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Wheeler.

**Discussion:** Member McGee asked why the time was recorded when BOE members entered and exited the meetings. For the Record: Member Wheeler pointed out that it was for documentation. For example, if a motion passed or failed while a member was not present.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**District Department Reports and Information**

**Finances**

Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.

Alan C. Young, CPA

(Presenter: Luska German, FCCA)

Q&A February 2024 Financials

**Motion to Accept the February 2024 Financials**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to accept the February 2024 financials, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 6-1**

**Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports** - None

**Unfinished Business**

HPSD BOE Meeting Calendar (revised)

**Motion to Amend and Accept the Revised HPSD BOE Meeting Calendar with the Budget Hearing Changed to June 18, 2024**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend and accept the revised HPSD BOE Meeting Calendar with the Budget Hearing changed to June 18, 2024, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

MASB Board of Directors Election Results

**New Business**

**Motion to Approve The Clairmount Group, LLC. Annual Audit Terms of Engagement**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve The Clairmount Group, LLC. annual audit terms of engagement, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Approve Professional Pictures, ID, and Lanyards for all Board Members, not to Exceed \$2000.00**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve professional pictures, ID, and lanyards for all board members, not to exceed \$2000.00, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**ICHAT or Determination of who the Board of Education Uses for Clearance**

President Spight-White entertained a discussion of ICHAT or determination of who the Board of Education uses for clearance.

**Discussion:** Members asked questions and expressed their views.

**Action:** NO MOTION TAKEN

**Board of Directors (BOD) Application Copies**

President Spight-White entertained a discussion of Board of Directors (BOD) Application copies.

**Discussion:** President Spight-White inquired about the BOD Applications.

**Action:** The district office provided requested BOD Application copies and DHHS Clearance Forms to President Spight-White during the meeting.

**NO MOTION TAKEN**

**Motion to Amend the Motion to Approve MASB Classes from April 18, 2024, to April 20,2024, not to Exceed \$3500.00 per Board Member**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend the motion to approve MASB classes from April 18, 2024, to April 20, 2024, not to exceed \$3500.00 per board member, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Amendment to the Budget**

President Spight-White entertained a discussion to amend the budget.

**Discussion:** Members asked questions and expressed their views.

**Action:** NO MOTION TAKEN

**Motion to Go into Closed Session @ 7:27PM**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to go into closed session @7:27pm, so moved by Vice-President Harris,



seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Omitted

**Action:** *INCOMPLETE MOTION*

**Motion to Attend NSBA Conference for \$3500.00 per Board Member, not to Exceed \$30,000**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to attend NSBA Conference for \$3500.00 per board member, not to exceed \$30,000, so moved by Vice-President Spight-White, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion. CEO Gibson asked who would be attending and will be provided an answer at a later date.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 4-3**

**All Board Members Must Attend All Regular Meetings to Receive a Full Stipend Unless an Excuse in Writing is Provided to the Board President and approved. Attendance at Meetings is Crucial for Effective Decision-Making and Collaboration Within the Board**

**Discussion:** *NOT ADDRESSED*

**Public Comments and Questions (Agenda Items 3 Minutes Only)**

**Tammy Stafford, Community Member** - BOE members making an appointment with CEO Gibson to discuss Finances. CEO Gibson is always available to provide information to board members.

**Sydney Spight, Parker Pride** - Commented on the justification of CEO Gibson’s inquiry as to how many BOE members are attending the NSBA Conference in April; Attending classes for the betterment of the school board; Parker Pride Parade

**Runae Ford, Community Member** - Questions for CEO Gibson; The budget; Who attends conferences.

**Board of Education Affairs & Comments**

**Mark Price-** Thanked audience for attending, MASB classes

**Motion to Go into Recess @ 7:51PM for 5 Minutes**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to go into recess @ 7:51pm for 5 minutes, so moved by Vice- President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** All Say “I”

**Vote:** “I”

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Come out of Recess @ 7:58PM**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to come out of recess @ 7:58pm, so moved by Vice- President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** All Say “I”

**Vote:** “I”

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Go into Closed Session @ 7:58PM**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to go into closed session @ 7:58pm, so moved by Vice- President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES:** 7-0

**Motion to Come Out of Closed Session @ 9:49PM**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to come out of closed session @ 9:49pm, so moved by Vice- President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES:** 7-0

**Motion for a Special Meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 11:00AM**

President Spight-White entertained a motion for a Special Meeting on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 11:00am, so moved by Vice- President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES:** 5-2

**Board of Education Affairs & Comments**

None

**Public Comments and Questions (3 Minutes Only)**

None

**Confirmation of the Next Scheduled Meetings**

Special Meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2024 @ 11:00AM

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 @ 6:00PM

**Adjournment –**

**Motion to Adjourn**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:03PM, so moved by Member Price, seconded by Member McGee.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES:** 7-0

*Respectfully submitted: Linda Wheeler, Board Secretary.*