



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

Barber Preparatory Academy  
45 E. Buena Vista Street  
Highland Park, MI 48023  
February 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

### BOARD MEMBERS

Janet Sight White  
President

Doris Harris  
Vice President

Linda Wheeler  
Secretary

Lorne McGee  
Treasurer

Mark Ashley Price  
Sergeant-at-Arms

Anthony Askew  
Member

Cheryl Sanford  
Member

Zakia Gibson, Ed.D.  
Chief Education Officer

Joseph Urban, Esq.  
Board Attorney

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call**
- **Communications**
- **Approve Meeting Agenda**
- **Public Comments and Questions (Agenda Items 3 Minutes Only)**
- **Approve Meeting Minutes**
  - (1) January 24, 2024
- **District Department Reports and Information**
  - (1) CEO  
Zakia Gibson
  - (2) Finances  
Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C.  
Alan C. Young, CPA  
(Presenter: Luska German, FCCA)
    - Q&A January Financials
- **Board of Education Sub-Committee Reports**
- **Unfinished Business**
  - (1) Resolution to Stagger Board Terms
  - (2) Resolution to repeal censures of Doris Harris and restore stipend
- **New Business**
  - (1) Motion to repeal directive that attorney invoices be sent to Board President for processing;
  - (2) Motion to approve the January, 2024 Financial Statements;

- (3) Motion to request that Edge provide transition services to the School District at a fee mutually agreed upon by the parties and that President Spight-White negotiate an agreement with Edge for transition services and bring same to the Board of Education for Approval;
- (4) Motion that the Board contract with Simple Computers for a fee of \$500.00 per month for website services and \$125.00 for each Board of Education meeting attended and that Board President Spight-White negotiate an agreement with Simple Computers for such services and bring same to the Board of Education for approval;
- (5) Motion to confirm that contracted security for outdoor toilets during bathroom renovation be paid from the General Fund;
- (6) Motion to request that the security company hired by the Board of Directors for the Highland Park Public School Academy System resume its security duties during meetings of the Board of Education for the School District of the City of Highland Park;
- (7) Motion to renew insurance through EMC per renewal proposal for March 1, 2024 renewal date;
- (8) Motion to approve MASB Board of Directors Election Candidate Selection.

- **Board of Education Affairs & Comments**
- **Public Comments and Questions (3 Minutes Only)**
- **Board overview of MSAB CBA classes**
- **Confirmation of the Next Scheduled Meetings**

Business Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 6:00PM

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 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 they are approved.



**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

Tuesday, February 6, 2024  
6:00PM

**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Call to Order –**

Meeting was called to order by Janet Spight-White @ 6:20PM

**Roll Call –**

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

**QUORUM**

**Communications**

None

**Approve Meeting Agenda**

**Motion to Amend the Meeting Agenda to Forgo District Department Reports and Information by the CEO and for Alan C. Young & Associates P.C. to Report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend the meeting agenda to forgo District Department Reports and Information by the CEO and for Alan C. Young & Associates, P.C. to report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Wheeler.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion and added amendments to the agenda under New Business.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Motion to Amend the Agenda Adding a Motion to Enter a 6 Month Contract with Parker Village to Promote Highland Park School District**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend the agenda adding a motion to enter a 6 Month contract with Parker Village to promote Highland Park School District, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.



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

**MOTION PASSES: 4-3**

**Motion to Amend the Agenda Adding a Motion to Increase Board Refreshment Budget Not to Exceed \$25.00 per Member Once a Month, Effective February 20, 2024, for Board Meetings; Motion for February 2024 Catering Options to be (1) Detroit Soul, (2) Rosco’s Greens and Beans Soul Food and (3) BBQ Central; Discussion of BOD New Members Application, Recommendations, ETC.**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend the agenda adding a motion to increase Board refreshment budget not to exceed \$25.00 per member once a month, effective February 20, 2024 for Board meetings; motion for February 2024 catering options to be (1) Detroit Soul, (2) Rosco’s Greens and Beans Soul Food and (3) BBQ Central; Discussion of BOD New Members Application, recommendations, ETC.so moved by Member Price, seconded by Vice-President Harris.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion and added amendments to the agenda under New Business.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Motion to Add District Department Reports and Information by the CEO to the Agenda**

President Spight White entertained a motion to add District Department Reports and Information by the CEO to the agenda, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member Sanford.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 6-1**

**Motion to Approve the Agenda**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve the agenda, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Approve the December 12, 2023, December 19, 2023, January 9, 2024, January 17, 2024, January 19, 2024, and January 24, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve December 12, 2023, December 19, 2023, January 9,2024, January 17, 2024, January 19, 2024, and January 24, 2024, meeting minutes, so moved by Member Sanford, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**District Department Reports and Information**

CEO Zakia Gibson- BPA Reauthorization

**Unfinished Business**

**Resolution to Stagger Board Terms**

7:17PM- Lorne McGee Exited Meeting

**Motion to Table the Motion to Stagger Board Terms**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to table the motion to stagger board terms, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Vice-President Harris, seconded by

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 6-0**

7:20PM- Lorne McGee Re-entered Meeting

**Motion to Repeal Censures of Doris Harris and Restore Stipend**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to repeal censures of Doris Harris and restore stipend, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion. Attorney Urban read Resolution into the record.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**New Business**

**Motion to Repeal Directive that Attorney Invoices be Sent to Board President for Processing**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to repeal directive that attorney invoices be sent to board president for Processing, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Table Approval of January 2024 Financial Statements**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to f table the January 2024 Financial Statements, 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, Lorne McGee- Yes, Linda Wheeler- Yes, Mark Price- Yes, Cheryl Sanford- Yes, Anthony Askew – Yes

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**



**Motion to Request that Edge Provide Transition Services to the School District at a Fee Mutually Agreed Upon by the Parties and That President Spight-White Negotiate an Agreement with Edge for Transition Services and Bring Same to the Board of Education for Approval**

President Spight White entertained a motion to request that Edge provide transition services to the School District at a fee mutually agreed upon by the parties and that President Spight-White negotiate an agreement with Edge for transition services and bring same to the Board of Education for approval, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member McGee.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion that the Board Contract with Simple Computers for a Fee of \$500.00 per Month for Website Services and \$125.00 for Each Board of Education Meeting Attended and that Board President Spight-White Negotiate an Agreement with Simple Computers for Such Services and Bring Same to the Board of Education for Approval**

President Spight-White entertained a motion that the Board contract with Simple Computers for a fee of \$500.00 per month for website services and \$125.00 for each Board of Education meeting attended and that Board President Spight-White negotiate an agreement with Simple Computers for such services and bring same to the Board of Education for approval, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

**Motion to Call the Question**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to call the question, 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, Lorne McGee- No, Linda Wheeler- Yes, Mark Price- Yes, Cheryl Sanford- No, Anthony Askew – No

**MOTION PASSES: 4-3**

**Motion that the Board Contract with Simple Computers for a Fee of \$500.00 per Month for Website Services and \$125.00 for Each Board of Education Meeting Attended and that Board President Spight-White Negotiate an Agreement with Simple Computers for Such Services and Bring Same to the Board of Education for Approval**

President Spight-White entertained a motion that the Board contract with Simple Computers for a fee of \$500.00 per month for website services and \$125.00 for each Board of Education meeting attended and that Board President Spight-White negotiate an agreement with Simple Computers for such services and bring same to the Board of Education for approval, 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, Lorne McGee-No, Linda Wheeler-Yes, Mark Price- Yes, Cheryl Sanford- No, Anthony Askew – No

**MOTION PASSES: 4-3**

**Motion to Table the Motion to Confirm That Contracted Security for Outdoor Toilets During Bathroom Renovation be Paid from the General Fund**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to table the motion to confirm that contracted security for outdoor toilets during bathroom renovation be paid from the General Fund, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by pMember Sanford.



**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 4-3**

**Motion to Request that the Security Company Hired by the Board of Directors for the Highland Park School Academy System Resume its Security Duties During Meetings of the Board of Education for the School District of the City of Highland Park**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to request that the security company hired by the Board of Directors for the Highland Park School Academy System resume its security duties during meetings of the Board of Education for the School District of the City of Highland Park, 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, Lorne McGee- Yes, Linda Wheeler- Yes, Mark Price- Yes, Cheryl Sanford- No, Anthony Askew- No

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Motion to Table the Motion to Renew Insurance Through EMC Insurance per Renewal Proposal for March 1, 2024 Renewal Date**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to table the motion to renew insurance through EMC insurance per renewal proposal for March 1, 2024, renewal date, so moved by Member McGee, seconded by Member Sanford.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Table the Motion to Approve MASB Board of Directors Election Candidate Selection**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to table the motion to approve MASB Board of Directors election candidate selection, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member McGee.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 7-0**

**Motion to Increase Board Refreshment Budget not to Exceed \$25.00 per Member Once a Month, Effective February 20, 2024, for Board Meetings**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to increase Board refreshment budget not to exceed \$25.00 per member once a month, effective February 20, 2024, for Board meetings, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** None

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Motion to Approve Recommendations to Use Detroit Soul, for the Next Meeting on February 20,2024, But if Not Available, Then Rosco’s Greens and Beans Soul Food, Then BBQ Central**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to approve recommendations to use Detroit Soul for the next meeting on

February 20,2024, but if not available, then Rosco’s Greens and Beans Soul Food, then BBQ Central, so moved by Vice-President Harris, seconded by Member Wheeler.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Motion to Amend the Motion to Enter a 6-Month Contract with Parker Village to Promote Highland Park School**

**District**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to amend the motion to enter a 6-month contract with Parker Village to promote Highland Park School District, so moved by Member Askew, seconded by Member Sanford.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 6-1**

**Motion to Use New BOD Application**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to use new BOD Application, so moved by Member Wheeler, seconded by Member Price.

**Discussion:** Members discussed the motion.

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

**MOTION PASSES: 5-2**

**Board of Education Affairs & Comments**

**Janet Spight-White-** School Board Magazine

*8:48PM- Linda Wheeler Exited Meeting*

**Mark Price** apologized to the school board and the public for stating he did not like CEO Gibson. Would like his attorney present in any communication with the CEO. Being technical.

*8:51PM- Linda Wheeler Re-Entered Meeting*

**Doris Harris** apologized to CEO Gibson for saying she couldn’t speak during part of meeting.

**Cheryl Sanford-** Ethics Policy, respect one another. President Spight-White should apologize to CEO Gibson for calling her a liar.

*8:57PM- Cheryl Sanford Exited Meeting*

*8:58PM- Anthony Askew Exited Meeting*

**Linda Wheeler-** Leaving meeting before adjournment.

**Lorne McGee-** Board Professionalism, Leaving meeting early, Student Growth Charts

**Janet Spight-White-** Doing what’s best for BPA.

**Doris Harris-** Thanked CEO Gibson and Ms. McPhail for Board Packet

*8:57PM- Cheryl Sanford Exited Meeting*

*8:58PM- Anthony Askew Exited Meeting*



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

**Tammy Stafford**, Community Member- Elevator not working properly, meeting started late, Attorney/screensharing capabilities, each month one Board member should come up with a new bylaw.

**Board Overview of MASB CBA Classes**

**Confirmation of the Next Scheduled Meetings**

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 @ 6:00PM

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 @ 6:00PM

**Adjournment –**

President Spight-White entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11PM.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** All Say “I”

***MOTION PASSES: 5-0***

*Respectfully submitted: Linda Wheeler, Board Secretary.*

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK  
COUNTY OF WAYNE  
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION REPEALING CENSURE OF DORIS HARRIS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the School District of the City of Highland Park (the “School District”), County of Wayne, State of Michigan, was held at the School District on February 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:       Members:**     Janet Spight-White, Doris Harris, Linda Wheeler, Lorne McGee, Mark Ashley Price,  
Cheryl Sanford, Anthony Askew

**ABSENT:       Members:**     None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Doris Harris and supported by Member Mark Ashley Price.

**WHEREAS**, members of the School District Board of Education has previously voted to censure Member Doris Harris for (1) allegedly violating the attorney-client privilege and (2) retention of a school district laptop computer; and

**WHEREAS**, said members of the Board of Education have since reconsidered and recanted their recital of the above-referenced allegations regarding the attorney-client privilege, which led to Doris Harris’ censure on or about October 10, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, members the School District Board of Education, on January 17, 2023, voted to censure Doris Harris and withhold her compensation in the amount of \$700.00 to pay for a laptop computer that Ms. Harris allegedly converted for her own gain, which compensation has hereby been paid by Ms. Harris through withholding of her stipend; and

**WHEREAS**, said members of the Board of Education have listened to and are satisfied that Ms. Harris did not convert a laptop for her own use but, rather, in good faith, disposed of same with the understanding that it was to be disposed of and hereby wish to repeal their motion of censure and restore the compensation that she had otherwise earned but for the censure.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**


1. The resolutions of censure of Board Member Harris previously authorized by the Board are hereby repealed and rendered null and void.
2. Ms. Harris’ compensation in the amount of \$700.00, which was withheld solely under force of the prior resolution related to the laptop computer is hereby restored.
3. The District Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to issue a check payable to Doris Harris in the amount of \$700.00, with funds to be drawn from the appropriate account.
4. All other resolutions, to the extent they conflict with this resolution, be and the same are hereby rescinded.



Ayes: Janet Spight-White, Doris Harris, Lorne McGee, Linda Wheeler, Mark Ashley Price


Nays: Cheryl Sanford, Anthony Askew

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education  
School District of the City of Highland Park

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of the School District of the City of Highland Park, County of Wayne, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education at a regular meeting held on February 5, 2024, the original of which resolution is a part of the Board's minutes and further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Board of Education  
School District of the City of Highland Park