

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Held at: 45 E. Buena Vista Street
Highland Park, MI 48203-3322

**Tuesday, June 17, 2026
6:00 PM**

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER –

The meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Sanford at 6:11 PM.

ROLL CALL –

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Present	☐ Absent

QUORUM

APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

**MOTION: MEMBER HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 17, 2026 MEETING AGENDA
SUPPORT: SECRETARY HARRISON SECONDED.**

DISCUSSION:

☒ AS PRESENTED.

☐ WITH MODIFICATION, MOVING THE PRESENTATION OF THE AUDIT PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC COMMENTS.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only – 3 minutes only)

- NONE

MOTION TO APPROVE JUNE 9, 2026, BUDGET HEARING AGENDA MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: MEMBER HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 9, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

SUPPORT: SECRETARY HARRISON SECONDED.

DISCUSSION:

☒ AS PRESENTED.

☐ WITH CORRECTIONS,

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE JUNE 9, 2026, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: SECRETARY HARRISON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 9, 2026 MEETING MINUTES

SUPPORT: MEMBER HARRIS SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Walker asked for typo to be corrected under the board of education subcommittee section.

☐ AS PRESENTED.

☒ WITH CORRECTIONS,

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

DISTRICT DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- Mr. Pettway gives a brief explanation for the reason of the special meeting.

(1) FINANCE-ALLEN C. YOUNG, PC.-BUDGET PRESENTATION

PRESENTER: LUSKA GERMAN, PCCA

Discussion: Ms. Harris inquired about the increase in legal fees. Mr. Pettway explained that, due to the current lawsuit, the Board's insurance does not provide coverage because the lawsuit was filed by a Board member. As a result, the increased legal costs are associated with the ongoing litigation and insurance. He further noted that the amount reflected is an estimated range of expenses expected to be incurred between May and June.

Ms. White asked a question regarding IEPs. President Sanford clarified that the Board was only discussing the budget

amendment at this time.

Ms. Walker asked Ms. Luska whether the proposed amendment would reduce the surplus. Ms. Luska confirmed that it would reduce the FY2026 surplus, as well as projected surpluses in subsequent fiscal years.

Ms. Harris asked when the Board became responsible for IEPs. Mr. Pettway clarified that the Board is not responsible for IEPs. Mr. Pettway apologizes for the oversight and added that amendment needed to include the amended FY2026–2027 budget to the agenda.

Motion to Add the Amended the Final Budget 2026-2027 to the agenda

MOTION: MEMBER HARRIS MADE A MOTION To APPROVE ADDING THE AMENDED FINAL BUDGET 2026-2027 TO THE AGENDA SUPPORT: VICE PRESIDENT ROBERTS SECONDED.

DISCUSSION:

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Motion to Approve Amended Final Budget for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027

MOTION: VICE PRESIDENT ROBERTS MADE A MOTION To APPROVE AMENDED FINAL BUDGET 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 SUPPORT: TREASURER WALKER SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education	☐ Yes	☒ No
Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 6-1

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- NONE

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to Approve/Deny Revised Board of Education Annual Calendar

Motion to Approve/Deny Revised Board of Education Annual Calendar: MEMBER HARRIS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE SUPPORT: SECRETARY HARRISON SECONDED.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Roberts asked the reason for the revision. President Sanford explains that it was changed to not have a recess in August.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Cheryl Sanford, President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No
Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education	☒ Yes	☐ No

Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education
 Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education
 Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education
 Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education

☒ Yes ☐ No
☒ Yes ☐ No
☒ Yes ☐ No
☒ Yes ☐ No

MOTION CARRIED 7-0

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes only)

NONE

BOARD OF EDUCATION AFFAIRS & COMMENTS

Linda Wheeler- Brings up the nooks that Ms. Sanford reported to see at a conference. She thinks they are a great idea and would like to bring it back up for the board to consider.

Cassandra Walker- Ask that the board keeps in the mind that the budget is going to be reduced so there are some things that will need to be put on pause.

Famika Roberts-Comments happy Wednesday and happy Juneteenth week, and speaks that it is sad that the board has to discuss increasing attorney fees for litigation once again. She would like to encourage the community to pay attention to who they vote for as it is an election year, and if we say children first it should be children first.

Janet Spight-White- Comments that it is a shame when board members do not have freedom of speech or is lied upon for no reason. Everything that she has done has been for the children and she has children first in her walk and talk. She can prove that things that have been said about her are wrong.

Famika Roberts- Comments that she is glad that Spight White has stated what she said because it's totally opposite of the litigation.

Janet Spight-White-That what litigation is dealing with is our first amendment right and if they allow "her to talk about me who hasn't don't anything, and the president of our board who is also running has allowed this to start and hasn't stopped it." She goes on to say she has nothing to hide and she puts children first.

Doris Harris- That due to the pending lawsuit things that have been said can be misconstrued and be considered retaliation and we need to be careful of what we say.

President Sanford- replies thanks Ms. Harris and explains that no one is discussing the merits of the lawsuit, and that this was done in public so this information is public knowledge and we will keep the public informed and we are not discussing strategy or detail. Lastly, she would like to end on a positive note and would like to say we have done a lot of good work together and thank you for the new board members for joining as we work to improve the district. She mentions that there is a great deal of excitement in the community about the Highland Park promise.

CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, July 14th 2026 @6:00pm

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn at 6:37PM

MOTION: MEMBER WHEELER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:37 PM

SUPPORT: MEMBER HARRIS SECONDED.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Yolanda Harrison0714

Yolanda Harrison, HPBOE Secretary

07/14/2026

Date

Signature: 
 Yolanda Harrison (Jul 15, 2026 16:00:04 EDT)

School District of the City of Highland Park

Final Audit Report

2026-07-15

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