

**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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> Absent |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| Ms. Cassandra Walker, Treasurer, Board of Education                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| Ms. Doris Harris, Member, Board of Education                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Linda Wheeler, Member, Board of Education                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No            |
| Ms. Janet Spight-White, Member, Board of Education                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Famika Roberts, Vice President, Board of Education                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Ms. Yolanda Harrison, Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms, Board of Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Harrison, HPBOE Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Signature:**

4

**Email:** harrisony@hipark.org