

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

GLOBALLY FOCUSED. LOCALLY CONNECTED.

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES **October 10, 2023**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

President Wilson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Present: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Wilson

Absent: Members Christenson and Westra

Administrators Present: Dr. Monica L. Merritt, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Deborah Piesz, Chief Finance & Operations Officer
Ms. Bethany Rayl, Chief Academic & Innovation Officer
Mr. Kurt Tyszkiewicz, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Mr. Nick Brandon, Executive Director of Communications & Marketing
Ms. Shonta Langford, Chief Human Resource Officer
Dr. Andrew Steinman, Associate Director of Integrated Technology Systems

Others Present: Mr. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy & Smith Senior Project Manager
Ms. Diane Robertson, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board
Mr. Josh Patterson, SVA Student Co-Chair
Ms. Sae Pawar, SVA Student Co-Chair

Mr. Josh Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. Adoption of the Agenda/Approval of the Consent Agenda

Action Item #24-10-16: It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member Kehoe to adopt the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda consisted of New Hires, Leaves, Resignations, Retirements, Special Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2023, First Reading Policies, and Out-of-Country Field Trips.

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Wilson

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

New Hires

Grenier, Mark	Resource Room Bentley/Hulsing Elementary School	Effective 10-16-23
Kovaleski, Stefanie	Elementary ASD Teacher Farrand Elementary School	Effective 10-23-23
Rissman, Stefanie	EI Categorical Classroom West Middle School	Effective 10-2-23
Durocher, Patrick	P-CEP Master Scheduler Plymouth High School	Effective 10-17-23

Leaves

Durocher, Patrick	Math Teacher West Middle School	Professional Growth Leave of Absence Effective 2023-2024 School Year
Haynes, Jennifer	Dean of Student Support West Middle School	Professional Growth Leave of Absence Effective 2023-2024 School Year

Resignations

Kirkpatrick, Heather	Elementary ASD teacher Dodson Elementary School	Resignation Effective 10-13-23
----------------------	--	--------------------------------

Rieboldt, Brianna	Counselor (Non-Instructional) West Middle School	Resignation Effective 9-26-23
-------------------	---	-------------------------------

Retirements

Piesz, Deborah	Chief Finance & Operations Officer Administration Building	Retirement Effective 1-12-24
----------------	---	------------------------------

Tenure Recommendations

Ayotte, Kiki	Science Teacher Liberty Middle School	Tenure Effective 10-1-23
Campernel, Angela	Elementary Classroom Workman Elementary School	Tenure Effective 10-1-23

Approval of Minutes

The Special Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2023, were approved as presented.

First Reading Policies

- Policy #5230 – Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

Out-of-Country Field Trips

- Costa Rica – Plymouth High School (Grades 9-12)
- Italy – Plymouth High School (Grades 9-12)
- England, France, Belgium, Germany, & Austria – Salem High School (Grades 9-12)

B. Celebrating Success

Member Picard presented the Extra Miler Award to Ms. Tonda Shimbo, Bentley Elementary School Paraprofessional, for her many years of dedication supporting students with academics, personal growth, and assistance with before and after-school needs. Tonda is incredibly positive, reliable, and builds meaningful relationships with staff and families.

Ms. Krista Gable, a P-CEP Volunteer, was also honored with a VIPS award for volunteering countless hours to support the P-CEP Choir Program over the last seven years. Krista is kind, caring, and advocates for what is best for students every day.

C. Board Committee Reports/Action

President's Report - Shawn Wilson

There is no president's report for this meeting.

Student Performance and Achievement Committee (SPA) - Anupam Chugh Sidhu

The SPA committee met on October 4, 2023, and reviewed 21st Century Curriculum materials, the district's current multi-tier system of support for all grade levels, and out-of-country field trips. Programs utilizing 11t grant funds were discussed as the district begins to determine which programs utilizing these funds should continue and which programs should be eliminated. The next SPA meeting will be held on November 1, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Policy Advisory Committee - Patti McCoin

Member McCoin shared that the Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next policy meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Collaboration Room at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Finance and Operations Committee - Patrick Kehoe

Member Kehoe shared that the F&O Committee met on October 5, 2023, and reviewed 2020 bond schedule updates, in addition to resolutions for a summer tax levy, a homestead tax renewal, and a Chromebook purchase. Future construction projects were also reviewed and discussed. The next F&O meeting will be held on October 19, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the E.J. McClendon Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Student Voice in Action Committee - Shawn Wilson

Josh Patterson and Sae Pawar, Student Voice in Action co-chairs, shared that the SVA Committee has not met since the last board meeting. Student members plan to attend the PCCS Community Open House on November 2, 2023. A student open house will be held at the next committee meeting, with an opportunity for students interested in joining SVA to learn about the committee. This meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Canton High School Media Center.

D. Administrative Reports/Recommendations**Superintendent's Report – Dr. Monica Merritt**

Superintendent Merritt congratulated Ms. Hawanya Urquhart, Liberty Middle School Teacher, who was recently named English Middle School Teacher of the Year by the Michigan Council of Teachers of English (MCTE). She also congratulated Mr. Daniel Parsons, Liberty Middle School Teacher, who was named to the 2023-2024 Michigan Teacher Leadership Collaborative. This highly selective program requires teachers to complete a multi-round application and interview process with only 18 educators from around the state named to this year's collective.

Canton High School was named to the College Board's annual AP Honor Roll. Based on the collaborative nature of P-CEP's advanced placement classes, this recognition highlights the quality of advanced learning opportunities available to students park-wide. Congratulations were also in order to 37 P-CEP students who were recently named semi-finalists in the annual National Merit Scholarship Competition.

She thanked Plymouth Township Police Chief Knittel, other members of his team, and the entire Farrand Elementary School community, who all made the Color Run event at Farrand School such a special day for all students.

Superintendent Merritt also addressed recent feedback regarding district facilities and provided updates on renovations taking place through Bond construction projects. She spoke about efforts to identify needed repairs and maintenance to our current facilities and encouraged staff members to utilize the district's work order system to help identify facility needs.

Additionally, she gave a shout-out to the district's curriculum leaders for providing a successful day of professional development on October 6, where P-CCS teaching and administrative staff came together for a full day of learning and growth.

Finally, she invited district families and staff members to join her on Monday, November 6, at the next *Coffee with Monica* event, where all stakeholders can hear about exciting things happening in our district, ask questions, and have two-way conversations. This event starts at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at Miller Elementary School.

Finance and Operations – Deborah Piesz**Bond Construction Schedule Update (Presentation)**

Mr. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy & Smith Senior Project Manager, gave a presentation to provide updates on 2020 Bond construction projects and timelines. He provided a historical overview of the work completed at each school building so far, current projects, and future additions and renovations. He reviewed the process to determine construction project timelines through the collaborative work of the Bond Steering Committee, with input from multiple stakeholders. A program schedule graph was reviewed, which is a draft and, at times, is adjusted based on ongoing conversations and prioritization of needs. The program schedule and weekly construction updates can be viewed on the P-CCS website.

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Summer Property Tax Levy. Ms. Deborah Piesz, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, provided an overview of this annual resolution brought before the Board, which informs the community and local taxing authority that the collection of school taxes will appear on the July 1 tax statement and will not be split between the summer and winter tax bills. This option is afforded to the district pursuant to Section 1613 of the Revised School Code of 1976, Act 451, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended. This resolution will be effective for the calendar year 2024 and each year thereafter until this resolution is revoked, in the amount of the total school property taxes due in such years. (First Reading)
- Consider Approval of a Resolution Certifying Operating Millage Renewal Proposal. Ms. Deborah Piesz, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, gave an overview of this resolution, which allows the school district to continue charging up to 18 mills of operating tax on most non-homestead properties, including commercial properties, just like it was approved in 2014 and will expire in 2024. This tax levy does not apply to principal residences

(homesteads) or other exempt properties. If there are future Headlee reductions of up to 4 mills, the school district can still charge up to 18 mills, ensuring that the school district will continue to receive the full money amount for each student allowed by the state. This will enable P-CCS to renew the millage at the 2024 presidential election. (First Reading)

- Consider Approval of a Resolution to Purchase Chromebooks. Dr. Andrew Steinman, Associate Director of Integrated Technology Systems, provided an overview of this recommendation with approval and funding commitments from the FCC's ECF program to spend \$187,220, with expected reimbursements of \$176,120, resulting in a net district expenditure of no more than \$11,100. The district's portion of the Dell equipment purchase will be funded using 2020 and 2023 bond funds. (First Reading)

Board members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #24-10-17:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Picard to Approve a Resolution for Bid Package #HS-2a - Band Room Addition and Salem Auditorium Operable Partitions. Bid division #123 (Operable Partitions) was included in this package, but the totals have been separated out on the bid tabulation for clarity at a cost of \$265,645 and will be paid for with funds from the 2019 bond series. The Plymouth High School Band Room addition, with a total cost of \$3,031,746, will be paid from 2019 and 2020 Bond funds. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Wilson

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

Teaching and Learning - Bethany Rayl

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for 21st Century Global Issues Curriculum Materials. Ms. Beth Rayl, Chief Academic and Innovation Officer, provided an overview of this recommendation from ELA Curriculum Team members to purchase 250 copies of the book "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson for the P-CEP 11-12th grade yearlong elective 21st Century Global Issues and Literature course. The total cost for this purchase will be approximately \$2,646. (First Reading)

Board members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #24-10-18:** It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member McCoin to Approve a Resolution to purchase course materials for the African-American Literature class. The novel "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi is being recommended as a whole-class novel by the ELA Curriculum Team members who developed P-CEP's 11-12th-grade yearlong elective African American Literature Course. The total cost for 125 copies of this novel will be approximately \$1,450. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Sidhu, and Wilson

Nays: Picard

The motion was carried 4-1

- **Action Item #24-10-19:** It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member McCoin to Approve a Resolution for Course Materials for Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science. The AP Environmental Science for AP, Fourth Edition textbook is being recommended. The total cost for this purchase, consisting of textbooks and a six-year digital license for students to access the eBook, interactive activities, and practice exams online, will be \$53,664.19. The price includes all materials for 275 students. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Wilson

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

E. Citizens' Comments

- Faize El-Khalil spoke on transportation
- Arthur Colling spoke on Pay to Participate

F. Discussion

- Board members reviewed their calendars to select a date for a Roberts Rules Workshop. MASB will be contacted to check availability to facilitate this workshop on either November 29 or 30, 2023.

G. Follow-up Board Questions

- None

G. Adjournment

President Wilson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Anupam Chugh Sidhu
Secretary, Board of Education

*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 10-24-23 / dr