

PLYMOUTH-CANTON

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 12, 2023

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

Vice President Christenson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Present: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra

Absent: Member Wilson

Administrators Present: Dr. Monica L. Merritt, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, Assistant Superintendent of Student & Family Engagement
Ms. Jill Minnick, 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. Deborah Piesz, Interim Director of Finance
Mr. Jonathan Flukes, Director of Data, Assessment, Research, & Evaluation

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

Josh Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Action Item #24-12-33: It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Sidhu to adopt the Agenda and the Consent as presented. The Consent Agenda consisted of New Hires, Resignations, Regular Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2023, and Special Meeting Minutes of November 29, 2023.

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

New Hires

Patterson, Tamara	Elementary Classroom Field Elementary School	Effective 12-18-23
Eschmann, Julie	Student Success Specialist Dodson Elementary School	Effective 12-11-23

Resignations

Anderson, Colleen	Social Studies Liberty Middle School	Resignation Effective 11-21-23
Sexton, Matthew	History Plymouth High School	Resignation Effective 12-22-23
Smoot, Matthew	Technology Integration Specialist Educational Support Center	Resignation Effective 1-8-24

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of November 28, 2023, and the Special Meeting Minutes of November 29, 2023, were approved as presented.

B. Celebrating Success

Member McCoin presented the STARS Award (Student with Tenacity Achieving & Reaching Success) to Nolan Lenk, a dedicated 7th-grade student at Discovery Middle School. Nolan exemplifies a strong commitment to community service by volunteering his time to enhance the area around his school. Through his unwavering dedication and consistent acts of kindness, Nolan has become a positive force in both his school and the local community.

C. Board Committee Reports/Action

President's Report

Vice President Christenson spoke about the special meeting held on November 29, during which board members engaged in a workshop led by a MASB facilitator focusing on Roberts Rules and parliamentary procedures. Additionally, board members took the opportunity to express positive reflections and highlight key moments from 2023 as the year draws to a close.

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

Member Westra shared that the SPA Committee met on December 11, 2023, and reviewed health and reproductive health curriculum materials and a new high school course proposal. The fall data review presentation was also reviewed. The next SPA meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2024, 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 met this evening and reviewed updates to student and staff technology policies. Mr. Mark Salzer and Dr. Andrew Steinman were present to address questions regarding artificial intelligence. Neola will review the proposed technology policy revisions to ensure compliance with current laws. The next policy meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2024, 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 December 7, 2023, and reviewed resolutions for East and West Middle School renovations and purchases for transportation radios and band uniforms. The committee also reviewed middle school furniture selections, conceptual plans for the robotics hub at Canton High School, October financial statements, and updates to the Tanger property sale. The next F&O meeting will be held on December 21, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Student Voice in Action Committee – Josh Patterson and Sae Pawar

Josh Patterson and Sae Pawar, SVA co-chairs, shared that the SVA Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The SVA committee is currently accepting new members. The next SVA meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2023, in the Canton High School Media Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

D. Administrative Reports/Recommendations

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Merritt shared details about the upcoming holiday concerts happening across the district, showcasing the exceptional talents and skills of students in the Discovery Middle School Band, P-CEP Band, Orchestra, Choir, and Park Players programs. She provided performance dates and times and extended an invitation to Board members and the entire school community to attend to support P-CCS students and witness the remarkable talents of our young performers.

She also invited the community to attend the next installment of the family presentations series organized by the Department of Student and Family Engagement. This important presentation, "Keep Talking, They Are Listening," will be held tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Penn Theatre. This session will shed light on the extreme dangers associated with the evolving and increasingly lethal drugs in today's world.

In closing, she extended congratulations on behalf of the entire P-CCS community to Madison Morson, a senior shooting guard on the Salem High School girls' basketball team, for achieving the remarkable milestone of scoring her 1,000th career point last week.

Finance and Operations - Jill Minnick

East and West Middle Schools Addition and Renovations (Presentation)

Mr. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy and Smith Senior Project Manager, and Mr. Derek Dinkeloo, TMP Architecture Senior Associate, presented an overview of Bid Package #MS-2, which includes an addition and renovations at East and West Middle Schools.

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

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Bid Package #MS-2 East and West Middle Schools. Mr. Derek Dinkeloo, TMP Architecture Senior Associate, reviewed site plans and displayed slides for a proposed addition and renovation at East Middle School and a renovation at West Middle School. Mr. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy & Smith Senior Project Manager, reviewed the bid summary for both projects, which received 114 bids. He explained the tracking and monitoring process followed to attract a variety of bidders. Proposed construction schedules were also reviewed. The recommended award total of \$8,099,432 will be paid from 2020 and 2023 bond funds. (First Reading)
- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Bid Awards for Marching Band Uniforms. Ms. Bethany Rayl, Chief Academic and Innovation Officer, provided an overview of a recommendation to purchase 158 new band uniforms to replace the existing uniforms, which have been used for many years and are now in disrepair. It is recommended that Fred J. Miller, Inc. from Miamisburg, Ohio, be awarded this bid at a total cost of \$183,280, which includes a ten-year warranty. This purchase will be paid from the general fund. (First Reading)

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

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #24-12-34:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Sidhu to Approve a Resolution for a two-way radio purchase for the transportation department. Ms. Jill Minton, Chief Finance & Operations Operation, provided an overview of the proposed purchase of 141 Motorola APX5500 mobile radios to be installed in district buses, replacing outdated equipment in the third phase of radio upgrades. The recommendation asks the Board to waive the formal bidding process for this purchase to ensure continuity across the district radio systems and proceed with the recommended vendor, BearCom, who provided the equipment for the first two phases of the system upgrade. This recommendation is being presented as a first and final reading to expedite the ordering and installation of the new radios before the next school year. The combined price of radios, equipment, installation, programming, and labor is \$258,773, and the cost of the AVTEC dispatch console is \$300,200 for a grand total not to exceed \$558,973. P-CCS staff members met with BearCom and Motorola representatives and successfully secured pricing lower than consortium rates offered nationwide. Funding for this project will be paid from the 2023-2024 State of Michigan 31aa grant funds. (First and Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

- **Action Item #24-12-35:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member McCoin to Approve a Resolution for Awards for Bid Package #HS-4 P-CEP-1, Canton High School Addition, Renovation, and New Stadium. This project received 28 bid divisions included in the scope of work. The recommended awards total \$11,352,256 and will be paid from 2020 to 2023 bond funds. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

*Sae Pawar left at 8:00 p.m.

Teaching and Learning – Bethany Rayl

2023-2024 Fall Data Review (Strategic Goal A: P-CCS will increase achievement for all students and close achievement gaps) (Presentation)

Ms. Bethany Rayl, Chief Academic & Innovation Officer, and Mr. Jonathan Flukes, Director of Data, Assessment, Research, & Evaluation, provided an overview of the district's fall data for the 2023-2024 academic year. The presentation provided insights into the progress made towards the goals and objectives outlined in the P-CCS Dynamic Plan and also showed the connection between the presented data and the district's multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS). An analysis of academic performance results for P-CCS students was displayed, comparing achievements, proficiency, and growth to local, state, and national student data. The results were also reviewed by grade and demographic groups. In addition, the presentation highlighted data related to attendance, behavior, and social-emotional learning competencies and provided insights into how students are recovering from the challenges posed by the pandemic.

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

E. Citizens' Comments

- Andy Patterson, Phil Venables, and Steve Gentilia spoke on the Canton High School Mascot
- Steve Robb spoke on community concerns
- Lisa Capatina spoke on school district meals

F. Action Items/Discussion

Final Reading Resolutions

Action Item #24-12-36: It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member McCoin to Adopt "Cobras" as the new mascot for Canton High School. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Sidhu, and Westra

Nays: Member Picard

The motion was carried 5-1

First Reading Policy

- Consider Approval of Policy #5310-Health Services. In response to a Board member's request, this policy was removed from the consent agenda during the November 14, 2023, Board meeting to allow for additional Board dialog. Board members were provided an opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification. The policy committee reviewed this policy revision at length and consulted with both district legal counsel and Neola before presenting the revised policy to the full Board. (First Reading)

G. Follow-up Board Questions

- Related to the 31aa Grant Fund Presentation:
 - Member Sidhu would like to know what resources are currently being used and the number of students receiving services. Additionally, what programs will be purchased with new grant funds.
 - Member Kehoe asked if there any unmet needs or services that could be filled with additional funding.
- Related to the 2023-24 Fall Data Review Presentation: Member Sidhu expressed interest in receiving data pertaining to NWEA Key Findings from the graphs presented on pages 23, 24, 25, and 26.

H. Recess

Vice President Christenson called for a recess at 9:39 p.m. to transition into a Board workshop. The meeting reconvened at 9:48 p.m.

Special Meeting - Workshop

Discussion of Dynamic Plan KPIs and Dashboard

Board members, Superintendent Merritt, and district administrators met to review the ongoing strategic planning efforts aimed at realizing the goals and objectives of the P-CCS Dynamic Plan.

Superintendent Merritt introduced Dr. Xinyu (Judy) Hu and Tammy Hobson, facilitators from Advanced Learning Partnerships (ALP), who have been actively collaborating with P-CCS since July on this important work. They

gave a presentation, provided updates, and gave a progress check-in on the development of key performance indicators (KPIs) aimed at effectively tracking the district's progress towards achieving its goals.

**Member Sidhu left at 10:12 p.m.*

A timeline highlighting ALP's work with P-CCS was reviewed, including collaboration and work sessions with the district's key departments and cabinet-level administrators to set realistic objectives and establish a KPI scorecard. Presently in the strategic planning phase, the ultimate goal is to conclude with a user-friendly, outward-facing dashboard and an internal-facing project management scorecard, both designed to provide a clear reflection of the district's ongoing journey and accomplishments.

H. Adjournment

Vice President Christenson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 10:35 p.m.

Anupam Chugh Sidhu
Secretary, Board of Education