

PLYMOUTH-CANTON

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2024

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7 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 p.m. in the Boardroom.

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

Absent: None

Administrators Present: Dr. Monica L. Merritt, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Liz Vartanian-Gibbs, Assistant Superintendent of Student & Family Engagement
Mr. Kurt Tyszkiewicz, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
Ms. Jill Minnick, Chief Finance and Operations Officer
Ms. Bethany Rayl, Chief Academic and Innovation Officer
Mr. Abdul Madyun, Chief Human Resource Officer
Mr. Frank Ruggirello, Director of Partnerships and External Affairs
Mr. Hal Heard, Executive Director of High School Education
Mr. David Reed-Nordwall, Canton High School Principal
Mr. Greg Anglin, Plymouth High School Principal
Ms. Kim Villarosa, Salem High School Principal
Mr. Kevin Lane, Starkweather Academy Principal
Ms. Montyne Barbee, Canton High School Assistant Principal
Ms. Jan Douglas, ELA/Media Curriculum Coordinator
Mr. Tim Gruszczynski, Director of Facilities and Capital Projects

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

Josh Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Action Item #24-04-63: It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member Christenson to adopt the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda consisted of Leaves, Resignations, Retirements, Tenure Recommendations, Regular Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2024, First Reading Policies, Final Reading Policies, and Out-of-Country Field Trips.

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 7-0

Leaves

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Mills, Courtney | Elementary Classroom Farrand Elementary School | Childcare Leave of Absence 2024-2025 School Year |
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Resignations

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| Campernel, Angela | Elementary Classroom Workman Elementary School | Resignation Effective 3-11-24 |
| Ignagni, Brandi | Instructional Coach Educational Support Center | Resignation Effective 3-15-24 |
| Lewis, Patricia | Elementary Classroom Field Elementary School | Resignation Effective 3-15-24 |

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| Shoemaker, Amy | (0.8) Speech Correction (Early On) Allen Early Learning Academy | Resignation Effective 4-19-24 |
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Retirements

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| Oneil, Michele | Computer Programming Canton High School | Retirement Effective 6-12-24 |
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| Wojtowicz, Nancy | Elementary Classroom Workman Elementary School | Retirement Effective 6-13-24 |
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Tenure Recommendations

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| Bachand, Amanda | Biology Plymouth High School | Tenure Effective 4-13-24 |
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| Leblanc, Michelle | Cognitive Imp Elementary/MS Virtual Academy | Tenure Effective 2-18-24 |
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Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2024, were approved as presented.

First Reading Policies

- Policy #5464 – Early Graduation

Final Reading Policies

- Policy #3131 - Reduction in Certified Staff

Out-of-Country Field Trips

- Costa Rica - Plymouth High School (Grades 9-12)

B. Celebrating Success

Member Westra presented the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler Award to Ms. Melissa Darnell, a science teacher at Starkweather Academy, in recognition of her exceptional commitment to fostering her students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Melissa consistently goes above and beyond, dedicating extra time beyond school hours and participating in summer conferences to bring new and fun ideas to the science department. Her commitment to supporting her students and fellow staff members shines brightly in her daily work.

C. Board Committee Reports/Action

Presidents Report - Shawn Wilson

President Wilson spoke about the historical practice of the president responding to emails addressed to all Board members. Moving forward, a quarterly rotation will be implemented, allowing various Board members the opportunity to address these emails. Member Kehoe will manage responses to emails for the 4th quarter of the current school year.

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

Member Westra shared that the SPA Committee met on April 3, 2024, and reviewed the High School Highlight Presentation and Middle School math curriculum materials. The committee also discussed future SPA committee topics. The next SPA meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2024, at 5 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 April 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 April 4, 2024, and reviewed Hoben Elementary site draining plans, a water main easement for the new P-CEP stadium, and a Salem High School chiller repair recommendation. The committee also discussed upcoming bids for a robotics hub, reviewed transportation and custodial KPIs, and reviewed February financial statements. The next F&O meeting will be held on April 18, 2024, at 5 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, SVA co-chair, shared that the SVA Committee met on March 18, 2024, and sampled new menu items from the Nutrition Services Department. The committee also created and distributed posters to gather student feedback regarding the P-CEP dress code. The next SVA meeting is scheduled for May 1, 2024, in the Canton High School Media Center, and everyone is welcome to attend.

D. Administrative Reports/Recommendations**Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Merritt expressed appreciation to district staff members who helped make *March is Reading Month* a great success. She also thanked the Plymouth Township Police Department, whose officers visited several P-CCS schools to read to students through their *Books and Badges Program*, highlighting the importance of our community partnerships and the district's strong relationship with the local law enforcement community.

She shared a long list of student accomplishments, starting with P-CEP 88.1 the Park, which was recently recognized as the Michigan Association of Broadcasters 2024 High School Radio Station of the Year for the seventh consecutive year. She congratulated the hardworking radio station students who received numerous awards at the MAB Broadcast Awards Celebration on March 18.

In addition, congratulations were extended to the P-CEP Culinary Arts Program Competitive Team for their strong showing at the recent ProStart State Hospitality Competition in Kalamazoo. The program's Management Team won the State Championship and qualified for the National ProStart Competition in Baltimore later this month. The award-winning Culinary Team finished second in this year's competition, one year after winning last year's national championship.

Recognition was also extended to the P-CEP Lighting Robotics Team, which continued its tradition of success after reaching the semi-final round at the State Robotics Competition. The team also received the prestigious FIRST Impact Award at the district competition, which honors the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate.

Further district highlights included congratulations for students in the Advanced Video Production classes at P-CEP, who were recently named finalists in the nationwide Courageous Persuaders Video Competition, where students used their talents to create a 30-second television commercial promoting safe driving.

The P-CEP Science and Engineering Fair Club members were also recognized and congratulated for their hard work and success. Several students earned strong showings at recent competitions, earning scholarships and invitations to compete in state and national finals.

Kindergarten registration is open for the 2024-2025 school year. Traditional and Young 5 options are available, ensuring a strong start for the community's youngest learners. District families were encouraged to visit the P-CCS website for additional details.

In closing, Superintendent Merritt reminded families that the upcoming application deadline for the district's limited Schools of Choice program is April 13. Students in contiguous counties in grades K-10 are eligible to apply. Additional information is available on the district website.

Teaching and Learning – Bethany Rayl**High School Program Highlights (Presentation)**

Mr. Hal Heard, Executive Director of High School Education, along with Mr. Kevin Lane, Starkweather Academy Principal; Mr. David Reed-Nordwall, Canton High School Principal; Mr. Greg Anglin, Plymouth High School Principal; Ms. Kim Villarosa, Salem High School Principal, and Ms. Montyne Barbee, Canton High School Assistant Principal, gave a presentation to provide P-CCS High School Program highlights.

The presentation centered on key program elements aimed at fostering a strong sense of belonging, promoting student engagement, and cultivating a positive culture and climate. Multiple educational and extracurricular

opportunities were showcased to illustrate the many offerings available to the district's high school students. Emphasis is placed on student voice, and examples were provided showing how students are incorporated into the decision-making process and how feedback is gathered through various channels. Initiatives such as homeroom classes for collaborative engagement, themed spirit weeks to instill pride, and comprehensive emotional supports were spotlighted as important components of the student support system. Additionally, an update was presented on the Career and Technical Education Program, highlighting its role in enhancing student engagement and providing exceptional career exploration opportunities. All high school programs remain focused on aligning with the objectives in the district's Dynamic Plan.

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Elementary English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum Materials. Ms. Beth Rayl, Chief Academic and Innovation Officer, and Ms. Jan Douglas, ELA/Media Curriculum Coordinator, provided an overview of this recommendation to purchase the Collaborative Classroom's *Being a Reader* and *Being a Writer* curriculum resources for elementary English Language Arts (ELA) not to exceed \$1,455,655. These resources were selected based on data from a pilot study. They will be purchased from the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 budgets of the 35j Professional Development, Curriculum, and Supports Grant from the Michigan Department of Education and will be implemented during the 2024-2025 school year and beyond. (First Reading)

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

Finance and Operations - Jill Minnick

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for Hoben Elementary Drainage Improvements Bid Package #EL-4a. Mr. Brian Gesaman and Mr. Nick Tindall from McCarthy and Smith provided an overview of this recommendation, which was scheduled as a component of future work of #EL-4a, but the drainage component has been pulled ahead due to flooding issues. It is recommended that the award for this work go to the lowest bidder, ILE Excavating, Inc. of Plymouth, Michigan, at a cost of \$196,650. (First Reading)

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

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #24-04-64:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Christenson to Approve a Resolution for a Water Main Easement for Bid Package #P-CEP-1 New Stadium. As part of the construction work to be completed for the new P-CEP stadium, the Board is being asked to approve an agreement with the Charter Township of Canton regarding the water main easement on P-CCS owned property, which is standard practice. (First and Final Reading)

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

Nays:

The motion was carried 7-0

- **Action Item #24-04-65:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Christenson to Approve a Resolution for a Chiller Repair at Salem High School. Mr. Tim Gruszczynski, Director of Facilities and Capital Projects, provided an overview of this recommendation to authorize repair work to a Daikin Chiller at a cost of \$46,961, which will extend the life of this unit for an additional 12-15 years. Price quotes were received from the Omnia Purchasing Consortium, and ThermalNetics, Inc. is the recommended vendor. This expense will be paid with the Operations Department repair budget. (First and Final Reading)

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

Nays:

The motion was carried 7-0

- **Action Item #24-04-66:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Christenson to Approve a Resolution for a Bid Package #P-CEP-2 Tennis Courts Replacement. Due to the deteriorating condition of the existing tennis courts, this recommendation is being brought forward and includes replacing asphalt courts with post-tensioned concrete, coaching alleys, fencing replacement, and updated stormwater detention. After receiving bids from 17 vendors across four bid divisions, the recommended contract awards total \$3,188,150 and will be paid from the 2020 and 2023 bond funds (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, Westra, and Wilson
Nays:
The motion was carried 7-0

E. Citizens' Comments

- Venkataraman Ananthkrishnan spoke on continuing education for students on suspension or expulsion.

F. Action Items/Discussion

Final Reading Policies

- **Action Item #24-04-67:** It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member McCoin to Approve Policy # 9140 Citizens' Advisory Committees. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, Westra, and Wilson
Nays:
The motion was carried 7-0

- **Action Item #24-04-68:** It was moved by Member Sidhu and seconded by Member McCoin to Approve Policy # 9140.01 Facilities Utilization and Boundary Study. (Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, Westra, and Wilson
Nays:
The motion was carried 7-0

G. Follow-up Board Questions

- Related to the Resolution to Purchase Elementary English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum Materials: Board members will receive a copy of the full quote, which will include book titles, through board notes.
- The Board would like to receive an update on minority and women-owned bid submissions and awards.
- The Board would like to receive an update on the process to provide continued education for students on suspension or expulsion.
- The Board would like to receive an update on the ventilation in the Salem High School culinary arts kitchen.

H. Adjournment

President Wilson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Anupam Chugh Sidhu
Secretary, Board of Education

*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 4-23-24/dr