

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2024

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

Vice President McCain called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 in the Boardroom.

Present: Members Kehoe, McCain, Picard, and Westra

Absent: Members Christenson, Sidhu, and Wilson

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
 Ms. Carly Rays, Assistant Director of Marketing and Promotion

Others Present: 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. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy & Smith Senior Project Manager

Vice President McCain led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Action Item #25-08-04: It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to adopt the Agenda and the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda consisted of New Hires, Leaves, Resignations, Retirements, Regular (Organizational) Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2024, and First Reading Policies.

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCain, Picard, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 4-0

New Hires

Arning, Dana	Teacher/Resource Room East Middle School	Effective 8-26-24
Cusick, Maria-Fernanda	Spanish/21 st Century Skills Pioneer Middle School	Effective 8-26-24
Fitzsimmons, Samantha	Occupational Therapy Canton & Salem High Schools	Effective 8-26-24
Medlen, Margaret	Occupational Therapy Farrand & Field Elementary Schools	Effective 8-26-24
Morris, Joseph	Counselor (Non-Instructional) Discovery Middle School	Effective 8-26-24
Wanshon, Brooke	Nurse Hoben Elementary & Discovery Middle School	Effective 8-26-24
Hayes, Stefanie	Executive Director of Special Education Administration Building	Effective 8-26-24
Lents, Matthew	Director of Capital Programs and Facilities Educational Support Center	Effective 8-13-24
Opfermann, Caitlin	Coordinator of Early Childhood Education Allen Early Learning Academy	Effective 8-8-24

Pollard, Gwendolyn	Payroll Coordinator Administration Building	Effective 8-12-24
Roberts, Tiffany	Assistant Principal of Activities & Athletics Canton High School	Effective 8-8-24
Segrist, Lindsey	Principal Eriksson Elementary School	Effective 8-15-24
Wimberly, Jr. Harold	Dean of Student Support Discovery Middle School	Effective 8-12-24

Leaves

DiCiuccio, Kellie	Elementary Classroom Hulsing Elementary School	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 9-18-24 through 1-31-25
Hammond, Christopher	Student Support Coordinator Bentley Elementary School	Professional Growth Leave of Absence Effective 2024-2025 School Year
Hillyard, Kelly	Early-on Service Provider Allen Early Learning Academy	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 8-26-24 through 11-27-24
Pollum, Rosemarie	Math Pioner Middle School	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 8-26-24 through 1-17-25

Resignations

Ahmed, Huma	Admin. Assistant-Special Education Administration Building	Resignation Effective 7-31-24
Allen-Elsner, Bethany	Ecology Canton High School	Resignation Effective 8-2-24
Ignagni, Patrick	Instructional Coach – Secondary Educational Support Center	Resignation Effective 8-7-24
Kerr, Sharon	Compliance Manager Special Education Educational Support Center	Resignation Effective 8-2-24
Rissman, Stefanie	EI Categorical Classroom West Middle School	Resignation Effective 7-23-24
Ruggirello, Sarah	Elementary Classroom Bentley Elementary School	Resignation Effective 7-15-24
Simon, Aimee	Nurse Field Elementary School	Resignation Effective 8-12-24
Sparling, Megan	Co-Teach with General Ed Teacher Discovery Middle School	Resignation Effective 8-1-24
Teske, Jessica	Speech Correction Early-on Allen Early Learning Academy	Resignation Effective 8-16-24

Retirements

Riddell, Donna	Elementary Classroom Bentley Elementary School	Retirement Effective 6-30-24
Rousseaux-Swift, Valerie	Counselor (non-instructional) West Middle School	Retirement Effective 8-16-24
Wallman, Bridget	Life Management Family and Consumer Science Discovery Middle School	Retirement Effective 8-4-24
West, Kathleen	Resource Room Isbister Elementary School	Retirement Effective 8-23-24

Approval of Minutes

The Regular (Organizational) meeting minutes of July 23, 2024, were approved as presented.

First Reading Policies

- Policy #3220 – Professional Staff Evaluation

B. Board Committee Reports/Action

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

The SPA committee has not met since the last Board meeting. The next SPA meeting will be held in the fall, and the date will be published on the district website after the 2024-2025 calendar has been approved.

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 August 27, 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 has not met since the last Board meeting. The next F&O meeting is scheduled for August 22, 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 – Lauren Christenson

Josh Patterson and Saeew Pawar, SVA co-chair, shared that the SVA Committee has not met since the last meeting. The next SVA meeting will be held in the fall, and the date will be published on the district website after the 2024-2025 calendar has been approved.

C. Administrative Reports/Recommendations

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Merritt thanked Ms. Beth Rayl and the entire Teaching & Learning Department for their exceptional work organizing and facilitating this week's administrator retreat sessions. Their efforts have been instrumental in helping our district administrators grow and prepare for a successful school year.

She congratulated P-CEP student Nicholas Rodgers, whose design was selected as a finalist in the State of Michigan's "I Voted" sticker contest. Nicholas's design is one of the final options under consideration for use by election officials during the November 2024 election.

Additionally, Superintendent Merritt recognized three P-CCS Middle School students - Rawan Hammad, Simon Reed, and Evan Zhen - who secured the top three positions at the 2024 State of Michigan Civics Bee. Evan's first-place finish qualifies him to compete in the national civics bee finals in Washington, D.C.

She reminded parents that the P-CCS online back-to-school check-in process opens tomorrow through the MISTAR parent connection website. This check-in process is required for all returning K-12 students and must be completed by September 30.

In closing, Superintendent Merritt provided updates on P-CCS 2020 Bond construction projects, highlighting ongoing work at Plymouth High School on the Natatorium and multi-purpose room, as well as the new stadium and multi-purpose room at Canton High School. She also shared renovation updates taking place at East and West Middle School and expressed continued appreciation to the community for their support of the 2020 bond.

Finance and Operations - Jill Minnick

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #25-08-05:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to Approve a Resolution for two P-CEP Drain Easements for the Willow Creek Drain. Mr. Brian Gesaman, McCarthy & Smith Senior Project Manager, provided updates on this recommendation, which is necessary to continue construction projects at P-CEP. A first and final reading is requested to allow construction work to begin immediately. (First and Final Reading)

Ayes: Members Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, and Westra

Nays: None

The motion was carried 4-0

D. Citizens' Comments

- Peter Holcombe, Marilyn Holcombe, and Gavin Holcombe spoke about the Salem High School wrestling program

- Katy Cleveland and Bobbi Hejka spoke about support for P-CCS administrative assistants
- Jen Vos spoke about district communications

E. Discussion

- MASB Delegate Assembly Discussion - Member Kehoe offered to serve as one of the Board's delegates at the 2024 MASB Delegate Assembly on October 24, 2024. Any additional board members who wish to participate were asked to email Superintendent Merritt by October 4.
- Expulsion Training – Potential Dates Discussion - Superintendent Merritt shared that the district's legal counsel is available to provide expulsion training to Board and administrative panel members on October 8 before the regular board meeting. The training will start at 5:30 p.m., and calendar invitations will be sent to participants.
- Board Meeting Presentation Schedule Discussion - Superintendent Merritt spoke about the board meeting presentation schedule for the 2024-2025 school year. She asked Board members to review the calendar and to contact her if they wish to propose additional presentations.
- P-CEP Chillers - Ms. Jill Minnick, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, provided an update on issues related to P-CEP chillers. Discussion and review of proposals related to repair costs, early replacements, and rental options will continue at an upcoming F&O Meeting.

F. Adjournment

Vice President McCoin adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Judy Westra
Secretary, Board of Education

*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 8-27-24/dr