

# PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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## **BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES** **September 24, 2024**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, Wayne and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the E. J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170.

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

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

Absent: None

Administrators Present: 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

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

President Christenson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Action Item #25-09-10:** 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, Retirements, Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024, First Reading Policies, Final Reading Policies, and a Tentative Agreement with the Plymouth-Canton Education Association (PCEA).

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 5-0

#### New Hires

Daguanno, Elyssa	Life Management Family and Consumer Science Discovery Middle School	Effective 9-9-24
Evans, Kayla	Elementary Classroom Tonda Elementary School	Effective 9-23-24
Hand, Ryan	Language Arts Liberty Middle School	Effective 9-26-24
Jackson, Chelsea	Elementary Classroom Farrand Elementary School	Effective 9-23-24
Kotlinski, Lea	Integrated Science Discovery Middle School	Effective 9-12-24
Raymond, Jessica	Integrated Science Elective 21 <sup>st</sup> Century East Middle School	Effective 9-23-24
Young, Jennifer	Resource Room Co-Teach w/General Ed Teacher Plymouth High School	Effective 9-12-24
Pettovello, Stephanie	Technical Coordinator Educational Support Center	Effective 9-9-24

Leaves

Kozlowski, Angela	Resource Room East Middle School	Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective 8-26-24 to 6-11-25
Lee, Jennifer	Elementary Classroom Eriksson Elementary School	Childcare Leave of Absence Effective 8-26-24 to 6-11-25
Wiessner, Carol	Elementary Classroom Bentley Elementary School	Leave of Absence Effective 9-3-24 to 6-11-25

Retirements

Archer, Brent	Elementary Classroom Isbister Elementary School	Retirement Effective 12-11-24
Senkbeil, Jamie	Employment Coordinator Administration Building	Retirement Effective 1-10-25

Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2024, were approved as presented.

First Reading Policies

- Policy #6520 – Payroll Deductions

Final Reading Policies

- Policy #6350 – Prevailing Wage

**B. Celebrating Success**

Member Christenson presented Mr. Joe Bublitz, student support coordinator at Isbister Elementary, with the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler Award in recognition of his tireless dedication to Isbister students and colleagues. His unwavering commitment of time and energy positively impacts the Isbister school community every day.

Ms. Crystal Madera-Ghadieh, a paraprofessional at Isbister Elementary, was also honored with the Mary Beth Carroll Extra Miler Award for her role in brightening the lunchroom and office with her warm smile and positive energy, creating an inviting and uplifting environment for all.

**C. Board Committee Reports/Action**Presidents Report – Lauren Christenson

President Christenson spoke about the open seat on the Board of Education, reminding community members that applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. tomorrow, September 25, 2024. She also shared that interviews will occur on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 6 p.m. during the public Board meeting.

Additionally, she invited Mr. Frank Ruggirello to share information about a potential new partnership with the City of Plymouth to install an artificial turf field at East Middle School. This field would not only serve the district's students but also be accessible for city recreation programs during evenings and weekends. Mr. Ruggirello introduced Plymouth Mayor Suzi Deal and City Manager Paul Sincock, who expressed excitement about this potential opportunity and look forward to sharing additional information later this year.

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

Member Sidhu shared that the SPA Committee met on September 18, 2024, to review assistive technology programs and how these resources support students. The committee also reviewed a presentation on Counseling Professional Learning Updates and curriculum materials for a high school multicultural literature course. Additionally, the committee addressed ongoing discussions at the state level regarding cell phone use in classrooms. The next SPA meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024, at 5 p.m. in the Boardroom, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

**\*Member Picard arrived at 7:22 p.m.**

Policy Advisory Committee - Patti McCoin

Member McCoin shared that the Policy Committee met this evening and reviewed several policies, including those concerning animals on district property, purchasing policies, religious and patriotic services, and school visitors. A representative from the district's legal counsel was present to offer guidance and address any questions. The next Policy meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Collaboration Room at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Finance and Operations Committee - Patrick Kehoe

Member Kehoe shared that the F&O Committee met on September 19, 2024, and reviewed a presentation on summer bond construction projects. The committee also discussed the district's custodial services contract renewal and air conditioning challenges. The next F&O meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2024, at 5 p.m. in the Boardroom at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

Student Voice in Action Committee – Lauren Christenson

Sae Pawar, a student co-chair, shared that the SVA committee met on September 16, 2024, where they reviewed the process for new members, assigned current members to schools, and started planning initiatives. Invitations were recently sent to students in grades 6-12, with the application window closing on October 6, 2024. The next SVA committee meeting will be held on October 21, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. at Discovery MS auditoria, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

**D. Administrative Reports/Recommendations****Finance and Operations – Jill Minnick**2024 Summer Bond Program Update (Presentation)

Team members from McCarthy and Smith delivered a presentation showcasing key highlights and progress updates on the various P-CCS summer bond construction projects currently underway throughout the district. Several slides were displayed and reviewed, including renovations and additions at Hoben Elementary School, Pioneer, East, and West Middle Schools, Canton, Plymouth, and Salem High Schools, and Starkweather Academy. The presentation included details about upcoming projects and next steps.

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

First Reading Resolutions

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for a Custodial Contract Renewal with ABM Industries. It is recommended that a contract renewal be issued to ABM Industries for two additional years, from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2026, following the completion of their initial three-year contract. Adjustments to the contract result in a total increase of \$468,950 over two years. The district is happy with its partnership with ABM, and the contract adjustments were discussed thoroughly at the last Finance and Operations Committee Meeting. (First Reading)

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

Final Reading Resolutions

- **Action Item #25-09-11:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to Approve a Resolution to Purchase a GMC Terrain SUV for the Safety and Security Department to meet the expanded needs and provide safer transportation for students and staff. It is recommended that this purchase be made from Todd Wenzel Buick GMC in Westland, MI, for an amount not to exceed \$34,079, including lights, radios, and security lettering. The cost of this vehicle will be funded from the State School Aid Act Section 31aa funds and the Security Department operating budget. (Final Reading)

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

- **Action Item #25-09-12:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Picard to Approve a Resolution to Purchase Building Entry Intercom Systems. The P-CCS Safety and Security Department has identified the need to replace outdated building entry intercom and access control systems, which have been failing and lack compatibility with existing security cameras. It is recommended that this contract be awarded

to Safeware, with installation managed by Security 101, in an amount not to exceed \$153,904.62. This project will be funded from the State School Aid Act Section 31aa funds (Final Reading)

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

- **Action Item #25-09-13:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to Approve a Resolution to Purchase Additional Building Access Control Points. The P-CCS Safety and Security Department seeks to enhance security by adding access control points across the district. Each access point will be equipped with a card reader, compatible hardware for the upcoming encrypted system, and 3,000 new proximity cards. It is recommended that this contract be awarded to Safeware in an amount not to exceed \$88,113.44. The State School Aid Act Section 31aa funds will fund the project. (Final Reading)

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

- **Action Item #25-09-14:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to Approve a Resolution for the Purchase of Two Avigilon AVR Servers. The P-CCS Safety and Security Department seeks approval to purchase two AI NVR Avigilon Video servers for visible weapon detection. This technology will enable existing and new cameras to identify visible firearms and alert the security operations center, enhancing overall safety. It is recommended that this contract be awarded to Safeware in an amount not to exceed \$95,174.35. This project will be funded from the State School Aid Act Section 31aa funds and 2020 and 2023 bond funds. (Final Reading)

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

- **Action Item #25-09-15:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Sidhu to Approve a Resolution for the Purchase of Two Electronic Signs. This recommendation requests approval to purchase two Daktronics Galaxy Outdoor Electronic Message Centers based on pricing from Sourcewell Contract 030223-DAK. The cost of the two signs will be \$44,336, and the installation, masonry, and electrical work for both signs is estimated at an amount not to exceed \$24,000 and includes a contingency amount of \$10,000. The total cost for this project will not exceed \$78,336 and will be paid with 2020 and 2023 bond funds. (Final Reading)

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

Nays: None

The motion was carried 6-0

## **Teaching and Learning - Beth Rayl**

### **First Reading Resolutions**

- Consider Approval of a Resolution for High School ELA Course Materials for Multicultural Literature. The curriculum team has recommended the Latin American novel *Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo as a first-semester whole-class text. Implementing this novel into the Multicultural Literature course will be free of additional cost since it is currently available in the P-CEP book room and has been used as a choice book in the past. This recommendation was discussed extensively at the SPA committee and would be implemented for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond. (First Reading)

## **E. Citizens' Comments**

- Lisa Capatina spoke about student nutrition and community voice
- Rijvana Patel spoke about elementary playground fencing
- Jennifer Vos spoke about bond updates, custodial services, recess time, and board goals
- Steve Gentilia spoke about P-CEP football fields, maintenance, and a concession stand wall
- Natalie Sharpe spoke about bike racks at district schools

## **F. Action Items/Discussion**

- **Action Item #25-09-16:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Sidhu to Approve a Resolution to Adopt 2024-2025 Superintendent Goals (First and Final Reading)  
Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra  
Nays: None  
The motion was carried 6-0
- **Action Item #25-09-17:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member Westra to Approve a Resolution to Adopt 2024-2025 Board of Education Goals. (First and Final Reading)  
Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Picard, Sidhu, and Westra  
Nays: None  
The motion was carried 6-0
- **Action Item #25-09-18:** It was moved by Member Kehoe and seconded by Member McCoin to Adopt Policy #2410 (Rescind) Prohibition of Referral or Assistance. This policy update is being recommended by the policy committee following the repeal of the state law on which it was based. It was removed from the consent agenda to provide an opportunity for additional Board discussion. (Final Reading)  
Ayes: Members Christenson, Kehoe, McCoin, Sidhu, and Westra  
Nays: Member Picard  
The motion was carried 5-1
- **Discussion** - Member Sidhu spoke about her recent attendance at the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) Behind the Scenes at the Capitol Workshop. She shared several legislative updates from the session and their potential impact on public schools and the community.

## **G. Follow-up Board Questions**

- The Board requested that a copy of the Multicultural Literature course materials from this evening's recommendation be made available for review.
- A request was made to confirm that all district website pages be updated to show the latest construction bond updates.
- Senate Bill 567 regarding Dyslexia - Clarity was requested to determine whether this bill referenced all students or only those identified in this group.

## **H. Adjournment**

President Christenson adjourned the Regular Meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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Judy Westra  
Secretary, Board of Education

\*Approved at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education on 10-8-24/dr