

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
Regular Meeting
April 4, 2022**

President Burton convened the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Members Present Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson

Members Absent None

Recognition of MHSAA Division 1 State Champions – Franklin High School Varsity Pom Pon Team It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution recognizing Franklin High School Pom Pon for achieving the Mid American Pompon Division 1 State Championship title.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education are desirous of publicly recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students who distinguish themselves during the pursuit of their public education in the school district; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin High School Pom Pon Team has distinguished itself by achieving the 2022 Mid American Pompon Division 1 State Championship title; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Pom Pon achieved this accomplishment in the Mid American Pompon Varsity category with a score of 498 out of a possible 550 points at the competition at Eastern Michigan University on February 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this adds to the outstanding accomplishments the team achieved during its 2021–2022 season, including making school history with a perfect season that included winning the High Kick Competition in November, followed by winning the Regional competition to qualify for the State competition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate the Franklin High School Pom Pon Team for its outstanding accomplishments and wish all of the team members well in their future endeavors as they apply the discipline and perseverance needed to excel in sports to all areas of their lives.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Recognition of MHSAA Division It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District

**1 State
Champions –
Franklin High
School Boys
Bowling Team**

adopt a resolution recognizing Franklin High School Boys Bowling for achieving the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 State Championship title.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools’ Board of Education are desirous of publicly recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students who distinguish themselves during the pursuit of their public education in the school district; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin High School Boys Bowling team has distinguished itself by achieving the 2022 Michigan High School Athletic Association Boys Bowling Division 1 State Championship title; and

WHEREAS, Franklin Boys Bowling achieved this accomplishment following an MHSAA Regional Championship and three successful rounds at the State Championship on March 4, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this accomplishment capped off an outstanding season for Franklin Boys Bowling, which achieved many successes during its season, including making school history for this 4-year-old program and achieving a 15-1 overall record for the season which included 3 in-season tournament wins and 12 conference wins.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate the Franklin High School Boys Bowling Team for its outstanding accomplishments and wish all of the team members well in their future endeavors as they apply the discipline and perseverance needed to excel in sports to all areas of their lives.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nayes: None

**Recognition of
MHSAA Division
1 State Champion
Bowler – Ian
Wright, Franklin
High School**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution recognizing Franklin High School Boys Bowling team member Ian Wright for achieving the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 Individual State Championship title.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools’ Board of Education are desirous of publicly recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students who distinguish themselves during the pursuit of their public education in the school district; and

WHEREAS, Ian Wright, a junior at Franklin High School, has distinguished himself by achieving the 2022 Michigan High School Athletic Association Boys Bowling Division 1 Individual State Championship title; and

WHEREAS, Ian achieved this accomplishment after four rounds of bracket play to win the State Championship Individual Title on March 5, 2022; and

WHEREAS, this accomplishment capped off an outstanding season for Ian,

who carried a 225 cumulative average, a 219 average in meet play, and achieved the second-highest average in the Kensington Lakes Athletic Association while qualifying for the State Championship tournament by averaging 222 over six games.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Ian Wright for his outstanding accomplishments and wish him well in his future endeavors as he applies the discipline and perseverance needed to excel in sports to all areas of his life.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nayes: None

**Recognition of
MHSAA Division
1 State Champion
Gymnast –
Morgan Ruffing,
All Around
Champion,
Livonia Red
Gymnastics**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution recognizing Franklin High School gymnast Morgan Ruffing, for capturing the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 All Around title at the MHSAA Gymnastics State Championship.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools’ Board of Education are desirous of publicly recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students who distinguish themselves during the pursuit of their public education in the school district; and

WHEREAS, Morgan Ruffing, a junior at Franklin High School, has distinguished herself by achieving the 2022 Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 All Around title at the Gymnastics State Championship; and

WHEREAS, Morgan achieved this accomplishment as a member of the Livonia Red Gymnastics team by earning the highest combined score of 37.525 after four events – vault, beam, uneven bars, and floor exercise; and

WHEREAS, this adds to the outstanding accomplishments Morgan has achieved during the 2021-2022 season; including winning best All Around at dual meets and Conferences, tying the school record in floor exercise with a score of 9.8 at Regionals, and contributing to a new team school record at Regionals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Morgan Ruffing for her outstanding accomplishments in athletics and wish her well in her future endeavors as she applies the discipline and perseverance needed to excel in sports to all areas of her life.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nayes: None

**Recognition of
MHSAA Division**

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District

**1 State Champion
Gymnast – Avery
Boyk, Uneven
Bars, Livonia Red
Gymnastics**

adopt a resolution recognizing Churchill High School gymnast Avery Boyk, for capturing the Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 State Championship on the uneven bars.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Trustees of the Livonia Public Schools’ Board of Education are desirous of publicly recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of students who distinguish themselves during the pursuit of their public education in the school district; and

WHEREAS, Avery Boyk, a senior at Churchill High School, has distinguished herself by achieving the 2022 Michigan High School Athletic Association Division 1 Individual Gymnastics State Championship on the Uneven Bars; and

WHEREAS, Avery achieved this accomplishment as a member of the Livonia Red Gymnastics team by earning a score of 9.675; and

WHEREAS, this adds to the outstanding accomplishments Avery has achieved during the 2021-2022 season, including breaking her own record on the uneven bars, placing first in the All Around category, contributing to a new team school record at Regionals, and placing first in All Around at dual meets throughout the season.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees of the Board of Education do hereby commend and congratulate Avery Boyk for her outstanding accomplishments in athletics and wish her well in her future endeavors as she applies the discipline and perseverance needed to excel in sports to all areas of her life.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**District Update
from the
Superintendent**

Superintendent Oquist shared a presentation of activities and recognitions taking place across the District.

**Written
Communications**

None

**Response to Prior
Audience
Communications**

None

**Audience
Communications**

None

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the following consent agenda items, as recommended by the superintendent:

- V.A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2022
- VIII.A. Cooperative Agreements for Livonia Career Technical Center for the 2022-23 school year
- VIII.B. Cooperative Agreements for Livonia Transition Program for the 2022-23 school year ☐

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

**Appointment –
 Director of
 Secondary
 Programs &
 District Services**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Acosta that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and appoint Kevin Etue as the Director of Secondary Programs and District Services, effective July 1, 2022.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

**Appointment –
 Coordinator of
 Student Services**

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and appoint Lora Boka as the Coordinator of Student Services, effective July 1, 2022.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

**Teachers for
 Approval**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 2021-22 school year to the following teachers:

Cleveland, Lisa	1.0 Special Ed (MOCI)	Webster
Goeman, Maryrose	1.0 Teacher	Roosevelt
Haskin, Tanner	1.0 Social Worker	Student Services
Kubek, Julia	1.0 Psychologist	Student Services
Michalski, Kathryn	1.0 Resource Room Teacher	Riley
Nolan, Jennifer	1.0 Teacher	Riley
Vella, Carie	1.0 Social Worker	Churchill

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

**Teachers for
 Tenure**

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and acknowledge that tenure status has been granted to the following teachers, effective on the respective date:

Teressa Michalski 3/2/22
Kimberly Zarzycki 4/13/22

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Leave of Absence

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and approve the requests for a leave of absence as listed below:

April Wholihan 4/6/22

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Resignations

The Board was informed of the following resignations:

Elizabeth Hering 3/8/22
Julia Newman 3/11/22
Eric Newton 4/15/22

Retirements

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a resolution of appreciation for services rendered by:

Ani Akaraz will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted 28 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Livonia Career Technical Center and Stevenson High School as a teacher and assistant principal.

Deborah Bartnick will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 24 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Johnson Elementary and Rosedale Elementary as a teacher.

Jennifer Cutler will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted 28 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School as a teacher.

Lynn DeCarli will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 25 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Grant Elementary and Cooper Upper Elementary as a teacher.

Leigh Dresser will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted 30 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Roosevelt Elementary, Buchanan Elementary and Grant Elementary as a teacher.

Marc Hage will retire from the district on June 24, 2022, and has devoted 32 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Cooper Elementary, Marshall Elementary and Churchill High School as a teacher and athletic director.

Lorraine Hyman will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted

22 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Stevenson High School as an athletic director.

Sandra Jouppi will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 25 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to students at Perrinville Early Childhood Center, Johnson Upper Elementary, Rosedale Elementary and Churchill High School as a speech pathologist.

Robert Kucharski will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 30 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Taylor Elementary, Riley Middle School, and Holmes Middle School as a teacher.

Mary Lacroix will retire from the district on June 17, 2022, and has devoted 26.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a clerk and as a secretary at the Western Wayne Skill Center, Stevenson High School, Cass Elementary, Nankin Mills Elementary, Cleveland Elementary, Cooper Elementary, Johnson Elementary, Riley Elementary and Churchill High School.

Janice Leach will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 39 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Lowell Middle School, Franklin High School and Emerson Middle School as a special education teacher.

Robert (Scott) Shaw will retire from the district on June 20, 2022, and has devoted 29 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Frost Middle School and Stevenson High School as a teacher.

Daniel Willenborg will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted 26 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School, Franklin High School and in the Secondary Programs Department as an assistant principal, principal, and director of secondary programs and district services.

Lori Wozniak will retire from the district on June 30, 2022, and has devoted 22 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Stevenson High School and the Livonia Career Technical Center as a vocational technician and counselor.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

**Approval to
Purchase LMC
Furniture – 2021
Bond**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from the Owner's Representative, Plante Moran Cresa, to approve the Phase One purchase of furniture for Library Media Centers at Coolidge Elementary, Kennedy Elementary, Randolph Elementary, Cooper Upper Elementary, and Emerson Middle School from NBS Commercial Interiors, Troy, Michigan in an amount not to exceed \$1,012,394.00.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson

Nays: None

Approval of Move Management – 2021 Bond

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from the Owner's Representative, Plante Moran Cresa, to approve the Phase One Move Management Services bid from DMS Moving Systems, Canton, Michigan in the amount of \$100,215.00, which includes a \$20,000.00 contingency, and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts with the recommended contractor.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Approval of Project #1 Rebids – 2021 Bond

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the recommendation from its Owner's Representative, Plante Moran Cresa, and its Construction Manager, Clark Construction Company, to approve the contractors identified and the construction project budgets for Bid Package #2A – Project #1, Rebids for 2022 renovations at Coolidge Elementary, Kennedy Elementary, Randolph Elementary, Cooper Upper Elementary, and Emerson Middle School in the total amount of \$1,010,613.00, which includes costs for hard construction, fees, and contingency, and authorize the Superintendent or her designee to negotiate and execute final contracts on behalf of the Board of Education with the awarded contractors.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None
Abstain: Burton (employees of her family business may have bid)

Approval to Purchase Mobile Devices for Classrooms

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and supported by Mrs. Acosta that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of mobile devices and charging carts from Presidio Networked Solutions Group, Wixom, Michigan in the amount of \$873,776.00.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Approval to Purchase Mobile Devices from ECF Grant

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of mobile devices from All Covered, Lyon Charter Township, Michigan in the amount of \$3,192,000.00.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Approval to
Purchase UPS
Battery
Replacement**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Bonifield that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of UPS Battery Replacement from JEM Tech Group, Clinton Township, Michigan in an amount not to exceed \$30,895.00.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Approval to
Purchase LPS
Merchandise**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of Livonia Public Schools merchandise from MBS Incorporated, South Lyon, Michigan for an amount not to exceed \$94,850.00.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Approval of LCTC
Grant Purchases**

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the purchase of a Teleskid Track Loader from the Continental Equipment Corporation for \$111,625.25.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Approval to
Change Meeting
Dates for
Upcoming
Regular Board
Meetings**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Jarvis that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District change the dates of two upcoming Regular Board meetings, as follows: Move the April 25 Regular meeting to May 2 and move the May 16 Regular meeting to May 23.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Gift from
Community
Member to
Franklin Athletic
Department**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mr. Johnson that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous gift from a community member of \$2,000 for the Franklin High School Athletic Department.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

First Reading of Board Policy JD – Student Code of Conduct

The proposed new language for the policy listed below was reviewed by the Board and will be brought to the next regular meeting for a second reading and potential approval. This policy was rewritten to incorporate the following Board Policies, which will be removed: JCDA-Student Behavior and Conduct, JCDAA-Prohibited Use of Tobacco Substances, JCDAE-Personal Communication Devices, and JCDBA-Prohibiting Gang Activity.

**BOARD POLICY
STUDENTS
~~STUDENT DISCIPLINE~~**

**JD
AUGUST 21, 2017**

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

The Livonia Public Schools School District is dedicated to creating and maintaining a positive learning environment for all students. All members of our educational community including students, teachers, other school and District personnel, and parents play an important role in promoting the academic growth and social development of each child. Courteous, respectful, civil, and responsible behavior fosters a positive climate in which our learning community can thrive.

This Student Code of Conduct sets forth student rights and responsibilities while at school and school-related activities, and the potential consequences for violating District policy. It defines behaviors that undermine the safety and learning opportunities for any member of the school community. When determining the consequences of student misconduct, school officials may use intervention strategies and/or disciplinary actions including exclusionary measures.

This policy covers only serious and major types of misconduct. The following rules are not to be construed as an all-inclusive list or as a limitation of the authority of school officials to deal appropriately with violations of a school building's individual rules and regulations or other types of conduct which interfere with the good order of the school environment, the proper functioning of the educational process, or the health and safety of students, even if not explicitly stated herein.

The specific prohibited acts and consequences listed below are applicable when a student is on school or District property, is on a school bus or in a vehicle being used for a school-related purpose, is at a school-sponsored activity whether or not the event is held on school premises, is enroute to or from school, and when a student's conduct at any time and place adversely affects and/or substantially disrupts the daily operations and positive climate of our schools.

PROHIBITED ACTS

Administrative intervention in a prohibited act may include the removal of a student from a class period, an in-school suspension, a reprimand, restitution, loss of recess, detention and/or work assignments before or after school, additional classroom assignments, and revocation of the privilege of attending after-school functions, special events, athletic contests, and activities.

The prohibited acts listed alphabetically below may involve disciplinary

consequences ranging from an administrative warning and intervention to an expulsion from school. Each assigned consequence of a prohibited act will be determined on a case-by-case review and the actual penalty will depend upon the nature and severity of the offense, the particular facts involved, the age of the student, the student's prior behavioral record, the persistent and/or chronic nature of the misconduct, the recommendation of school personnel, and all other circumstances deemed relevant. Inappropriate student conduct may also result in the involvement of law enforcement personnel such as the local police.

ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA, DRUGS, OR OTHER BANNED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

A student will not possess, use, be under the influence of, offer to buy or sell, or purport to buy or sell, a controlled substance, dangerous drug, drug paraphernalia, prescription drug, counterfeit drug, intoxicating substance, or alcohol. A student legally in possession of prescribed medication will not be in violation of this section as long as his/her use and possession of the prescribed medication is authorized at school and the student follows the required possession and use protocols as defined by the school.

BULLYING AND HAZING

Students are prohibited from engaging in bullying and hazing behaviors that interfere with another's participation in educational programs or activities by placing that person in fear of physical harm or by causing emotional distress while at school or at school-related activities. Bullying and hazing behaviors can be expressed through a variety of manners such as physical, verbal, psychological, written words, and social media posts. The Board of Education Policy JCEC also addresses bullying.

COERCION, EXTORTION, AND BLACKMAIL

A student shall not commit or attempt to commit coercion, extortion, or blackmail. A student shall not engage in the act of securing or attempting to secure money or other item of value by the use of threats and/or violence, nor shall a student, by threats and/or violence, force another person to perform an unwilling act.

DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage or vandalism to school property or personal property of others.

DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL OPERATIONS

A student shall not by any type of conduct (violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, etc.) intentionally cause the disruption or obstruction of any function of the school nor shall an individual engage in such conduct if such disruption or obstruction is reasonably likely to result.

Neither shall any student urge other students to engage in such conduct for the purpose of causing a disruption or obstruction if such disruption or obstruction is reasonably likely to result from that student's urging.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Electronic communication devices (ECDs) such as cell phones, tablets, computers, and any/all other forms of technology will be permitted for use as approved by the classroom teacher or the building administration. Students may not use ECDs on school property or during school sponsored activities to access and/or view internet websites that are otherwise blocked or prohibited for students at school.

FALSE ALARMS

A student shall not knowingly cause a false fire alarm or other unwarranted alarm.

FALSE ALLEGATIONS

A student shall not libel, slander, or make false allegations against another student or school district employee including athletic coaches, substitute teachers, or volunteers.

FALSIFICATION OF A SCHOOL DOCUMENT

A student shall not falsify times, dates, grades, or other data on school district forms or records.

FIGHTING, ASSAULT, AND BATTERY ON ANOTHER PERSON

A student shall not physically assault or behave in such a way to cause or threaten to cause physical injury to a school employee, substitute teacher, student teacher, student, volunteer, chaperone, or other person.

FIREWORKS/EXPLOSIVES/SMOKE DEVICES

A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit any substance or device that can explode, create smoke, or is capable of inflicting bodily injury.

GANG ACTIVITY

A student shall not wear or possess any clothing, jewelry, symbol, or other object that may reasonably be perceived by any student, teacher, or administrator as evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang. A student shall not commit any act, verbal or non-verbal (gesture, handshakes, etc.), that may reasonably be perceived by a teacher or administrator as evidence of membership in or affiliation with any gang. A student shall not commit any act, verbal or non-verbal, in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to: a) soliciting others for membership in any gang or gang related activity, b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, c) committing any other illegal act or violation of District rules or policies, or d) inciting other students to act with physical violence on any person. The term "gang" means a group of two or more persons whose purpose or activities include the commission of illegal acts or violations of this Code of Conduct, or building Student Handbook, or whose purpose or activities cause disruption or is likely to cause disruption to the educational process.

INAPPROPRIATE COMMUNICATIONS

A student will not verbally, in writing, electronically, with photographs, gestures, drawings, or other methods, direct profanity or insults toward another student or any District/school staff member or an adult volunteer.

INSUBORDINATION

A student shall not willfully ignore or refuse to comply with the reasonable directions of school personnel, including adult volunteers acting in a chaperone or supervisory capacity.

MAKING A FALSE STATEMENT

A student shall not deliberately provide false information or false evidence to any school official in an attempt to deceive.

MISCONDUCT PRIOR TO ENROLLMENT

In order to protect the health and safety of students and employees and to prevent threatened disruption to the education process, an otherwise eligible resident student may be suspended or expelled on the basis of:

- a. A prior act of misconduct committed outside of school hours and/or off school premises when the student was not enrolled in the Livonia Public Schools;
- b. A prior act of misconduct, while the student was enrolled in another district;

If the misconduct would constitute a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion had it occurred while the student was attending the Livonia Public Schools.

OUT OF ASSIGNED AREA AND LOITERING

A student shall not leave the school building, classroom, cafeteria, campus, or any other assigned area without permission from authorized school personnel. A student will not remain or linger on school property without a legitimate purpose and/or without proper authority.

PERSISTENT DISOBEDIENCE OR MISCONDUCT

A student involved in numerous behavioral infractions over an extended period of time may be subject to progressive disciplinary consequences.

PERSONAL PROTECTION DEVICES

A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit a personal protection device such as pepper gas, mace, a stun gun, or an electronic shock device capable of inflicting bodily injury or causing physical discomfort to another person.

RECORDING WITHOUT PERMISSION

A student shall not record by any means (i.e., audio, video, or digital, etc.) any student or school personnel without the expressed permission of the person recorded.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

A student will not use words, pictures, objects, gestures, or other actions relating to sexual activity or a person's gender that cause embarrassment, discomfort, or a reluctance to participate in school activities. A student shall not make unwelcomed sexual advances, request sexual favors or engage in unwelcomed verbal communication, inappropriate touching, or physical conduct of a sexual nature with or toward any other student, school district personnel, or adult volunteers.

SMOKING AND VAPING

A student shall not smoke or use electronic smoking devices, use tobacco or alternative cigarette options, or possess any substance containing tobacco or nicotine on school and district property, including all activities or events off school grounds and supervised by school officials.

THEFT OF SCHOOL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

A student shall not steal or attempt to steal school or personal property. A student shall not be in possession of stolen property.

VERBAL ASSAULT

A student shall not commit a verbal assault on a student, teacher, or other school personnel. Verbal assault means spoken words, written words, or behavior that, in the judgment of the building administration, would reasonably put another in fear of physical or emotional distress or damage to property.

VIOLATION OF A SCHOOL'S STUDENT HANDBOOK

A student shall not commit or participate in any conduct or act prohibited by a school's Student Handbook and other school rules and regulations.

VIOLATION OF LIVNET USAGE

A student shall not violate or attempt to violate District policies, procedures, or school Student Handbook regulations regarding the use of district computers, personal computers, networks, and telephone systems. Violations of any of the rules and responsibilities of the LIVNET policies may result in a loss of access and privileges to technology devices and computer usage, and may result in other disciplinary or legal actions including restitution.

WEAPON LOOK-ALIKES

A student shall not possess, use, sell, or distribute a toy gun, a look-a-like weapon, or a replica weapon without the prior approval of a building administrator.

MAJOR OFFENSES

The prohibited acts listed below are generally codified as illegal acts and will typically involve law enforcement personnel such as the local police. In most

instances of a major offense, the student will be scheduled for a disciplinary hearing.

ARSON

A student shall not burn or attempt to burn any tangible property or intentionally set a fire on school property or cause or attempt to cause an explosion on school property. A student shall not commit an act of arson as prohibited by MCL 750.71 through MCL 750.80.

CRIMINAL ACTS

A student shall not commit or participate in any conduct or act defined as a crime by state law or local ordinance. A student may be suspended or expelled from school based upon conduct that takes place off school grounds and/or outside of the regular school day. Although the legal system may not have yet adjudicated legal charges, if the description of the conduct fits the definition of a crime, or an arrest and legal charges are in process through a law enforcement agency, the District's threshold to enforce exclusionary disciplinary consequences has been satisfied and fulfilled.

PHYSICAL ASSAULT

A student shall not physically assault another person. 'Physical assault' means intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence. An act of physical assault is differentiated from fighting in that a physical assault is a one-sided attack on another person often resulting in bodily harm.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AND CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT

Students shall not engage in sexual acts of any kind, consensual or otherwise, in any school building or district property or at any school-sponsored activity. A student shall not sexually assault another person. 'Sexual assault' means forcing or coercing an individual to engage in non-consensual sexual contact. A student who is convicted of, or a juvenile who is adjudicated for, a violation of MCL 750.520b, 520c, 520d, 520e, or 520g and who is a student at a school in this state is prohibited from doing either of the following:

- a. attending the same school building that is attended by the victim of the violation.
- b. utilizing a school bus for transportation to and from any school if the individual or juvenile will have contact with the victim during use of the school bus.

THREATS OF VIOLENCE

A student shall not make a threat directed toward students or staff, or toward a school building, other school property, or a school-related event that, in the judgment of building administration, would reasonably put students and other school personnel in fear of harm or personal injury. Threats of violence may originate from anyplace and at anytime, and may include, but are not limited to, references of a gun, rifle, bomb, incendiary device, or other weapon.

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

A student shall not possess, handle or transmit a knife, blackjack, baton, martial arts device, paintball or splat gun, or other object or instrument that can be considered a weapon or is capable of inflicting bodily harm. A dangerous weapon means a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three inches in length, pocketknife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar, or brass knuckles [MCL 380.1313].

If a dangerous weapon is found in the possession of a student while the student is in attendance at school or a school activity or while the student is enroute to or from school on a school bus, a school administrator shall immediately report that finding to the student's parent/guardian and the local law enforcement agency [MCL 380.1313(1)]

ELEMENTS OF DUE PROCESS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

These procedures govern the suspension, expulsion, or permanent expulsion of a student from the school district's regular educational program. Federal law protects the educational and privacy rights of students and disciplinary consequences will not be shared beyond the student's parents or guardians.

The initial judgment that a student has engaged in a prohibited act under this Student Code of Conduct will be made by the building administrator. If a student charged with violation of this Student Code of Conduct has been returned to the regular school program pending a decision by a School District administrator, the reinstatement does not limit or prejudice the School District's right to suspend or expel the student following a decision by a superior administrator or the Board of Education.

Definitions of Disciplinary Consequences

- A short-term suspension is defined as a suspension of one (1) through ten (10) school days. A school principal has the authority to suspend a student for up to and including ten (10) school days.
- A long-term suspension is defined as a suspension ranging from eleven (11) through sixty (60) school days and requires a more formal procedural process requested by the school principal to the district-level director. The process is known as a 'Disciplinary Hearing'.
- To be 'expelled' from school refers to a suspension of over sixty (60) school days and such a ruling may only follow from a district-level Disciplinary Hearing.
- A 'permanent expulsion' refers to a suspension of a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) school days and such a ruling may only follow from a district-level Disciplinary Hearing. A 'permanently' expelled student is subject to possible reinstatement to school through a 'Petition for Reinstatement' procedure after one hundred fifty (150) school days.
- 'Restorative practice' references alternative efforts to suspension that emphasize repairing the harm to the victim and the school community caused by the pupil's misconduct.

Rebuttable Presumption and Consideration of Individual Factors

Consistent with Michigan law, the District adopts a rebuttable presumption that students should not be disciplined by the imposition of a long-term suspension (more than ten (10) school days) or expelled (more than sixty (60) school days)

unless the District has determined, in its sole discretion, the presumption has been rebutted (to oppose by contrary proof) by considering each of the following seven (7) factors listed below:

1. The pupil's age;
2. The pupil's disciplinary history;
3. Whether the pupil is a student with a disability within the meaning of IDEA or ADA/Section 504;
4. The seriousness of the violation or behavior committed by the pupil;
5. Whether the violation or behavior committed by the pupil threatened the safety of any pupil or staff member;
6. Whether restorative practices will be used to address the violation or behavior committed by the pupil; restorative practices refer to intervention strategies that emphasize repairing harm to the victim and the school community caused by a student's misconduct, and
7. Whether a lesser intervention would properly address the violation or behavior committed by the pupil.

For a suspension of ten (10) or fewer days, rebuttable presumption does not apply, but the same seven (7) factors shall be considered in a similar manner prior to a determination of disciplinary consequence. The method used for consideration of the factors is at the sole discretion of school and district administration. The seven (7) factors to be considered prior to a determination of disciplinary consequence does not apply to a student being expelled for possessing a firearm in a weapon-free school zone.

Prior to the suspension of a student, the principal/assistant principal shall investigate the incident, inform the student of the charges, and allow the student to explain his/her version of the facts. If upon conclusion of that investigation the principal determines that the student has violated school rules or District policy, the principal may impose the disciplinary action of a suspension not to exceed ten (10) school days.

A disciplinary suspension of five (5) school days or less shall be at the sole discretion of the building principal and shall not be subject to an appeal by the student, parents, or guardian. However, if the principal imposes a suspension in excess of five (5) school days but less than eleven (11) school days, the student and/or his/her parents or guardians may appeal the principal's decision to the appropriate Elementary or Secondary Director or other designee of the Superintendent. The appeal hearing will be conducted on an informal basis (usually over the telephone) and the student will be given an opportunity to state why an appeal is in order and to explain his/her version of the facts. Following the informal hearing, the appropriate Director or Superintendent designee will review the facts and make a ruling that shall be final and not subject to further review.

The Student Code of Conduct does not diminish any rights under federal law (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) for a student determined to be eligible for special education programs and services. Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) are responsible for following the Student Code of Conduct. As a consequence of a violation of the Student Code of Conduct by a student with an IEP, specific procedures may apply.

The suspension or expulsion of a student from an extracurricular activity such as athletic participation is not covered by this Student Code of Conduct and accordingly a decision of student suspension from extracurricular activities is

solely within the discretion of the building administration. In addition, disciplinary consequences in the nature of an in-school suspension or exclusion of a student from class, or in the nature of a written reprimand, detention, and/or work assignment before or after school, additional classroom assignments, etc., is also solely within the discretion of the building administration and is not covered by this Student Code of Conduct.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS FOR SUSPENSIONS OF ELEVEN (11) OR MORE SCHOOL DAYS

Step 1. If after an investigation into student misconduct, the building principal determines a suspension for eleven (11) or more school days or expulsion is warranted, and the appropriate district-level administrator concurs with the principal's decision, the student and the parents or guardian shall be notified (usually via electronic message) of:

- a. the charges against the student
- b. the recommended disciplinary action
- c. the fact that a hearing will be held before an impartial school employee
- d. the time, place, location, procedures to be followed at the hearing, and their right to attend and participate in the hearing
- e. the right to appeal any adverse decision of the Hearing Officer if the suspension is for more than twenty (20) days.

If the district-level administrator decides that the student's presence in school would present a danger to other students, school personnel, or a disruption to the educational environment of the school, then the student shall be suspended pending a disciplinary hearing and a ruling of a Hearing Officer. If the student does not present a danger as described above, the student may be returned to school pending the ruling of the Hearing Officer.

If the student is placed under suspension pending a disciplinary hearing, the appropriate district-level administrator shall appoint an impartial disciplinary Hearing Officer and provide for a hearing to take place within seven (7) school days following the initial suspension of the student.

If the student is not suspended pending a disciplinary hearing, the appropriate district-level administrator shall appoint an impartial disciplinary Hearing Officer and cause the hearing to be held within fifteen (15) school days following the completion of the principal's initial investigation. The timelines for commencement of the disciplinary hearing may be enlarged upon the request of the administrator, student, or parent.

Step 2. The disciplinary Hearing Officer's role will be to determine the truth and validity of the charges against the student and to decide upon a disciplinary consequence if a consequence is merited. A student and/or his/her parents or guardian may waive their rights to a hearing before a Hearing Officer. If a student and/or parents fail to present themselves during a scheduled disciplinary hearing, the disciplinary hearing may proceed and may result in a ruling unfavorable to the student.

The Hearing Officer's ruling shall be provided telephonically, if possible, to the student or the parents or guardian within two (2) days after the close of the hearing, and a written decision shall be scanned electronically or mailed through the USPS within four (4) days after the conclusion of the disciplinary hearing.

Step 3. If the Hearing Officer's ruling imposes a suspension of twenty (20) school days or less, the decision of the Hearing Officer shall be final and not subject to further appeal. The Hearing Officer may amend the principal's charges upon motion of the principal or amend the charges upon his/her own motion to conform to the evidence presented at the hearing. Additionally, the Hearing Officer may impose a greater or lesser penalty than that imposed or recommended by the principal. The Hearing Officer should not merely substitute his/her judgment for that of the principal's judgment. If the Hearing Officer's ruling is to impose a suspension in excess of twenty (20) school days or recommends expulsion, the student and/or his/her parents or guardian may appeal the Hearing Officer's decision to the Board of Education.

Step 4. A student may, within five (5) school days of original receipt of the Hearing Officer's ruling to suspend in excess of twenty (20) days or to permanently expel a student, request an appeal to the Board of Education. The request to appeal shall be in writing and contain the petitioner's reasoning for appeal. The Board of Education may grant or deny the request for an appeal. If granted, the appeal will be heard in open or closed session, as elected by the parent. The Superintendent, or a designee, shall notify the student and parents of the time, place, location, and procedures to be followed at the Board of Education hearing and shall determine, based upon the record made before the Hearing Officer, whether the student should be suspended pending a ruling of the Board of Education.

The Board, not later than at its next regular public meeting following the appeal hearing, if feasible, shall issue a ruling and shall, within seven (7) days following the BOE hearing, make communication to the student, parents, or guardians, of a final decision.

The Board of Education must approve a Hearing Officer's ruling to permanently expel a student. If the Hearing Officer's ruling is for a student expulsion and the student and/or his/her parents or guardians do not request an appeal hearing before the Board of Education, the Board of Education will still make the final decision on expulsion at a voting Board of Education meeting. Permanent expulsion requires Board of Education approval. In that case, the Board of Education ruling will be based upon information submitted to it by appropriate school officials and a formal hearing will not be allowed for the student and parents or guardian.

If the Hearing Officer's ruling is to impose a suspension of twenty (20) school days or more and the student and parents or guardians do not request a timely appeal hearing before the Board of Education, then the decision of the disciplinary Hearing Officer shall be final and not subject to further appeal. During any suspension, the suspended student will not be permitted on any school property, in any school building, or admitted to any school function.

**Second Reading
of Board Policy
EDDB – Student
Transportation,
Walkers and
Riders**

It was moved by Mrs. Acosta and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and adopt Board Policy language for: Board Policy EDDB – Student Transportation, Walkers and Riders

BOARD POLICY	EDDB
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	APRIL 4, 2022
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION – WALKERS AND RIDERS	

Bus transportation is a privilege and not a right and shall be administered in accordance with law. Eligibility for transportation is based on a student’s home address. Bus pick up and drop off is to and from the bus stop assigned based upon the student’s home address, unless otherwise determined by a student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Transportation shall be provided for secondary students living more than one and one-half miles from the school of designated attendance and elementary students living more than one mile from their school of designated attendance. Exceptions may be made for safety and health reasons of students.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

Second Reading of Board Policies:

The proposed new language for the policies listed below was reviewed by the Board and will be brought to the next regular meeting for a second reading and potential approval:

GAM – Personnel, Staff Rights and Responsibilities

BOARD POLICY	GAM
PERSONNEL	APRIL 4, 2022
STAFF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES	

The rights and responsibilities of employees are covered in Board policies, applicable master agreements, non-affiliated employee contracts, and/or appropriate laws.

GBE – Personnel, Conflict of Interest (formerly BHA-2)

BOARD POLICY	GBE
PERSONNEL	APRIL 4, 2022
CONFLICT OF INTEREST - ADMINISTRATION	

No Livonia Public Schools administrator shall be involved in the hiring, selection, direct supervision, or evaluation of a family member. Any family member of the aforementioned positions must disclose a familial relationship on his/her application to the District.

As used in this section, a “family member” is defined as a person's spouse, spouse's sibling or child; a person's sibling or sibling's spouse or child; a person's child or child's spouse; a person's parent or parent's spouse; and includes these relationships as created by adoption or marriage.

GBL – Professional Personnel, Tenure

BOARD POLICY	GBL
PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL	APRIL 4, 2022
TENURE	

The Board of Education will recognize the achievement of tenure status per the Michigan Teacher Tenure Act for all probationary teachers who have been recommended by district administration upon verification that they have successfully met all LPS standards, including years of service, effective evaluations, overall performance, and documentation of student growth.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
 Nays: None

Approval of

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mrs. Bradford that

**Sympathy
Resolution for the
Family of Silas
Kurtz, Riley
Upper Elementary
6th Grader**

the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt a sympathy resolution for the family of Silas Kurtz.

**SYMPATHY RESOLUTION
Silas Kurtz**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education was deeply saddened to hear of the untimely death of a special member of our school community, Silas Kurtz, on March 9, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Silas Kurtz, cherished son of Dan and Christina Cobb, was a sixth grader at Riley Upper Elementary School, where he enjoyed learning and spending time with his friends and was admired by staff and students; and

WHEREAS, Silas will be remembered with great fondness by his family, friends, and many others who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Silas epitomized true strength, determination, and an indomitable spirit throughout his short life and despite his recent illness; and

WHEREAS, Silas Kurtz enjoyed hanging out with this friends, riding his bike, and playing guitar and piano while he was able to do so and was grateful to be surrounded by his family and their love;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District offers its heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Silas Kurtz for the great loss of their beloved son, brother, and friend.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

**Approval of
Sympathy
Resolution for the
Family of Sherry
Lynn Nadon,
Teacher at
Rosedale
Elementary
School**

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mr. Centers that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt the attached sympathy resolution for the family of Sherry Lynn Nadon, teacher at Rosedale Elementary School.

**SYMPATHY RESOLUTION
Sherry Lynn Nadon**

WHEREAS, The Board of Education was deeply saddened to hear of the untimely death of Sherry Lynn Nadon; and,

WHEREAS, Sherry Lynn was a valued, caring, and highly respected staff member in the Livonia Public Schools School District, as a second grade teacher at Rosedale Elementary School; and,

WHEREAS, She consistently demonstrated her outstanding dedication, care, and commitment to students, parents, and colleagues; and will be greatly missed by all; and,

WHEREAS, Sherry Lynn Nadon will always be remembered with great fondness and with a profound sense of gratitude for the immeasurable contributions she made to our school district, to the students she served, and to the colleagues with whom she worked; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District offers its deepest sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Sherry Lynn Nadon.

Ayes: Acosta, Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Adjournment

President Burton adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw