

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Livonia Public Schools
15125 Farmington Road
Regular Meeting
December 16, 2019**

President Johnson convened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. in the Board Room, 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia.

**Members
Present**

Bradford, Bonifield, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson

**Members
Absent**

None

**Gift from
ZF TRW
Automotive**

It was moved by Mrs. Burton and supported by Mrs. Bradford that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the generous donation of \$3,500 from ZF TRW Automotive to Livonia Public Schools.

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

**Points of Pride
– 2013 Bond
Final
Presentation**

Livonia Public Schools and Plante Moran Cresa presented a final look back at the results of 2013 Bond purchases, projects, and finances. This presentation served as a culmination and celebration of six years of successful Bond work, resulting in the updated and renovated school buildings we see today throughout the District.

**District Update
from the
Superintendent**

Superintendent Oquist announced student and staff achievements across the District, and relayed information about activities taking place at Livonia Public Schools.

Recess

The Board recessed the meeting for approximately ten minutes to visit with guests, then resumed the meeting to continue their business.

**Written
Communication**

None

**Audience
Communication**

None

**Response to
Prior Audience
Communication**

None

**Consent
Agenda**

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Jarvis 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 November 25, 2019
- V.B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 9, 2019
- V.C. Minutes of the Closed Session of December 9, 2019

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

**Adoption of
District
Emergency
Operations Plan**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and adopt the Emergency Operations Plan developed in accordance with the requirements of Public Act 436 of 2018.

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

**Approval of
Additional
Funds for
Elementary
Walking Paths**

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 additional cost for Elementary Walking Paths to Best Asphalt, Romulus Michigan, for a total increased cost of \$43,250.00.

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

**Teachers for
Approval**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Frank that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District accept the recommendation of the superintendent and offer employment for the 2019-20 school year to the following teachers:

Brazil-Ackley, Lisa	1.0 Art Teacher (Elem -- .8 Grant &.2 Cleveland)
Wilk, Brittany	1.0 Social Worker (Upper Elem -- .6 Johnson & .4 Cooper)

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

**Teachers for
Tenure**

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis 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 teacher, effective on the respective date:

Laura Pluff	November 27, 2019
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Ayes: Bonifield, Bradford, Burton, Centers, Frank, Jarvis, Johnson
Nays: None

Retirements

It was moved by Mrs. Frank and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District adopt resolutions of appreciation for services rendered by:

Kimberly DuSablón
Julie Graunstadt
Dorothy Holmes
Sandra Wise
Dale Yanka

Kim DuSablón, who retired from the District on November 6, 2019, and devoted 20.8 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of Churchill High School and Emerson Middle School as a teacher.

Julie Graunstadt, who will retire from the District on January 24, 2020, and will have devoted 23 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to students throughout the District as a teacher of speech and language.

Dorothy Holmes, who will retire from the District on January 31, 2020, and will have devoted 24.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a secretary at Franklin High School, Taylor Elementary, and Hoover Elementary.

Sandra Wise, who will retire from the District on December 31, 2019; and will have devoted 21.4 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the students of McKinley Elementary and Cooper Upper Elementary as a teacher.

Dale Yanka, who will retire from the District on January 24, 2020; and will have devoted 30.5 years of dedicated, loyal, and outstanding service to the Livonia Public Schools as a custodian and building supervisor at Emerson Middle School, Perrinville Early Childhood Center, and Kennedy Elementary.

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

Separation Agreement

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Burton that the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District approve the separation agreement between the Livonia Public Schools School District, Livonia Education Association (LEA), and Timothy Backiel.

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

Second Reading of Board Policy BCBK –

It was moved by Mrs. Burton 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:

**Executive
(Closed)
Sessions –****BYLAWS OF THE BOARD
BOARD OPERATIONS
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS****BCBK
DECEMBER 16, 2019**

The Board of Education may meet in closed session only for the following purposes:

1. To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, when the named person requests a closed hearing. A person requesting a closed hearing may rescind the request at any time, in which case the matter at issue shall be considered thereafter only in open session. Requests for closed sessions shall be made in writing and signed by the individual(s) making said request.
2. To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student when the student or the student's parent or guardian requests a closed hearing. Requests for closed sessions shall be made in writing and signed by the individual(s) making said request.
3. For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement when either negotiating party requests a closed hearing.
4. To consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained.
5. To consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only when an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the Board.
6. To review the specific contents of an application for employment or appointment to public office when the candidate requests that the application remain confidential. However, all interviews by the Board for employment or appointment to public office shall be held in an open meeting.
7. To consider security planning to address existing threats or prevent potential threats to the safety of the students and staff.
8. To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

For the purposes identified in Items 1, 2, and 3, a simple majority vote is sufficient to adopt in the public portion of the meeting the motion to convene a closed session. For items 4-8, a two thirds roll call vote of the members in open session is required to call a closed session.

The purpose of the closed session shall be stated at the time the vote is taken. The closed session shall be recorded in separate minutes which shall not be made a matter of public record except as provided in P.A. 267. Votes on matters considered in closed session must be taken in a public meeting and entered into the minutes of that meeting.

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

**Second
Reading of
Board Policy JB
– Compulsory
Attendance**

It was moved by Mrs. Bonifield and supported by Mrs. Frank 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
STUDENTS
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE**

**JB
DECEMBER 16, 2019**

Regular and timely student attendance is vital to a student's success and will be a common and shared expectation of the schools, the parents, and the students. Attendance in the elementary and secondary schools of the Livonia Public Schools School District shall be in accordance with the law.

The law in Michigan governing compulsory attendance requires a parent, legal guardian, or other person having control of a child age six to eighteen to send the child to school during the entire school year, except under limited circumstances specified in the Revised School Code, subsection (3) of subsection 380.1561.

Children becoming six years of age before September 1 shall be enrolled on the first day of the school year in which their sixth birthday occurs. A child becoming six years of age on or after September 1 shall be enrolled on the first school day of the school year following the child's sixth birthday.

The School District shall report to the appropriate authorities any child who is absent from school in violation of the compulsory attendance law.

Parents are responsible for contacting the school in all cases of student absence. All absences will be classified as excused, unexcused, or school business. An excused absence is defined as an absence beyond the control of the student (e.g. illness, family emergency) and reported to the school by the student's parent or guardian within the designated timeframe. An unexcused absence will result when the parent or guardian does not notify the school of the student's absence within the designated timeframe. A school business absence includes field trips, counselor appointments, or other instances when the student is absent from class but is present in or involved with a school function. In cases of doubt, the administrator will make the final determination as to whether an absence is excused or unexcused. Exceptions to the attendance policy may be applicable to a student eligible under either the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

More than three consecutive days of absence is considered to be an extended absence. A total of ten or more absences is considered to be excessive. Written documentation may be requested by the school administration for cases of extended or excessive absences.

Attendance Records

Attendance records shall be maintained in accordance with law.

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

**Second
Reading of
Board Policy
JBA –
Placement of
Students
Enrolling into
Livonia Public
Schools**

It was moved by Mrs. Bradford and supported by Mrs. Frank 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
STUDENTS
PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS ENROLLING
INTO LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**JBA
DECEMBER 16, 2019**

Students who enroll into Livonia Public Schools should customarily be placed in the

grade assigned by the previous school. Children who have completed kindergarten in another system but who are of LPS kindergarten age will be initially enrolled in kindergarten. Adjustments may be made in grade placement when warranted by performance in our school setting.

If a grade level is impossible to determine, the student should usually be assigned to an age-appropriate grade level. The building principal has the discretion to place individual students at the most appropriate grade level.

A child who resides in the School District may enroll in kindergarten if the child is at least five years of age on September 1 of the school year of enrollment, as set by the State of Michigan.

If a child residing in the School District is not five years of age on September 1, but will be five years of age not later than December 1 of a school year, the parent or legal guardian of that child may enroll the child in kindergarten for that school year if the parent or legal guardian notifies the School District in writing that he or she intends to enroll the child in kindergarten for that school year. After receiving this notification, the School District may make a recommendation to the parent or legal guardian of the child that the child is not ready to enroll in kindergarten due to the child's age or other factors. However, regardless of this recommendation, the parent or legal guardian retains the sole discretion to determine whether or not to enroll the child in kindergarten.

Special Education Students

Special education programs and services are provided to eligible students from birth to age 26.

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

Second Reading of Board Policy JBE - Truancy

It was moved by Mrs. Jarvis and supported by Mr. Centers 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 STUDENTS TRUANCY

**JBE
DECEMBER 16, 2019**

The Livonia Public Schools School District shall report to the appropriate authorities any child who is absent from school in violation of the compulsory attendance law.

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

Second Reading of Board Policy JGCC – Communicable Diseases

It was moved by Mrs. Frank 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 STUDENTS COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

**JGCC
DECEMBER 16, 2019**

The Board of Education authorizes the superintendent or the superintendent's designee in appropriate circumstances to exclude a student or employee from the premises of the School District when the individual is known or reasonably suspected to have contracted a communicable disease based on the Wayne County Department of Public Health Disease Control Division Communicable Disease Reference Chart.

The superintendent or the superintendent's designee is charged with adhering to the aforementioned guidelines and procedures that provide, case by case, an assessment of the risks the infected individual presents to those persons who may come in contact with that individual. These guidelines and procedures must assure that confidentiality of the medical condition of the student or employee is maintained and that information is disseminated only on a "need to know" basis.

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

**Board Policy JK
– Fundraising
Activities**

It was moved by Mr. Centers and supported by Mrs. Burton 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

STUDENTS

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

JK

DECEMBER 16, 2019

Fundraising activities refer to school and district sponsored activities that generate funds to support school programs and student activities. While there is recognition of the desire and need for fundraising, there is also the understanding for some constraint to prevent them from becoming too numerous and overly demanding on employees, students, parents, the business community, and the general public. The fundraising activities of each school shall be kept within a reasonable limit.

All fundraising activities must be compliant with federal, state, and local laws and must have the prior approval of the superintendent or the superintendent's designee before announcing or advertising for the solicitation of funds.

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

Adjournment

President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Off/Supt/jw