



# SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Student Hearing		DATE: May 20, 2025	TIME: 5:30 p.m.	LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center			
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:							
<input type="checkbox"/> Ashanti Bland, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware- DeVaul, Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/> Leslie L. Smith-Thomas, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talisha Belk, Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amani Johnson, Trustee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jillian Holloway, Trustee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Denson, Trustee	
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:							
<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Green, Ed.D. Superintendent	<input type="checkbox"/> Lanissa Freeman, Deputy Superintendent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Jackson, Chief of Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> , Chief of Talent Mtg	<input type="checkbox"/> Marc Ingram, Chief Financial Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Luddington, Manager of Pupil Accounting	<input type="checkbox"/> Sommer Caldwell- Carruthers, Executive Director of Instruction	<input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Corace, Chief Operations Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> April Rogers, Exe. Dir., State and Federal Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Angela Smith, Exec. Director of ISSN	<input type="checkbox"/> Minutes: Carolyn Foster, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Education				Student Board Representatives: <input type="checkbox"/> Micaela Beckford, UK12 <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Spragins, Southfield A&T	

## 1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Ware-DeVaul at 5:35 p.m. Board Vice President Ware-DeVaul read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. Trustee Bland and Trustee Smith-Thomas were excused from the meeting.

## 2. Action Item

### a. 15-2024-25

- Vice President Ware-DeVaul and the Trustees introduced themselves.
- Chief Jackson introduced himself and Ms. Foster.
- Dean Bolden and Assistant Dean Slate introduced themselves.
- The guardian, uncle, attorney and student introduced themselves.
- The guardian states they did receive the letter from the district regarding the suspension and the violations to the Southfield Public School's Student Code of Conduct.
- The guardian understood the right to have legal counsel and their counsel was present.
- The parent wished to hold the meeting in public.
- All hands were sworn.
- Vice President Ware-DeVaul read the letter written by administration.
- The student provided details on the incident.
- The administrators gave their account of the incident.
- The Trustees asked the student and guardian questions and they were answered by the student and guardian.
- The guardian spoke on the student's behalf.
- The attorney spoke on the student's behalf.
- Vice President Ware-DeVaul asked the guardian, uncle, attorney, student and administrators to step out for deliberations.
- After deliberations, the guardian, uncle, attorney, student and administrators were asked back in.

- Vice President Ware-DeVauld read the recommendation: student 15-2024-25 not to return to SPS for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year. Student 15-2024-25 will return at the start of the 2025-2026 school year. The administrators will arrange for the student 15-2024-25 to take their finals.
- Trustee Johnson moved and Trustee Denson supported the recommendation.

Vice President Ware-DeVauld called for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Denson, Trustee Ware-DeVauld, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Holloway

Nays: Trustee Belk

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Bland

Trustee Holloway voted yes with exception: Trustee Holloway states it should be time served and return to school but the time to get another vote at the next board meeting the school year would be over.

Trustee Belk states that because of the perception and climate of our culture student 15-2024-25 should not return to SPS.

Motion carried.

4 yes and 1 no votes

### 3. Public Participation

- There was no public participation.

### 4. Adjournment

Vice President Ware-DeVauld adjourned the Special Board Meeting/Student Hearing at 6:25 p.m.

<b>Approved on: June 10, 2025</b>
<b>Yvette Ware-DeVauld, Board Vice President</b>