



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Regular Board Meeting		DATE: June 10, 2025		TIME: 7:00 p.m.		LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center	
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:							
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Nicole Denson, Trustee	
ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Green, Ed.D. Superintendent		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lanissa Freeman, Deputy Superintendent		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> James Jackson, Chief of Staff		<input type="checkbox"/> , Chief of Talent Mtg	
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marc Ingram, Chief Financial Officer		<input type="checkbox"/> Rebecca Luddington, Manager of Pupil Accounting	
						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sommer Caldwell- Carruthers, Executive Director of Instruction	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> April Rogers, Exe. Dir., State and Federal Programs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angela Smith, Exec. Director of ISSN		<input checked="" 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 President Bland at 7:02 p.m. Board President Bland read the opening Statement and Trustee roll call was taken. Trustee Denson is out of town for work, Trustee Smith-Thomas will be absent, and Trustee Belk arrived at 7:17 p.m. M1 Studios is handling the technical support and members of the Executive District Network are in the audience. We all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Board Matters

- Congratulations to all the 2025 scholars that graduated and those that were promoted.
- Thank you to the administrators at SA&T, UK12, and Andy Green for a wonderful job. Everything was beautiful.
- Next year's graduation will be Friday, June 5, 2026 at the Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre.
- This is the last regular board meeting the 24-25 school year. The Board takes a sabbatical during the month of July.
- Stevenson will be moving back into their campus for the 25-26 school year.
- Levey will be moving to Eisenhower Elementary for the 25-26 school year.
- Trustee Johnson gave an overview of his trip to Mackinac Island – Spring Institute.
- Trustee Johnson gave an overview of his trip to Atlanta – NSBA Conference.
- Trustee Johnson reported out on the progress of the Sustainability Committee meetings.
- With the current legislation, the board is looking at revising our use of funds.
- Thank you to Joe for his help on the Sustainability Committee.

3. Report of the Superintendent

- Dr. Green indicated that we have forwarded guidance to all of our buildings regarding the air quality resulting from the Canadian wildfires. AP Denham wrote to the State to obtain air purifiers and the State indicated that they have pallets that they will be delivering to our schools.
- a. **Partner of the Month – Octavous (Tavo) Crosby: Barton Malow**
 - b. **Employee of the Month – Chimere Taylor: Human Resources Department**
 - c. **Stevenson Elementary School Presentation – Principal Tonya Hickman and Staff**

- Mission: is a welcoming community hub that engages, supports and strengths students, families and neighborhoods. As the demands of our world continue to change, we will empower all students to be dedicated, lifelong learners and responsible citizens by preparing them to excel academically, emotionally, physically, and socially.
- Vision: is a strong and enriching academic learning environment that builds community and partnerships which will revitalize Stevenson's learning community and give our scholars the vibrant futures they deserve.
- Essentials for Community School Transformation: shared governance structures, continuous improvement, data systems, professional learning opportunities, strategic partnerships, sustainable resources
- 2024-2025 School Goals/Pillars: goal for family/community, goal for integrated student support, goal for culture & climate, goal for academics, goal for collaborative learning, Goal ELPs
- Spring 2025 iReady Data: Reading – proficient/partially proficient growth is 25%; Mathematics – proficient/partially proficient growth is 33%
- Integrated Student Support: full service school-based health clinic, dog therapy (Stevie), mindfulness – Inner Explorer (daily), Fueling Kids Future – 60 families, CHIPP Program – 50 scholars, Neighbors Helping Neighbors Pantry, Love Laces Bully Awareness Program, mental health therapy groups, behavioral specialist services, yoga, Compass 360, monthly food distributions, social navigation referral services, shoe distribution, backpack and school supply distribution
- Expanded Learning: Falcon Fires Cooking, Derby Racing Club, art therapy, girls' basketball, boys' basketball, Art Club, cheer team, yoga, crocheting, Lego Club, gaming, Kidvation, Neighbors Helping Neighbors tutoring, RSVP Catholic Charities tutoring, Michigan First Banking, STEM Possible Event, Little Caesars Learning Journey, Title I support, Literacy Coach services, support paraprofessionals, field trips/orchards & farms, Junior Achievement Stem Day
- Parent Engagement, Community Engagement, Family & Community Engagement, Collaborative Leadership, Developmental Priorities
- Effective Practices: growing enrollment, culture & climate, marketing/social media communication platforms, positive press coverage, community service projects, parent engagement, community service projects, parent engagement, community partnerships, securing opportunities for our scholars
- Looking Ahead: Going home (Lahser Campus), VW Fabrication Lab (STEM), expanding our community school work (sustainability), growing enrollment
- We plan to BE BOLD, BE BRILLIANT, AND BE STEVENSON!
- Stevenson uses the MTSS model to communicate with parents.
- Thank you to Sommer Caldwell-Carruthers for her work with the MTSS.
- Stevenson has been looking into piloting one 6th grade class of about 28-30 scholars.
- Thank you to Stevenson Elementary staff for all of their hard work.

d. Staffing Update

- Dr. Green gave an overview of the Staffing Update. We are currently looking at the master schedule. We are following the guidelines outlined in the collective bargaining agreement relative to staffing.
- Right now, we do not have any plans to change any bell schedules. We have to submit our clock hours to the State for approval every year. There are several factors to consider: transportation, needs throughout the district, traffic on the roads and at our schools, and what is best for our scholars.

e. Legislative Update

- We have a significant number of staff members that are paid through federal dollars. We are looking into grants by way of our partners to keep some of those supports in the district.
- We do not know if the State will have an adopted budget by July 1, 2025 let alone what is coming by way of the federal government.
- While we no longer have the retention of the 3rd grade reading law, there is still a 3rd grade reading law in place. Parents whose students that are reading below grade level, will receive a letter from the Michigan Department of Education. We are sending a letter to our parents to let them know that this letter may be forthcoming from the State over the summer. We are letting them know the programs and supports that we have in place at Southfield Public Schools.
- Summer school will be starting soon and we have over 900 students in the program. We are not able to accommodate any more students in the program.

f. Bussey's Director's Report

- Dr. Thompson is not present this evening. The Trustees have a copy of the Bussey's Director's Report in their binder.

4. Public Participation

Participant #1: Bussey Center landscape and walkway near their home; wants to know what is going to be done with the old Bussey Center.

Participant #2: Superintendent Showcase was a nice gesture; no SPS students represented in the Oakland Free Press.

- Not to address anything from Public Participation, there was verification that we have not missed been any correspondence from the Oakland Press. Tyler was asked to reach out to the Oakland Press to see if they could do a stand-alone article on our top scholars. They deserve to be recognized. Tyler will reach out to all of the publications in Oakland County to share his contact information with them.
- The District submits information to the different publications and sometimes they reach out asking for certain information or special additions or special features.
- This process will be a part of the Standard Operating Procedures.

5. Action Items

a. Consent Agenda

i. May 20, 2025, Special Meeting/Student Hearing

- Trustee Johnson moved to open and approve Consent Agenda – Approval of Minutes and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

b. Report 63-85 Avance Contract – Bond Funds

- Avance Communications will begin servicing the communication needs of the bond.
- Trustee Holloway moved to open and approve Report 63-85 Avance Contract and it was supported by Trustee Johnson.
- President Bland gave an overview of the projects that Avance Communications has worked on in the district.
- The Avance Team will be transitioning to assist with the bond and therefore they will be paid from bond dollars.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

c. Report 63-86 Waste Reduction/Recycling Policy

- The district shall implement and maintain a comprehensive recycling program in all district-owned facilities, with the goal of reducing landfill waste and promoting a culture of environmental responsibility among students, staff, and the broader community. Implementing a district-wide recycling program supports our core educational mission by creating real-world learning opportunities that teach environmental responsibility, critical thinking, and civic engagement. It models the values we strive to instill in students while contributing to a cleaner, more fiscally responsible learning environment.
- Trustee Johnson moved to open and approve Report 63-86 Waste Reduction/Recycling Policy and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Johnson, Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

d. Report 63-91 Non-Federal Match Waiver Request

- A grantee must contribute 20% of the overall program budget as a non-federal share (match). Programs may request a non-federal match waiver if they were unable to meet the 20% as required by the Office of Head Start.

e. Report 63-92 Head Start/Early Head Start Budget Carryover: Grant Funded

- Additional funds are needed to cover the cost of technology and playground improvements for the Head Start and Early Head Start programs: Total Head Start Carryover Grant Request: \$174,670 and Total Early Start Carryover Grant Request: \$54,632.

f. Report 63-93 Bussey's Budget Revision

- The challenges of hiring and retaining associate teachers and floater substitutes has resulted in funds not being fully expended. Although program funds were expended, they were not used at the level anticipated due to these staff shortages. Programs may request a budget revision in order to use unspent funds to purchase necessary equipment.

g. Report 63-94 2024-2025 Head Start Disability Waiver

- The program did not meet the 10% requirement of enrolling children with an Individualized Education Program (IEP). While fourteen students enrolled in the Head Start program were referred for an evaluation, only three were evaluated and two were eligible to receive services. Program Standard 1302.14(b)(1) States that a program must ensure at least 10 percent of its total funded enrollment is filled by children eligible for services under IDEA, unless the responsible HHS official grants a waiver.
- Trustee Holloway moved to open and approve Report 63-91 Non-Federal Match Waiver Request, Report 63-92 Head Start/Early Head Start Budget Carryover, Report 63-93 Bussey's Budget Revision, Report 63-94 2024-2025 Head Start Disability Waiver, and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul, Trustee Bland, Trustee Belk

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

h. Report 63-96 Personnel Action Report

- Trustee Johnson moved to open and approve Report 63-96 Personnel Action Report and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.
- This report recognizes some staff members tenure.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

6. Information Items

a. Report 63-97 M1 Studios Contract – General Funds

- M-1 Studio's current two-year contract expires on June 30, 2025, and this is a request to extend the contract another two years.
- This is for information only.
- There needs to be a standard of excellence for our vendors.

b. Report 63-98 Oakland Schools Technology Services IGA Amendment: General Funds

- Prior to the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, the Oakland Schools Technology Services staffing was as follows:
 - .25 Director
 - Sr. Technology Coordinator
 - 2.0 Sr. Technical Support Specialist
 - 2.0 Technical Support Specialist
 - Technical Assistant
 - Technology Integration Specialist
 - Data Compliance Analyst
 - Network as a Service
 - Service Desk as a Service
- For the 2024-2025 school year, leadership for the Southfield Public Schools/Oakland Schools Technology Services team was modified on an interim basis-
 - Removal of 1.0 Sr. Technology Coordinator
 - .25 Director increased to 1.0 Interim Director
- This modification was presented to the district not only for cost savings. This modification provides full time Technology Director leadership, knowledge, and expertise as the district navigates a large-scale bond project along with day to day operations. A full-time director in the district all day every day allows for the building and fostering of meaningful relationships with all SPS stakeholders.
- This is a reduction in cost.

c. Report 63-99 Naming of Professional Services

- The Board of Education is to select professional services for the 2025-2026 school year.

d. Report 63-100 Naming of Bank Depositories

- The Board of Education designates depositories for the district annually.

e. Report 63-101 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership

- The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) is a voluntary, nonprofit corporation composed of public, private and parochial junior high/middle and senior high schools whose Boards of Education/Governing Bodies have voluntarily applied for and received membership for and on behalf of their secondary schools. The association sponsors Statewide tournaments and makes eligibility rules with respect to participation in such Michigan High School Athletic Association sponsored tournaments in the various sports. Each Board of Education/Governing Body that wishes to host or participate in such meets and tournaments must join the MHSAA and agree to abide by and enforce the MHSAA rules, regulations and qualifications concerning eligibility, game rules and tournament policies, procedures and schedules. It is a condition for participation in any MHSAA postseason tournaments that high schools adhere to at least the minimum standards of Regulation I and the maximum limitations of Regulation II in all MHSAA Tournament sports.
- To obtain membership, it is necessary for the Board of Education/Governing Body to adopt the following resolution for the districts participating schools. This resolution must be formally ratified by your Board of Education/Governing Body and properly signed. Resolutions that are modified in any way or are supplemented with letters placing additional conditions on MHSAA membership or tournament participation shall be rejected.
- f. Report 63-102 Notice Requirement for Meetings of Public Bodies – Regular Meetings**
 - In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976, 15.264 (Section 4) which legislates the public notice of meetings generally, with contents, and places of posting; 15.265 (Section 5) which legislates the public notice of regular meetings, this Board action is being presented.
- g. Report 63-103 Michigan Association of School Boards Membership Renewal**
 - MASB supports bringing together educational leaders at a time when domestic policies and global trends are combining to shape the future of our students. MASB offers sessions that will give the Board of Education new ideas, trainings, and tools to help drive the district forward.
- h. Report 63-104 The Board Sabbatical During the Month of July**
- i. Report 63-105 Construction Purchase up to \$2,000,000.00 with Weekly Updates**
 - The following list outlines the anticipated Summer Procurement for Professional Services necessary to maintain the current design and construction schedules. Please note that the individual amounts listed are below the Board of Education (BOE) threshold for approval by the Executive Team per Governance. The proposed items can be approved at the Executive Team level and then forwarded to the BOE for information. Total combined award request for these items is \$235,480.
 - Stevenson Elementary School - Abatement package Change Order #1: Environmental Maintenance Engineers, Inc. (EME), estimated cost of \$19,780.
 - Levey Middle School - Environmental Consulting Services for Project Coordination and Air Monitoring: Arch Environmental Group (AEG) estimated cost of \$69,850.
 - Thompson K-8 International Academy - Environmental Consulting Services for Project Coordination and Air Monitoring Arch Environmental Group (AEG) estimated cost of \$27,500.
 - Birney K-8 School: Existing storm sewer system investigation Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. (SME), estimated cost of \$31,900.
 - Levey Middle School: Existing storm sewer system investigation Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. (SME), estimated cost of \$44,550.
 - Thompson K-8 International Academy: Existing storm sewer system investigation Soil and Materials Engineers, Inc. (SME), estimated cost of 31,900.
 - Thompson K-8 International Academy: Revisions for Thompson Temporary Cooling French Amendment #5 estimated cost of \$10,000.
 - Trustee Johnson Moved to open and approve Report 63-98 Oakland Schools Technology Services IGA Amendment, Report 63-99 Naming of professional Services, Report 63-100 Naming of Bank Depositories, Report 63-101 Michigan High School Athletic Association Membership, Report 63-102

Notice Requirement for Meetings of Public Bodies – Regular Meetings, Report 63-103 Michigan Association of School Boards Membership Renewal, Report 63-104 The Board Sabbatical During the Month of July, and Report 63-105 Construction Purchase up to \$2 Million with Weekly Updates and it was supported by Trustee Holloway.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVaul to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Ware-DeVaul, Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Denson

Motion carried.

j. Financial Report

k. Monthly Bill Disbursement

- We have the closing of Leonhard Elementary School property tomorrow.
- Dr. Green has signed the document to begin our 2024-2025 audit with Plante Moran.
- We will have those findings in December of 2025.

7. For the Good of the Order

- There will be school tomorrow.
- The power is back on. SA&T students' final exams will continue as scheduled for tomorrow.
- Vice President Ware-DeVaul mentioned that there has been a lot of synergy in the school buildings with the staff and students. It is important for students to continue with their learning over the summer break even if they are not in summer school.
- There will be information about the Back to School Fair on Thursday, August 14, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- We have great kindergarten/K-5 schools.
- The first day of school Monday, August 25, 2025.
- Parents please update your emails in MiSTAR so that you are receiving the information that we are sending out.
- Parents please review the Student Code of Conduct with your students.

8. Future Meetings

- a. Friday, June 13, 2025, Last Day of School for Scholars
- b. Tuesday, June 17, 2025, Committee of the Whole Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.
- c. Tuesday, June 24, 2025, Truth in Taxation @ 5:30 p.m.
- d. Tuesday, June 24, 2025, Special Meeting/Study Session @ 6:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

- President Bland adjourned the Special Board Meeting/Study Session at 8:30 p.m.

Approved on: August 12, 2025

Yvette Ware-DeVaul, Board Vice President