



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Candidate Interviews | DATE: December 1, 2025 | TIME: 5:30 p.m. | LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center | | | |
| BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware- DeVaull, President | <input type="checkbox"/> Amani Johnson, Vice President | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie L. Smith-Thomas, Secretary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talisha Belk, Treasurer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jillian Holloway, Trustee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Denson, Trustee | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy Trustee |
| ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Green, Ed.D. Superintendent | <input type="checkbox"/> Lanissa Freeman, Deputy Superintendent | <input 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"/> April Rogers, Exe. Dir., State and Federal Programs | <input 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 | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Corace, Chief Operations Officer |
| | | | | Student Board Representatives: <input type="checkbox"/> Paris Whitman, SA&T <input type="checkbox"/> Chidi Nnaji, UK12 | | |

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board President Bland at . Board President Bland read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. Trustee Johnson is out of the country.

2. Information Item

a. Report 64-30 Revised Policies – First Read

- i. Policy 5500
- ii. Policy 7440

- This was the first read for both Policy 5500 and Policy 7440. The policies include the language for the metal detectors.

3. Action Items

a. Report 64-31 31aa Resolution D: Opt-In Subject to Recission

- This resolution authorizes the District to opt in to receive the 31aa Funding, with the opt-in deadline of December 4, 2025. Under current litigation, the District may later rescind its opt-in by providing notice to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) no later than December 30, 2025.
- The Board's intent is to preserve the District's eligibility for 31aa Funding without waiving attorney-client privilege or any other applicable privilege, while allowing time for the courts to determine the legality and enforceability of the privilege waiver requirement.
- The District's acceptance of 31aa Funding is contingent upon one of the following:
 - The Legislature removes, substantially amends, or otherwise eliminates the privilege waiver requirement so that accepting 31aa Funding would not require the waiver of attorney-client privilege or any other privilege; or
 - A court of competent jurisdiction determines that the privilege waiver requirement is unlawful, unenforceable, or otherwise not applicable to the District.
- If neither of these conditions is met by the rescission deadline, the Superintendent shall notify MDE - using the form and procedure required by MDE and no later than December 30, 2025 - that the District is rescinding its opt-in. In such circumstances, if the privilege waiver requirement remains in

effect and enforceable as of the rescission deadline, the Superintendent shall not have the authority or obligation to accept 31aa Funding.

- If, after the rescission deadline, the privilege waiver requirement is removed, amended, or invalidated, the Board may take further action, as appropriate, to pursue 31aa Funding in accordance with applicable law.
- This resolution is for this fiscal year only.
- Secretary Smith-Thomas moved to open and approve Report 64-31 31aa Resolution D: Opt-In Subject to Rescission and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

President Ware-DeVaull asked Secretary Smith-Thomas to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Ware-DeVaull, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Denson, Trustee Belk

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Johnson

Motion carried.

b. Report 64-32 Personnel Action Report

- Treasurer Belk moved to open and approve Report 64-32 Personnel Action Report.
- #2 was approved by Policy Council.
- It's nice to see new individuals joining the SPS families in this capacity.
- The Trustees would like to see a column on the PAR that indicates when the position was posted.

President Ware-DeVaull asked Secretary Smith-Thomas to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Denson, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Ware-DeVaull

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Johnson

Motion carried.

4. Candidate Interviews

- a. Jenae Anderson
- b. Alisha Jackson
- c. Leah Gordon
- The Trustees recessed at 7:05 p.m.
- The Trustees returned from recess at 7:28 p.m.
- d. Dale Grant
- e. Renisha Lane
- f. Hawa Massaquoi-Carter
- The Trustees interviewed the candidates for the School Board Vacancy position.

5. Public Participation

- There was no public participation.

6. Adjournment

- President Ware-DeVaull adjourned the Special Board Meeting/Candidate Interviews at 8:13 p.m.

| |
|---|
| Approved on: December 9, 2025 |
| |
| Leslie L. Smith-Thomas, Board Secretary |

Proposed for Adoption