



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
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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware-DeVaul, 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
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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"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minutes: Carolyn Foster, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Education				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-DeVauld asked Secretary Smith-Thomas to call for the vote.

Ayes: Trustee Ware-DeVauld, 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-DeVauld asked Secretary Smith-Thomas to call for the vote.

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

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Johnson

Motion carried.

4. Candidate Interviews

- Jenae Anderson
- Alisha Jackson
- Leah Gordon
 - The Trustees recessed at 7:05 p.m.
 - The Trustees returned from recess at 7:28 p.m.
- Dale Grant
- Renisha Lane
- 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-DeVauld 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