



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Study Session	DATE: November 13, 2025	TIME: 6:00 p.m.	LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ashanti Bland, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware-DeVaull, Vice President	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Green, Ed.D. Superintendent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lanissa Freeman, Deputy Superintendent	<input type="checkbox"/> James Jackson, Chief of Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> , Chief of Talent Mtg
<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
<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	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 6:00 p.m. Board President Bland read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. All Trustees were present.

2. Board Matters

a. Report 64-29 31aa Resolution

- Vice President Ware-DeVaull motioned to opt out of Report 64-29 31aa Resolution based on language as of November 13, 2025, and it was supported by Trustee Johnson.

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

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

Nays: Nil

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Bond Construction Committee

- Secretary Smith-Thomas motioned to implement a community-based Construction Advisory Committee, specifically for the purpose of ensuring the community needs, promises and vision regarding the Southfield-Lathrup campus are met. This committee shall consist of two Southfield Public Schools board members, one Southfield Public Schools staff member, at least one member of the senior community, and at least one person skilled in construction and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.
- Trustee Johnson and Trustee Holloway will be the board members on the Bond Construction Committee.
- There was mention of Andy Green being the staff member on the committee and someone from Jenkins Construction.
- The committee needs to begin before the start of the year.

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

Ayes: Trustee Ware-DeVaul, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Denson, Trustee Bland, Trustee Belk

Nays: Nil

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Head Football Coach Advisory Committee

- Secretary Smith-Thomas motioned to implement a community-based Recruitment and Hiring Advisory Committee, consisting of no less than three and no more than five members; preferably alumni and prior student athletes still committed to the success of Southfield Public Schools. Members of this committee shall be charged with supporting recruitment efforts and making recommendations regarding the top 2-3 candidates and it was supported by Vice President Ware-DeVaul.
- This motion comes in an effort to restore the Southfield Public School football program to its championship and Division status.

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

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Denson, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Motion carried unanimously.

d. Appointment of New Trustee Protocol

- Timelines and protocols
- Posted on Southfield Public Schools website and social media
- A banner on the Southfield Sun's website
- December 1st and December 8th to hold interviews
- The applications will be submitted to a generic mailbox
- MASB questions – Filling a Board Vacancy by Appointment

e. Transitional Board Selection

- Policy 0171.2 Vice President – Vice President Ware-DeVaul will move to the Board President seat.
- Trustee Holloway motioned for Trustee Johnson for the Board Vice President seat, and it was supported by Trustee Denson.
- President Ware-DeVaul asked three times if there was any other motions.

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

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Bland, Trustee Denson, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Johnson, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Ware-DeVaul

Nays: Nil

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Participation

- There was no public participation.

4. For the Good of the Order

- There was mention of getting Gabrielle from Plante Moran to complete the Standard Operating Procedures.
- Transportation at the U – cones and drop-off
- Trustee Bland states that she will resign after the audit meeting with Plante Moran.

- ## 5. Future Meetings

- ## 6. Adjournment

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