



SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Student Hearing		DATE: January 21, 2025	TIME: 5:30 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 type="checkbox"/> Leslie L. Smith-Thomas, Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Talisha Belk, Treasurer	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minutes: Carolyn Foster, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and the Board of Education			Student Board Representatives: <input type="checkbox"/> Micaela Beckford, UHSA <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Spragins, Southfield A&T		

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Board President Bland at 5:48 p.m. Board President Bland read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Johnson were excused from the Board Student Hearing.

2. Action Items

a. 06-2024-25

- President Bland and the other Trustees introduced themselves.
- Chief Jackson introduced himself and Ms. Foster.
- The administrators introduced themselves.
- The parents and student introduced themselves.
- The parents states they received the letter from the district regarding the suspension and the violations to the Southfield Public School's Student Code of Conduct as follows:

Article V, Section D: Specific Prohibited Behaviors/Conduct:
#05 Possession, Sale or Use of a Weapon

- The parent understood the right to have legal counsel and waived that right.
- The parent wished to hold the meeting in private.
- Vice President Ware-DeVaull moved to hold the Board meet in closed session under section 8 (b) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the dismissal, suspension or disciplining of Student Hearing 06-2024-25, at the parents' request and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

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

Ayes: Trustee Belk, Trustee Holloway, Trustee Denson, Trustee Bland, and Trustee Ware-DeVaull

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Johnson

Motion carried.
5 yes, 0 no

- Closed Session started at 5:52 p.m.
- Closed Session ended at 6:48 p.m.
- No decisions were made.
- President Bland asked the parent, student and administrators to step out for deliberations.
- After deliberations, the parent, student and administrators were asked back in.
- Vice President Ware-DeVauld introduced a motion to suspend student 06-2024-25 for 30-days; returning to school on February 26, 2025; must complete all work in Schoology; must write a letter of apology to his classmate; must be absent from social media – no threats; and will be on a behavior contract for the remainder of the 2024 – 2025 school year and it was supported by Treasurer Belk.

President Bland asked Vice President Ware-DeVauld to call for the vote.
 Ayes: Trustee Bland, Trustee Belk, Trustee Denson, Trustee Holloway, and Trustee Ware-DeVauld
 Nays: Nil
 Absent: Trustee Smith-Thomas and Trustee Johnson
 Motion carried.
 5 yes, 0 no

3. Public Participation

- There was no public participation.

4. Adjournment

- President Bland adjourned the Special Board Meeting/Student Hearing at 6:55 p.m.

Approved on: February 11, 2025
Yvette Ware-DeVauld, Board Vice President