



# SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS MINUTES

MEETING: Special Board Meeting/Board Student Hearing		DATE: November 19, 2024	TIME: 5:30 p.m.	LOCATION: John W. English Administrative Center			
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:							
<input type="checkbox"/> Ashanti Bland, President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yvette Ware-DeVaull, Vice President	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie L. Smith-Thomas, Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Talisha Belk, Treasurer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darrell B. Joyce, Trustee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amani Johnson, Trustee	<input type="checkbox"/> Jillian Holloway, 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 type="checkbox"/> , Director of Comm.	MINUTES: Carolyn Foster		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 Vice President Ware-DeVaull at 5:50 p.m. Board Vice President Ware-DeVaull read the opening statement and Trustee roll call was taken. Trustee Bland, Trustee Belk, and Trustee Holloway were excused from this meeting.

## 2. Action Items

### a. 04-2024-25

- Vice President Ware-DeVaull and the Trustees introduced themselves.
- Chief Jackson introduced himself and Ms. Foster.
- The administrators introduced themselves.
- The parent and student introduced themselves.
- The parent 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:

**#09 Physically Assaulting (fighting) a Staff Member/Person Associated with the District**

**#19 Disobedience/Failure to Cooperate with School Personnel**

**#19d Cafeteria Misconduct**

**#19g Habitual Persistent Misconduct**

- The student pled guilty to #19 and #19g and not guilty to #09 and #19d.
- The parent understood the right to have legal counsel and waived that right.
- The parent wished to hold the meeting in public.
- The student does not receive special education services.
- All hands were sworn.

- Vice President Ware-DeVauall read the statement provided by the building administration.
- Vice President Ware-DeVauall asked the student about the incident that caused the violations to the Student Code of Conduct.
- The student provided their recollection of events leading to the incident.
- The parent provided some information to the events surrounding the violation.
- The administrators added additional context to the events.
- The Board Trustees asked questions and spoke regarding the incident.
- Chief Jackson commented on the behaviors involved in the occurrences.
- Vice President Ware-DeVauall asked the administrators, parent, and student to step out for deliberations.
- The administrators, parent and student were asked back in after deliberations.
- Trustee Johnson introduced a motion to place student 04-2024-25 on a long-term suspension until the end of the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year, with the understanding that the student will catch up on their work. The student is mandated to reach out to Easter Seals or Southfield Youth Assistance to work with them on a program. Lastly, any violations against the Student Code of Conduct will result in an expulsion and it was supported by Trustee Joyce.

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

Ayes: Trustee Ware-DeVauall, Trustee Smith-Thomas, Trustee Joyce, and Trustee Johnson

Nays: Nil

Absent: Trustee Bland, Trustee Belk, and Trustee Holloway

Motion carried.

**b. 05-2024-25**

- Vice President Ware-DeVauall and the Trustees introduced themselves.
- Chief Jackson introduced himself and Ms. Foster.
- The administrators introduced themselves.
- The parent and student introduced themselves.
- The parent 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:

**#16 Explosives**

**#19g Habitual Persistent Misconduct**

**#27 Safety Concerns**

- The student pled guilty to #16, #19g, and #27.
- The parent understood the right to have legal counsel and waived that right.
- The parent wished to hold the meeting in public.
- The student does not receive special education services.
- All hands were sworn.
- Vice President Ware-DeVauall read the statement provided by the building administrators.
- Vice President Ware-DeVauall asked the student about the incident that caused the violation to the Student Code of Conduct.
- The student provided their recollection of the violation.
- The parent provided information to the events prior to the incident.
- The administrators added additional incite to the event and to the student's character.
- The Board Trustees asked questions and spoke regarding the incident.
- Chief Jackson commented on the behavior involved in the situation.

